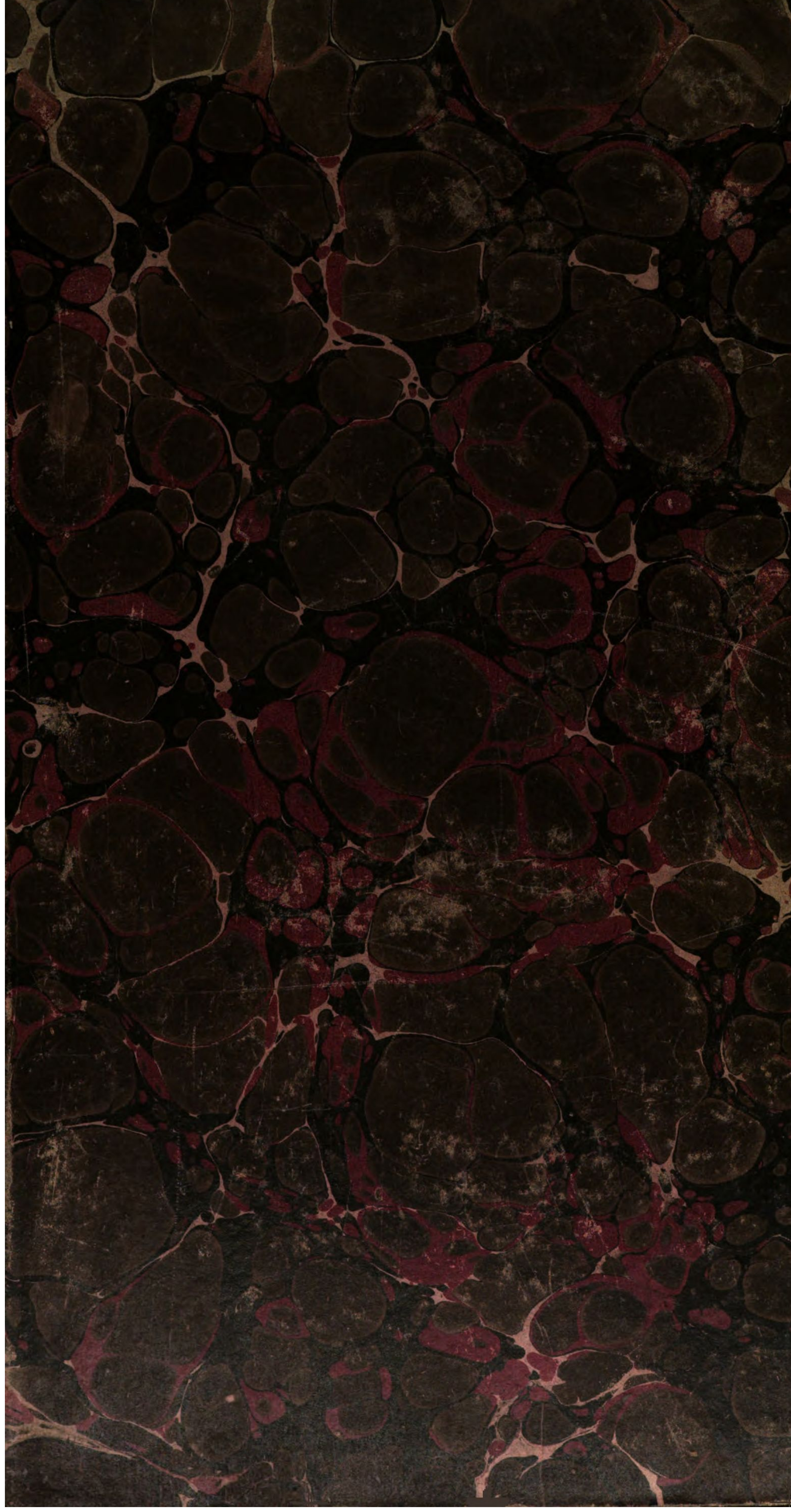






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FACTORIES INQUIRY COMMISSION.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

OF

THE CENTRAL BOARD

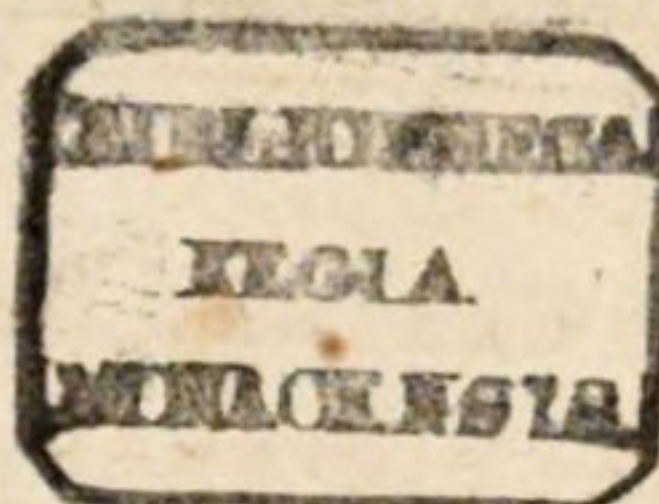
OF

HIS MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS appointed to collect Information  
in the Manufacturing Districts, as to the EMPLOYMENT OF  
CHILDREN IN FACTORIES, and as to the Propriety and Means  
of CURTAILING the HOURS of their LABOUR.

PART II.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
25 March 1834.*





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## A. 1.

## Northern District.

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A. 1.  
Northern District.

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Q U E R I E S

ADDRESSED BY

THE CENTRAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO MANUFACTURERS.

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QUERY 1.—Name of the parish or township and county in which the manufactory, mill, or workshop, or place of work, is situated?

A. 1.

Q. 2.—Names of the chief descriptions of work carried on thereat?

QUERIES.

Q. 3.—If the works have been erected at different times, specify the date of the erection of each material portion of the building, and the time at which it was first employed for its present purpose?

Q. 4.—Describe the power employed, whether steam or water, or both; and if the latter, whether regular or irregular, and what are the degrees of irregularity and the extent of the power?

Q. 5.—Is there any distinct or specific provision for the ventilation of your factory; if there is any such provision, describe its nature and effects?

Q. 6.—State whether the provision depends on the opening of windows, or other casual means?

Q. 7.—Is the ventilation regulated by the foreman, or overlooker or manufacturer, or is it controlled at the discretion of all or of any of the persons employed?

Q. 8.—Are any of the dangerous parts of the machinery fenced off, or, if not, why not?

Q. 9.—Have you any arrangements in your manufactory for the health or convenience of the workpeople, such as arrangements to enable them to change their clothes on entering the manufactory, or for washing or putting on additional clothing on leaving the manufactory, or any arrangements to ensure the personal cleanliness of those employed thereat; if you have, specify those arrangements, and the date of their introduction.

Q. 10.—What is the lowest age at which you employ children; have any of them been previously employed at any other trades, and if so, state at what trades?

Q. 11.—Does the nature of your work require the employment of children under twelve years of age, and why?

Q. 12.—Have the recent alterations in machinery rendered necessary the employment of a greater or less proportion of children under twelve years of age?

Q. 13.—Do you employ apprentices?

Q. 14.—If they have been apprenticed from parishes, state the names of the parishes from whence they have been received?

Q. 15.—Specify whether any of the children whom you employ, lodge, and maintain, are orphans; or if not, whether their parents or their natural or legal guardians visit them, and how often?

Q. 16.—Have such children any actual superintendence besides that of their master?

Q. 17.—What is the usual number of hours each day during which the persons of twenty-one years of age and upwards in your service are employed?

Q. 18.—What is the usual number of hours during which the persons under twenty-one years of age are employed, specifying the ages at which any difference may be made?

Q. 19.—What is the greatest number of hours that your works, or any of them, have been kept on in any one day during the last year?

(APP.—A. 1.)

A

Q. 20.



—  
 QUERIES.  
 —

Q. 20.—What is the total number of days that your manufacture was carried on during the last year?

Q. 21.—What is the total number of hours that your works were carried on during the last year?

Q. 22.—If different parts of your works have been carried on at different times during the same day, specify the times during which each department has been carried on?

Q. 23.—What is the average of the hours of work of each day of the week during the last year?

Q. 24.—What is the greatest number of hours that the same set of children in your employment have been kept to work during any one day of the last year?

Q. 25.—At what times and under what circumstances were the usual or regular hours of work exceeded?

Q. 26.—State whether you consider this or any excess beyond the regular hours of work avoidable; and if not avoidable, state why not?

Q. 27.—Have you at any former time usually worked your manufactory for a greater number of hours daily than you do at present?

Q. 28.—If so, do you now find that the cost of producing a given quantity is enhanced by the reduction in the hours of working?

Q. 29.—What do you believe to be the inducement to the manufacturer to have his work protracted, whether by children or by adults, to extra hours, or through the nights, without any intermediate change of hands, in contravention of any existing or general regulation or understanding of the trade?

Q. 30.—Do you find any increase in the cost of production from the limitation of hours of work; and if so, in what branches, to what extent, and in what proportion if any, to the diminution of hours, does that increased cost apply?

Q. 31.—What is the objection, if any, where extra hours are required, to have relays or fresh sets of children, or persons under twenty-one years, by whom those sets which have worked within the ordinary hours may be relieved?

Q. 32.—Has a system of relays or change of hands in the employment of children, when extra hours are required, been tried; and if so, how has it answered; if it has not been tried, why not?

Q. 33.—Have you employed a night set of hands as well as a day set; if so, explain how you arrange their work?

Q. 34.—State the reasons why, if not obliged by the nature of your work to work more than one set of hands, you conceive it to be your interest so to do?

Q. 35.—Does the same set of hands work uniformly by night, or do they change periodically with the day set?

Q. 36.—Specify what would be the effects produced on your manufacture by a prohibition of night-work?

Q. 37.—State your opinion as to the probable effects of a still further reduction of the working hours, and specify the grounds of such opinion?

Q. 38.—State what is the usual temperature in the different parts of your manufactory while at work, and what is the lowest temperature at which you consider the different processes of your works may be conducted?

Q. 39.—What is the highest degree of heat required for any portion of your manufacture?

Q. 40.—What number of hands are usually employed in that process?

Q. 41.—How many times have any of your works been worked at night during the last year?

Q. 42.—How many children have been employed at night-work? and

Q. 43.—During how many hours each night?

Q. 44.—How many children have been employed at once in night-work? and

Q. 45.—During what hours of the night?

Q. 46.—Are any processes of your manufactures indispensably continuous during twenty-four hours, and what are they?

Q. 47.—What is the maximum of the time during which it is indispensable for such processes to be continued?

Q. 48.—What are the ages and descriptions of persons usually employed in such processes?

Q. 49.



Q. 49.—State the reasons why you allege the continuance of the work to be indispensable in such processes?

Q. 50.—How are the works lighted at night?

Q. 51.—What provision is there for ventilation at night?

Q. 52.—What are the effects of night-work on the habits of the persons employed?

Q. 53.—State the times allowed for meals to each class of persons employed at your works?

Q. 54.—Do all or how many of the persons employed at your works leave them at meal-times?

Q. 55.—If they do not, state the reasons, and whether this practice is adopted for the convenience of the manufactory or the convenience of the workpeople?

Q. 56.—What would be the effect of any alteration by which the meals of the persons employed could be taken out of the manufactory?

Q. 57.—What are the means taken to enforce obedience on the part of the children employed in your works?

Q. 58.—Are corporal punishments inflicted on any persons employed in your works?

Q. 59.—By whom; by overlookers, by foremen, by parents, or by any others?

Q. 60.—Have corporal punishments been inflicted with your knowledge? or

Q. 61.—With your prior or subsequent sanction?

Q. 62.—Have you forbidden corporal punishments, or taken any steps for their prevention when you were informed of any instance of their infliction?

Q. 63.—Have any instructions been given by you to your foreman or your overlooker with relation to the punishment of children; state those instructions; if they are in writing, append a copy to these returns?

Q. 64.—Have complaints been made or any proceedings before magistrates been taken against you, or your overlooker or foreman, on the subject of any punishment alleged to have been inflicted in your establishment within the last three years; if so, state the number of cases in which this has occurred?

Q. 65.—Do the workpeople live in the houses of their employers; and if so, is any control or superintendence exercised for their moral and social improvement, or are any arrangements made to enforce domestic cleanliness; if so, specify their nature?

Q. 66.—What is the difference in skill and general character of those employed in the works who have been employed from infancy, as compared with those who have been taken into employment at later periods; refer to the names of those persons on the annexed lists whom you can adduce as instances?

Q. 67.—During the last ten years has the health of the people of the factory improved or deteriorated; state at length the evidence adduced to establish the fact of the improvement or the deterioration; state the cause to which the change is ascribed?

Q. 68.—Do you make any selection of persons or change of the employment of the same persons, to prevent or diminish the injurious effects of particular processes?

Q. 69.—State whether your mill is subject to the provisions of the present Act?

Q. 70.—Have you ever been informed against for infringing, and how often?

Q. 71.—Have you been convicted; did you pay the penalty; what was the amount of the penalty?

Q. 72.—State any circumstances connected with these convictions?

Q. 73. Do the mills in your neighbourhood strictly conform to the provisions of the Act; if not, what steps have been taken to enforce their obedience?

Q. 74.—Have the proprietors been taken before a magistrate?

Q. 75.—Have they been fined?

Q. 76.—Was evidence readily obtained; or, if not, why not?

Q. 77.—Have you reason to believe that the workpeople are afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence?

Q. 78.—Can you suggest any other scale of penalties, or any other means which would secure obedience to the present law, or any other legislative provisions for regulating the hours of labour and the general treatment of children employed in such works as yours?

Q. 79.—Have you any further observations to make with reference to the subject of the present inquiry?



Aberdeenshire.

No. 1.

T. Bannerman.

## ANSWERS.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS received to the QUERIES

## ABERDEENSHIRE.

ANSWERS of THOMAS BANNERMAN, and Co. North Parish of Saint Nicholas.

A. 1.—Bannermill is in the north parish of Saint Nicholas, town of Aberdeen, county of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning only, No. 40, mule twist.

A. 3.—One thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, seventy-five horse-power.

A. 5.—The site of the mill spacious and open in every direction. The apartments large and lofty. Windows large, and all made to open. Staircase spacious, and the doors opening upon it, frequently opened. A draft from the rooms through the necessities into the great chimney. The rooms are never kept shut for heat's sake, but free use is made of steam to warm the air when required.

A. 6.—In the first operations there is applied to the cotton, in passing through the machines, a great draft of air, which frees the cotton of dust and impurities, and keeps the rooms clear of these; thus rendering the whole of the operations of the manufacture much more cleanly and healthy than they would otherwise be.

A. 7.—The windows are opened at the direction of the workpeople.

A. 8.—Yes, all, where they can be.

A. 9.—The people have working dresses which they are required to wash once a week. They leave their others when they go to work, in rooms appropriated to the purpose, where, when infectious diseases prevail, the clothes are subjected to a disinfecting fumigation. All the apartments are kept clean with soap and water by the "spare hands" (see No. 68). There are fire-cocks attached to a powerful force-pump in every floor of the mill, and every where abundant supplies of pure water at command. The stairs and staircase are of stone, and very spacious, that escape in case of fire may be sure and ready. Two necessities in every room of the mill. Personal cleanliness, health, and comfort depend very much upon the state of affairs at home, and upon the character of parents (see No. 65.) People who have looked ill when they entered the work we have remarked have improved in their appearance.

A. 10.—Nine. Parents often press for employment to younger ones. Children are employed herein manufactures of all kinds.

A. 11.—We think it does. At nine they have only their time occupied as it were, and are at easy employment. They are in the way of acquiring the necessary skill with their years. At twelve they have become able to earn more wages, and are gradually acquiring habits which render exertions which are apparently wonderful comparatively easy.

A. 12.—Not with us, but such is the case generally speaking.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for all ages; but the reelers who do not require the prime mover to be in motion for their work have not worked on an average more than nine hours to nine and a half per day, because we have more of them than are required in summer; in winter they can do less owing to dull light, but we keep the full number at work all the year round, and they work on an average the shorter time.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours some days, but only to make up for short work of former days. Rather than light up for only half an hour for a few days at the beginning or end of winter, we lose the hour a day one week and make it up the next.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days. We never stop in dull times, nor work extra hours in brisk times.

A. 21, 22, 23, & 24.—Three thousand seven hundred hours; average per working day  $12\frac{4}{5}$  hours (See A. 27.); but this year's average will be only about eleven hours and a half.

A. 25.—When shifting or repairing machinery, but that in cases requiring perhaps only or five persons.

A. 26.—Certainly avoidable; but it might be sometimes at a great loss to the employer and the employed, as in the case of many machines and people being laid idle for want of a little extra work of one machine upon which the others were depending. A case of this kind might be provided for by some discretionary power in the magistrate, and the fine could perhaps be borne for the advantage to be gained.

A. 27.—Until the 6th of December last we worked twelve hours and a half for five days a week, and ten hours and a quarter on Saturdays, being two hours and a half a week more than at present. We made the change having hopes of being bettered by it.

A. 28.—We do produce as cheaply as before, without any reduction of wages; more so indeed, for in winter we save lighting, and at all times power, tear and wear, and other expences. The quantity of perfect work turned off depends very much upon the vigour and



and dexterity of the people, and upon exactness in each process. Without our speeding the machinery, the hands now earn as much wages as before, and do the same work in the less time, which they themselves never expected.

A. 29.—If a manufactory has but half the required proportion of machinery for one department which it ought to have as regards the others, this deficiency of machinery may be made up by working that half at night. Thus one man's smaller capital is made (in an unfair way in our opinion) to do the work of his neighbour's greater one. Also, by labour being compelled or forced for long hours, the employer of such labour produces of course cheaper than his competitor. Qualify this observation however by reference to A. 28 & 36.

A. 31.—In the case of a few hands only required for an extra hour at a time, those usually employed think it no hardship to be so employed. In our opinion the interference of two sets of hands with the same machines would be inadmissible. When extra hours work becomes a practice, and is required for any length of time, we know no objection to extra hands. We say required, however, and we doubt not that permission for such extra work would be a cloak for evasions of the law. (See A. 78, 79.)

A. 32.—Have no experience in the matter.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—Have never worked at night.

A. 36.—A total prohibition of night-work in cotton-spinning and in every other manufacture, where it is possible, would, in our opinion, be for the interest of the respective trades, and good in a moral point of view. Those manufacturers who practise night-work do injury to others, and gain only for themselves a little temporary relief at the expense of a public scandal. Indeed it has been remarked, that no establishment has prospered that has persevered in night-work.

A. 37.—In an airy situation and well-regulated establishment the work of adults and the occupation of children (for it is little more 'till they are about twelve years of age) for twelve hours a day, and nine on Saturday, while they are thus earning good wages, are seen to be in favour of their health and happiness. It is questionable if much leisure would improve morals. A great reduction of the working hours would greatly reduce wages, would lead to evasions of the law by both master and servant, adults would be employed longer than at present, with double relays (but only nominally so perhaps) of younger hands, and encouragement would be given to unlawful practices of various kinds. But the reduction of half an hour a day (if it appear the people even wish that) would not, in our opinion, affect trade materially, and, with no change in wages, would be a great boon to the workpeople, but accompanied with the provisions under A. 78, 79. No attempt need be made to remove the objections there are to having different hours for different ages.

A. 38, 39 & 40.—65° to 70° for all, always, and the same for the whole work.

A. 53.—Breakfast at nine, dine at two; for each three quarters of an hour for the whole of the people. Leave off at seven P. M. five days, and four P. M. Saturdays. They probably take refreshment then.

A. 54.—All are made to quit the manufactory at meal-times. There is an apartment in a detached building where those who like have their meals brought to them.

A. 55 & 56.—We think that quitting the mill for a time is of itself for the benefit of the people; the air too in it becomes refreshed in the meantime. If food were brought in, offensive effluvia would be given out, and the remains of the victuals would generate filth and vermin.

A. 57.—Threats of dismissal and forfeits.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, & 63.—Nothing of the sort is permitted nor takes place, nor is there any motive for such a practice with us. The people are all paid by us. When the wages of an overlooker depends upon the quantity of work he can cause to be done, he has a motive to force the labour of those under him.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Do not live in houses of ours. There is a sick fund to which all the hands contribute, managed by themselves. The managers visit the sick. Each overlooker engages the persons to be under him. Thus there is full means of showing how much personal cleanliness and general character is regarded. A small library is in the work, formed lately by the contributions of the workpeople who choose to subscribe; managed also by themselves. They continue adding to it. A desire for instruction and improvement is thus communicated and kept alive among them, better than by any direct superintendence on our part. (See A. 9.)

A. 66.—The general character is better than it was. The bad have been weeded out. Few other changes take place. The great majority of the people have been in the work since it was started, and almost all the young spinners have been with us from infancy, and are more dexterous than the older.

A. 67.—Our work has been in operation six years only. There is no change with us. The workpeople appear very healthy, as seen by the books of their sick fund.

A. 68.—There is nothing of this sort needed. But we have always about thirty spare hands doing various pieces of light work, who take the place of others absent by leave or otherwise. They are chiefly occupied cleaning and washing the mill. Leave of absence is readily granted when asked.

A. 69.—Yes; so are all cotton works, but none else.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—No.

(APP.—A. 1.)

A 3

A. 77.

Aberdeenshire.

T. Bannerman.



Aberdeenshire.

T. Bannerman.

A. 77.—No doubt; but the fact of no informations being lodged in innumerable cases where the law is infringed proves that the hours which any cotton-work works at present are not so great a hardship as many people quite ignorant upon the subject believe them to be.

A. 78.—None but cotton-works being at present regulated by law, silk, linen, and woollen articles compete with those of cotton unfairly. Therefore,

1. Let manufactories of all kinds be put upon the same footing.
2. Stop night-work entirely both in steam and water-mills. The case of water-power defective at times differs little or nothing from the case of deficient machinery or capital See A. 29. 36.
3. For all ages let there be but twelve or eleven and a half working hours, five days a week, nine on Saturdays, between five A. M. and eight P. M., allowing the custom of the country and convenience of the manufacturers to settle meal-hours, for which should however be allowed one hour and a half a day at least; on Saturday three quarters only might be allowed. But,
4. Let the prohibition as to time of working be put upon the steam-engine or water-wheel strictly, and no working of the power be allowed beyond these hours on any pretence whatever; sixty-nine hours a week, or if thought advisable, sixty-seven or sixty-six.
5. Let the working and meal-hours of each mill when settled by the masters be painted in large characters and exposed on the outer gate of the manufactory, and the nearest great public thoroughfare, so that by the coming and going of the people infringements of the law may be notorious, letting it be explained by the same means that the prohibition applies to the steam-engine and water-wheel. This does not prevent the employment of hands in cleaning machinery, &c., which at times is absolutely necessary. But if the working of the power be shortened thus, the practice cannot be carried to excess.
6. Let there be no making up of lost time.

N. B. It is worthy of especial remark, that our reelers, who have worked on an average only nine hours per day, do not take advantage of this leisure to attend the school referred to by the Rev. A. Gordon in his evidence before the Factory Committee, although, as will be seen by the list, they require instruction as much at least as the other hands.

As many of the reelers as of the others have been ailing and upon the sick fund.

T. BANNERMAN, for T. B. & Co.

#### ANSWERS of ALEXANDER HADDEN and SONS, South Parish.

No. 2.

Alexander Hadden.

A. 1.—Alexander Hadden and Sons, worsted mill, situated in South Parish, City of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—Worsted, knit hosiery, and carpeting.

A. 3.—North end of mill erected in 1804, south end of mill erected in 1808, fulling-mill-house erected in 1819, machinery in a brick mill erected in 1813, machinery in old dwelling house erected about a century ago.

A. 4.—Three steam-engines, of which two are forty-five horse power each, and one of twenty horse power.

A. 5.—Ventilated by cross windows drawing down to admit free circulation of air.

A. 7.—Solely under the control of the overlooker in each room.

A. 8.—Those parts considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—The servants are in the practice of changing clothes at entering and leaving the manufactory. Water-closets were placed in each room at the erection of the works; and water for drinking and washing introduced into every room from the public waterworks erected three years ago.

A. 10.—Ten years. No previous employment to our knowledge.

A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.

A. 15.—All orphans employed at this factory are lodged and maintained by their natural guardians.

A. 16.—Solely under the superintendence of their parents, or natural guardians.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day Saturday excepted, being eleven hours.

A. 18.—Same hours as stated above.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, the extra hour to make up lost time in repairs or holidays, when no deduction of wages was made.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety days, at work; eighteen days lost at the erection of new steam-engine, during which time the servants were paid wages; one holiday, New Year's Day; two holidays, attending reform processions; two holidays, attending church.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eighty-eight hours.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and three quarters.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, unless sixty days kept, thirteen hours to make up lost time.

A. 25.—To make up time for holidays and fast days as described in query 20.

A. 26.



A. 26.—Excess beyond hours at times unavoidable, as described in query 24, also for repairs.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 28.—No experience.

A. 29.—To compete with our opponents on the continent.

A. 30.—As the hours of labour are contracted so will the cost of production be nearly doubly enhanced.

A. 31.—A greater number of hands, and wages too low to maintain them.

A. 32.—Never tried by us.

A. 33.—About ten years ago we worked for three months with a night-set of hands, but not finding it to answer our purpose we abandoned it, and never since resumed it.

A. 34.—Working only twelve hours in a day we do not find it necessary to employ more than one set of hands.

A. 35.—Does not apply to us as we do not require night-work.

A. 36.—We do not work over night.

A. 37.—A reduction of working hours would occasion a corresponding reduction of wages, but that would be a small recompense to the manufacturer for the diminution of production after having expended a large sum on a plant of buildings and machinery; it would be giving a decided advantage to the manufacturer in foreign countries.

A. 38.—Usual temperature 60° to 65°; the lowest 55° to 60°.

A. 39.—Highest temperature 68° in any of the rooms.

A. 40.—Eight in one room.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Breakfast and dinner forty minutes to each meal.

A. 54.—All are obliged to leave the works.

A. 55.—For their own convenience.

A. 56.—All leave the factory.

A. 57.—Remonstrance, with threats of dismissal, and when obstinate a fine imposed.

A. 58.—None permitted.

A. 62.—Uniformly forbidden it; only one instance of a foreman being discharged by us for beating a girl contrary to our instructions.

A. 63.—Regularly instructed not to use severity to the children.

A. 65.—They do not live in the houses of their employers, consequently on the control of their parents or guardians.

A. 66.—We generally remark that children entering a factory at or under twelve years of age become more expert than those at maturer age, and a master would readily discover the difference, seeing them at work.

A. 67.—We consider 1832 to have been the most unhealthy year of the last ten years, owing to cholera and typhus fever raging amongst the poorer classes to a greater extent than ever remembered; but in general our servants have been very healthy, which may be ascribed to the clean state of the mill, great height of floors, good ventilation, moderate heat, and little physical labour required.

A. 68.—We do not.

A. 69.—Worsted mills are not.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Not applicable to our works—worsted mill.

A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—No knowledge.

A. 77.—Certainly not, in our works.

A. 78.—We cannot suggest better regulations than we pursue in our mill to secure the general good treatment of the children where we have none under apprenticeship or engagement whatever; every person, young and old, has permission to leave the service upon eight days notice. All wages paid in cash weekly to each individual by the paymaster, and regular notices of the amount posted on the door of each room in the mill, that they may be aware what they have to receive.

A. 79.—In our manufactory we employ a great number of servants, of whom more than one half are out-door servants, and dependent on employment from the produce of the mill; we besides give partial employment to upwards of twenty thousand knitters in the county of Aberdeen.

A reduction of mill hours would necessarily oblige us to discharge a great many of those servants, and give much less employment to the knitters, besides a reduction of wages to all hands employed by us.

We have a large carpet manufactory giving employment to nearly three hundred people; any increase in price of production would stop the whole of this work, as the Americans are now establishing large manufactories of this sort, and drawing from this country not only the yarns but the raw wool in place of the manufactured goods as formerly. Our servants in that department are daily emigrating to that country.

13th May 1833.

ALEX. HADDEN & SONS.

Aberdeenshire.

Alexander Hadden.



Aberdeenshire.

ANSWERS of PATRICK PIRIE and Co. Aberdeen.

No. 3.

Patrick Pirie.

A. 1.—In Aberdeen and adjoining parish of Old Machar, and in the county of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—Manufacturing linen threads and linen cloth, spinning flax and tow yarn, and bleaching.

A. 3.—Part of the works about the year 1765, and part about 1790. Spinning-mill in Aberdeen, as also our bleaching-works, in 1816 and 1818; spinning-mill in Old Machar in 1822; and additions have been frequently made since these dates.

A. 4.—Steam-power for mills in Aberdeen, about sixty horse power. Water-power for bleaching-works and spinning-mill in the parish of Old Machar, about forty-five horse power. The water-power is irregular, in consequence of low water in the river Don during summer, as also the occasional frosts and floods.

A. 5.—Nothing beyond the construction of the windows, which are made with a sliding part for the purpose of ventilation.

A. 6.—Yes.

A. 7.—Partly by the overlooker, and partly at the discretion of the servants.

A. 8.—All parts considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—They are allowed some time for washing, dressing, &amp;c. previous to the bell being rung for their dismissal, and water is introduced into each floor.

A. 10.—About ten years of age.

A. 11.—They are not absolutely necessary.

A. 12.—Rather a greater proportion, but no material alteration has taken place lately.

A. 13.—Only a few lads from twelve to eighteen years of age to heckling, thread lapping, and as mechanics.

A. 14.—We have none from parishes.

A. 15.—None are lodged and maintained.

A. 17.—Ten hours and a half to thirteen hours and a quarter.

A. 19.—Fifteen hours and a half for one day only during the whole of last year.

A. 20.—Every day, with the exception of Sundays, and four or five holidays and fast days.

A. 21.—Three thousand two hundred and seventy-six to four thousand and seventeen hours.

A. 22.—Ten to eleven hours where hand labour is carried on, and ten to fourteen hours where machinery is employed.

A. 23.—Ten hours and a half where hand labour, and twelve hours and fifty-two minutes and a half where machinery is used.

A. 24.—Refer to query 19.

A. 25.—In the case of stoppage from accidents, &amp;c., and at the servants desire to make up time, in order to allow them to attend and see processions, &amp;c.

A. 26.—Not avoidable, without very considerable loss, occasionally.

A. 27.—About half an hour more in some departments.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—There is no law relating to linen manufactures, nor any general understanding of the trade here relative to hours.

A. 30.—I have not had sufficient experience to answer this question minutely.

A. 32.—Never by us, not having occasion to work extra hours to any extent.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 36.—To that part of our manufacture driven by steam-power it would be attended with no bad result; but where we employ water-power the effects might be highly injurious both to us and to our servants.

A. 37.—I do not consider myself competent to answer this question.

A. 38.—Our manufacture requires no heat beyond what is necessary for the comfort of the servants.

A. 39.—100° and 120° in our drying stoves.

A. 40.—From four to fourteen occasionally.

A. 41.—Not above thirty to forty nights in all.

A. 42.—From forty to fifty.

A. 43.—Nine hours and a half.

A. 44.—Not more than from twenty to thirty.

A. 45.—From eight P. M. to six A. M., with a stoppage of half an hour.

A. 46, 47, 48, &amp; 49.—No.

A. 50.—By coal gas.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Have not had experience for a sufficient length of time to ascertain this.

A. 53.—In mill in Aberdeen forty minutes to breakfast and forty minutes to dinner. In mill in Old Machar, spinners, &amp;c. half an hour to dinner, and carders twenty minutes to breakfast. All other servants have generally one hour each to breakfast and dinner.

A. 54.—No.

A. 55.—Many of the servants at the mill in the country have a considerable distance to come, and there is in consequence a large and excellent kitchen attached to it, with boiler and hot table. There are women employed to cook the servants meals, who can thus have them



them hot, if they prefer it. There is also accommodation for the servants eating their meals in the kitchen if they wish it.

A. 57.—Fines and dismissal.

A. 58 & 59.—None are authorized.

A. 60.—Not prior to their being inflicted, and any that have come to my knowledge were very slight.

A. 61.—No.

A. 62.—Yes; I have always strictly forbidden all corporal punishments, and found fault with any overseer who was reported to me to have inflicted any.

A. 63.—There are strict general orders given that no corporal punishments shall be had recourse to.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Part of our servants rent houses in the country which are the property of their employers, for the accommodation of their respective families.

A. 66.—Those accustomed to the work from infancy are almost invariably the more expert.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any change.

A. 68.—No part of our manufacture is so injurious as to require a change of servants.

A. 69, 70, 71, & 72.—No.

A. 73, 74, 75, 76, & 77.—I do not know.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—None.

PATRICK PIRIE jun.

Aberdeenshire.

Patrick Pirie.

ANSWERS of JOSEPH HOGARTH, Manager and Partner of FORBES, LOW, and Co.,  
Old Machar.

No. 4.

Joseph Hogarth.

A. 1.—Forbes, Low, and Company's cotton-mill, situated at Poynerhook, in the parish of Old Machar, county of Aberdeen, and within the royalty of the city of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Built at one time, thirty years ago, for its present purpose.

A. 4.—Steam-engines.

A. 5.—By the windows.

A. 6.—By opening the windows.

A. 7.—Regulated by the foreman.

A. 8.—All.

A. 9.—When the people come to their work they change their wearing for their working dress, and reverse it when leaving the work; we have no other arrangement.

A. 10.—We employ none under ten years of age.

A. 11.—It does for piecers, from a difficulty of procuring girls much above that age to fill that situation.

A. 12.—We don't think it has.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We neither lodge or maintain any.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours and one half for five days, and eleven and one half for the other.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and one half.

A. 20.—All the year except Sundays.

A. 22.—There is no difference in any part of the work.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and one third.

A. 24.—We only employ one set of children, who work twelve hours and one half.

A. 25.—They have never been exceeded.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 28.—Though we have never made any alteration, it is evident, if we work shorter hours the cost must be enhanced in proportion.

A. 29.—The only inducement is to produce a greater quantity, whereby he reduces his general charges.

A. 30.—It must apply to every department of the work if the hours are diminished.

A. 31.—We have never worked extra hours; but we think there would be great difficulty in procuring two sets of workers.

A. 33.—We never had any night-work.

A. 37.—In the first place, if a further reduction of the working hours was made, the quantity produced would be lessened in proportion, so that we could not compete with our foreign opponents, and secondly, the workers wages would be so reduced that they could not exist on them.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is about seventy degrees for all the work.

A. 40.—We have no process that requires more heat.

A. 41.—We have no night-work.

A. 50.—The few hours we light in winter is by gas.

A. 51.—By the windows, same as by day.

A. 52.—We have stated we have no night-work.

(APP.—A. 1.)

B

A. 53.



Aberdeenshire.

Joseph Hogarth.

- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Those employed at frames driven by power do not go home to breakfast, but the others do, but they nearly all go home to dinner.  
 A. 55.—It is both for the convenience of the work and workers.  
 A. 56.—It would affect the machinery and work considerably.  
 A. 57.—By slight fines, and when that has not the effect, putting them from the work.  
 A. 58.—None allowed.  
 A. 60.—Never.  
 A. 62.—We have.  
 A. 63.—There has been verbal instructions given.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople do not live with their employers.  
 A. 66.—We consider those brought up from their youth much better than those taken in at an advanced period. The annexed list will point out those who have been longest with us, and to whom we allude.  
 A. 67.—The health of our workers has been very satisfactory. We don't think there has been any change for the last ten years. We may mention that when the cholera morbus prevailed in this city, none of our workers were affected by it.  
 A. 68.—We make no change.  
 A. 69.—We have stated that we work twelve hours and one half and eleven hours and one half.  
 A. 70 & 71.—Never.  
 A. 73.—We do not know what other mills do.  
 A. 74 & 75.—We don't know.  
 A. 76.—We never heard of evidence being required.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason to believe any thing of the kind.  
 A. 78.—We conceive it is the interest of masters to use their workers in such a way that no penalties are necessary. We can suggest nothing on this head.  
 A. 79.—None.

10th May 1833.

JOSEPH HOGARTH.

No. 5.

T. L. Hadden.

ANSWERS of THOMAS LEYS HADDEN, Partner of LEYS, MASSON, and Co.,  
 Grandholm Works, Old Machar.

- A. 1.—Parish of Old Machar, Aberdeenshire.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning, also weaving of linen by power.  
 A. 3.—Original mill built in 1793 and 1794; fire-proof addition in 1812; fire-proof building for hackling by power in 1822 and 1823; fire-proof mill for weaving and tow carding in 1826; addition to ditto in 1830.  
 A. 4.—Water and steam; two water-wheels, together equal to one hundred and fifty horses; and two-steam engines, one of sixty and one of fifty. The supply of water is so irregular that during the dry season the fifty-horse engine united with one of the water-wheels, and used as an auxiliary, does not supply the deficiency of water-power.  
 A. 5.—Windows on each side of the rooms.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—By the foreman or overlooker.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople change their clothes on beginning and leaving off work, and in each room there is an abundant supply of fine spring water, brought from a spring in the neighbourhood; introduced in 1829.  
 A. 10.—Ten years is the lowest age at which we would employ children, but in some few instances they may be under that age. They have not been at any other trade before if ten years of age or under.  
 A. 11.—No; when taken younger, chiefly to oblige poor parents who live in the neighbourhood of the works, and who cannot otherwise support them.  
 A. 12.—In some departments we have fewer children in proportion than formerly; the others remain as before.  
 A. 13.—None in the mills.  
 A. 14.—No parish apprentices in this country.  
 A. 15.—We employ orphans, but do not lodge nor maintain them. We do not lodge any of our servants; they live with their parents or friends, and in their families.  
 A. 16.—Their master while at work, and their natural guardians or other friends while at home.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half five days of the week, and ten hours and a quarter on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—See answer to query 17; all ages being required in all departments at the same time.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half, being an hour beyond the usual time, in order to make up lost time.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.

A. 21.



Aberdeenshire.

T. L. Hadden.

A. 21.—Power-hackling, three thousand one hundred and ten and a half; spinning-mills, three thousand six hundred and eighty-one; power-weaving, three thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

A. 22.—During the dry season, while water is scarce, part of the work driven by one of the water-wheels is worked betwixt the hours of five o'clock in the morning and seven in the evening; and the rest of the work as usual, betwixt six o'clock in the morning and eight in the evening; but the same workpeople never reached both extremes in the same day.

A. 23.—Power-hackling, ten hours per day; spinning-mills, eleven and seven eighths hours per day; weaving-mill, twelve and one fourth hours per day.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—When there was a plentiful supply of water, and only to make up for lost time.

A. 26.—Mills driven by water, or water and steam united, are liable to a deal of loss when the water gets low, and the proprietors are obliged, in order to fulfil contracts and engagements they may have entered into, as well as to enable them to pay their servants wages, to make up for the loss by working a few hours longer per week when there is a good supply of water; and as the work carried on within these mills is but a part of the establishment, unless the work lost by the scarcity of water could again be overtaken, it would cause a falling-off in the departments of bleaching, weaving, finishing, &c., and many of those employed in these branches would frequently have to be discharged.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—We find that when we lose a few hours by the waters getting low, our goods made that week come dearer.

A. 29.—Manufactories may be obliged to work extra hours to make up for lost time; but we can see no inducement for working through the nights without any intermediate change of hands, against which we know of no general regulation or understanding of the trade in which we are engaged.

A. 30.—Yes; in every branch where extensive machinery and great outlay (such as in flax and tow spinning or power-weaving) are required the fixed expence remains always the same; consequently, as you reduce the hours of work, the quantity of goods made is reduced in proportion, and the lesser quantity has to bear the whole fixed expence.

A. 31.—Relays of children under twelve years of age could not easily be procured here, far less young persons of twelve to twenty-one years of age.

A. 32.—Never tried here.

A. 33.—Not generally; we have tried it on a small scale in one department, eleven servants only being employed from eight o'clock in the evening to six in the morning.

A. 34.—We do not conceive it to be for our interest to work more than one set of hands so long as the hours of labour remain twelve hours each day.

A. 35.—The above small party of eleven are not changed; they work only fifty-six hours per week, and not at all during the day.

A. 36.—If the hours of day labour be not restricted to less than twelve hours each day, the prohibition of a separate night-set of hands would not be attended with any injurious effects to the manufacturer, excepting that it is absolutely necessary that those who use water, or water and steam united, be allowed in the dry season to employ during the night a part of those servants who would otherwise be employed during the day, or else these servants would be entirely thrown out of employment during the continuance of the drought.

A. 37.—If the working hours were reduced, the cost of production would be increased; the workpeople would get lower wages; and as there is but a proportion of the manufacturing population employed within the mills, a reduction of hours would reduce the quantity of yarns, at present barely sufficient to supply the weaving population in this country. A great many would therefore be thrown idle, as well as flax-dressers, bleachers, dyers, &c. &c.; and the foreigners would undersell us in all the foreign markets, where the German linens compete but too successfully with the linens of this country.

A. 38.—The temperature of the air in summer, and heated during winter to about sixty degrees of Fahrenheit. Our processes may be carried on at any temperature. The works are heated for the comfort of the servants, excepting one room where the warps are starched for the power-loom, which requires to be at eighty degrees of Fahrenheit.

A. 39.—We require heat in one room only, and there it is never required above eighty degrees of Fahrenheit.

A. 40.—There are sixty-five workers in this room.

A. 41.—Ninety times in the course of twelve months during the drought, including Saturdays, when they work but six hours—from five to eleven o'clock; but this was at different times, the ninety times not being ninety running.

A. 42.—On these occasions twenty-two under eighteen years of age.

A. 43.—Ten hours for five nights, and six on Saturday.

A. 44.—Sixty-six under eighteen years of age, this being during the dry season.

A. 45.—From eight o'clock in the evening till six o'clock in the morning, and on Saturday from five in the evening to eleven o'clock.

A. 46, 47, & 48.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The windows are opened.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and three quarters of an hour for dinner.

(APP.—A. 1.)

B 2

A. 54.



Aberdeenshire.

T. L. Hadden.

A. 54.—They all leave the works at the meal-hours.

A. 56.—The meals are taken out of the works.

A. 57.—For bad behaviour, reprimand; put to work at which they are not so well paid, or dismissal; for good behaviour, promotion to the best-paid work.

A. 58.—No; forbidden.

A. 62.—Care is taken to prevent such an occurrence.

A. 63.—Being forbidden, no such instructions necessary.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—The workpeople do not live in the houses of their employers. There are a great many schools and also four Sunday-schools in the village adjoining the works, where the greater part of the servants reside.

A. 66.—The difference is generally very great in favour of early beginners. We can refer to many good workers, some of whom have been in our employment for ten years and upwards.

A. 67.—No perceptible difference for the last ten years, with the exception of last year, which was a very sickly one, owing to cholera and other complaints.

A. 68.—We never find this necessary.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that they are afraid of displeasing their master, by giving evidence.

A. 78.—By passing an Act that would not reduce the working-hours to less than seventy-two per week, and to allow lost time to be made up never beyond one extra hour in any one day, limiting the age of children to twelve years, and allowing mills driven by water, or water and steam united, to work during drought part of their work during the night with the hands they would otherwise employ during the day. Such an Act might be attended to without ruining the master, or injuring or impoverishing the workers.

10th May 1833.

THOMAS LEYS HADDEN.

No. 6.

James Kilgour.

ANSWERS of JAMES KILGOUR, Partner of GORDON, BARRON, and Co., Old Machar.

A. 1.—Parish of Old Machar and county of Aberdeen, and in possession of Gordon, Barron, and Co.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving by machinery.

A. 3.—The old mill erected in 1782 to 1785; new mill, centre division, 1792 to 1793; new mill, north and south division, 1802 and 1803; weaving and worping shops, 1826 and 1827; all used for the present purposes since built.

A. 4.—Water, irregular, from one hundred and twenty horse power to the whole extent of power, say two hundred horse power.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—None, except by opening the windows in the mills, but there are ventilators on the roof and at every window (on the roof) of the weaving-shop, also wooden ventilators on the roof of the dressing-shop.

A. 7.—By the overlooker of each floor, under the control of the general overseer of the mills and weaving-shops respectively.

A. 8.—All that could endanger life or break limbs are fenced off, and except through extreme carelessness no accident can possibly occur.

A. 9.—All may, and the greater part do, change their clothes on entering and leaving the manufactory. No term is specifically set apart for washing, but the practice of washing the hands and face before going out to meals is and always has been tolerated, and from the abundance of water brought to the door of the mills the workers very generally avail themselves of it.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, but at the urgent request of parents or near relations younger children have been taken in as an act of charity. None previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—Yes, because wages sufficient to induce older hands to do the light work required of children could not be afforded.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have been generally simplifications of it, and have rendered it better adapted for the employment of children. Fewer grown-up people would be required. Improvements in machinery are made with a view to the greatest possible produce at the lowest rate of wages, and as far as practicable to supersede manual labour.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—All the children in our employment live with their parents or natural guardians.

A. 17.—The usual hours of the mill.

A. 18.—Seventy-four hours and five minutes per week. No difference made. N. B.—The works close at five o'clock on Saturday evening.

A. 19.—Occasionally fourteen hours and three quarters in some of the carding and preparation rooms, in consequence of an extension of the spinning-machinery, now nearly completed, when the practice will be abandoned. When lost time is making up it is done



at the rate of an hour per diem, but do not work over-hours throughout the whole establishment, except for reasons stated at A. 25. N. B.—If more than one hour over-time is wrought per diem it is only on alternate days.

A. 20.—From the 1st January to 31st December 1832, both days inclusive, 311 days.  
From the 5th May 1832 to 4th May 1833, ditto - 311 do.

No material stoppage, owing to the state of the river, since 1st January 1832.

|                                                   | Hours | minutes. |    |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|----|
| A. 21.—In the year 1832, 3,821 hours are          | -     | 12       | 17 |
| From May 1832 to May 1833, as above, 3,831 hours, | -     | 12       | 19 |
| Full time averages                                | -     | 12       | 21 |

} per diem.

A. 22.—Cannot reply to this question, having kept no such account; but in dry seasons different departments are worked at different times. The mill overseers will produce to the Commissioners an account of the mode of working during a short supply of water in the years 1826 and 1831. (See page 15.)

A. 24.—Fourteen hours and three quarters, for reasons stated at A. 19.

A. 25 & 26.—On account of scarcity of water, or back water on the wheels, or breakage of large machinery, never work before six in the morning or after ten at night. If this practice was not adopted, the wages would be very much curtailed. The workers would not, in fact, be willing to abandon the practice, but would endeavour to find employment at other establishments where the practice prevailed.

A. 27.—Seventy-five hours per week previously to 1826.

A. 28.—The difference of time is so trifling, that the enhanced cost could not be calculated; but in proportion as the hours of labour are shortened the cost of producing a given quantity would be increased.

A. 29.—To get the greatest produce of the machinery in order to lower the interest on the sunk property, and to enable him to sell in a low market at a safe price.

A. 30.—See answer to No. 28. The machinery being now driven at speed, no more produce could be got per hour or day; but a spinner or manufacturer must lower the rate of wages if he works fewer hours. He could not lay the extra cost of production on yarn or cloth, as foreigners would undersell him.

A. 31.—One objection to two sets of children is the expence and trouble of teaching them, as for the first six or twelve months they are of little use. It is generally supposed that a machine is not so well kept when two sets of hands work it, as one set leaves the cleaning to the other. Do not think two sets of hands of that description could be got here.

A. 32 & 33.—No.

A. 36.—Do not work at night.

A. 37.—If this question applies to the regular hours of work, I would say the effect would be to entail misery on the working-classes, as their employers could not afford sufficient wages (see answer No. 30); and if the hours of labour are much curtailed, it is my opinion masters and servants would combine to break or evade the law, or the former would be obliged to give up their establishments, and so drive the manufactures to foreign countries.

A. 38.—65° to 70°; lowest 65°.

A. 39.—86° to 90° for dressing warps for power-looms.

A. 40.—Seven grown-up men.

A. 41.—Only one night on the Danforth frames in the low floor of the new mill, and the preparation attached thereto. The spinning-hands did not work the day following. A proportion of the preparation hands did work the following day, being a Saturday. None of them under thirteen years of age. N. B.—The above circumstance took place owing to a change in the driving gear.

A. 42, 43, & 44.—In the above instance, ten children from ten to fourteen years of age for about nine hours and a half.

A. 45.—From eight to six o'clock, with a stop of half an hour or more.

A. 46.—No.

A. 47.—No particular time.

A. 50.—In winter mornings and evenings by gas.

A. 53.—Forty minutes each meal, breakfast and dinner; all classes alike.

A. 54.—From ninety to one hundred remain in the mill during the dinner-hour of two days in the week to clean machinery; all the rest are at liberty to go out during meal-times if they please.

A. 55.—Except for the cause stated in answer No. 54, for the convenience of the workers.

A. 56.—The loss of this convenience to both parties. N. B.—There is an apartment on the premises fitted up with boilers and hot plate, with tables and benches, for the accommodation of those who choose to take advantage of it during meal-times. A woman is paid to attend.

A. 57.—The children are not disobedient; the fear of losing their employment is sufficient guarantee for their correct conduct during the hours of labour.

A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—No.

A. 62.—The overseers are all aware that they would be discharged if guilty of improper conduct or cruelty towards children under their charge.

(APP.—A. 1.)

B 3

A. 63.

Aberdeenshire.

James Kilgour.



Aberdeenshire.

James Kilgour.

A. 63.—No; only a general understanding has always existed to treat the children properly.

A. 64.—Never at any time.

A. 65.—Some do. A free school-house, fire and light, for instruction in the ordinary branches of education, and for religious instruction on Sunday, are provided by the masters. A person is appointed to clean daily about the houses, and the insides of them are white-washed every year. The whole management of the proprietors houses occupied by the workers is placed under the superintendence of a clerk in their employ. N.B.—A committee of the Board of Health visited these houses and others in the neighbourhood occupied by mill-workers, and found them more comfortable than the houses of those otherwise employed in the same rank of life.

A. 66.—All who have been employed from infancy can read, several can write, and know the simple rules of arithmetic, but occasionally some of them who come to the work at a later period of life cannot even read. Those employed in factories from childhood are more skilful than such as are brought in at a later period. There are very few instances to the contrary. It would be invidious to give individual instances in a paper open to the inspection of the workpeople.

A. 67.—I would say improved. The necessities and comforts of life have during that period been moderate in price, and the wages have not been reduced in proportion to the fall in the articles of food and clothing. The medical attendant Dr. Gordon, Old Aberdeen, can best answer this question. He has attended the workers many years.

A. 68.—If a worker is subject to an ailment which would be alleviated by a change of employment, such change is invariably made if in the power of the master to do so, or the individual is at liberty to leave the work. I take this opportunity of mentioning that all the workers can leave their employment upon giving fourteen days notice. Their masters give them the like.

A. 69.—The Act of 1 & 2 William the 4th, chapter 39.

A. 70. & 71.—Never.

A. 73.—I know nothing whatever respecting other establishments in the neighbourhood, but consider the respectability of the proprietors of those establishments such as to ensure their being properly conducted.

A. 74.—Never that I heard of.

A. 75.—Ditto.

A. 76.—I do not suppose evidence was ever required.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe that any difficulty would be found in procuring evidence, or that any mill proprietor in this neighbourhood would think the worse of a servant for speaking the truth in a court of justice when called upon to do so.

A. 78.—I cannot, as all the children and others employed in factories in this neighbourhood are at perfect liberty to leave their work at their own request, or that of their parents or guardians. See Answer No. 68. I consider the common law of the land affords sufficient protection to both master and servant.

A. 79.—No account having been kept of the time lost by the water-wheels going too slow, owing to the state of the river, or of the time during which only a part of the establishment could be at work from the same cause, the loss of produce occasioned thereby cannot be shown.

The Commissioners are respectfully requested to examine the documents herewith produced, showing in the first place the loss of actual time in the year 1826 (being a dry summer), also during the years 1828 to 1832 both inclusive, a period when lost time was made up at the discretion of the employer, with the full concurrence of the servants. Secondly, a statement of the loss of produce in the year 1826, owing to the machinery going short of the regular time, independently of the deficiency by the wheel going slow, or by shifting the hands and working the different departments by turns on the same day. Thirdly, the arrangements for carrying those shifts into effect in the years 1826 and 1831 are submitted, and any further explanation required will be readily given.

Very considerable latitude ought to be allowed to mills driven by water-power to make up lost time, especially when occasioned by severe frost or by what is called a gorge of ice in the river, which frequently causes a total stoppage for several days at a time; the meal-times to be fixed by the masters to suit their own convenience and that of the workers, so as to enable the servants to earn sufficient wages for their support during partial stoppages occasioned by the state of the river or breakage of large gearing. The flood in 1829 seriously damaged the embankments of the canal, the intake sluices, damdyke, and other parts connected with the works at Woodside, caused a great deal of stoppage, and were repaired at a heavy expence. On that occasion, and when the reeling-shop was burnt in 1831, money was advanced to the workers, and repaid by small instalments when they returned to work; this would not have been done if the hours of labour had been shortened in the manner proposed by the present Bill, as the servants would not have been able to repay the advance. This step was not taken from a fear of losing the hands, but simply as an act of charity to give them support while out of employ, which they could not procure elsewhere.

While flax and other mills in our neighbourhood are permitted to work long hours, our hands would leave us unless we conformed, or paid wages for short hours that the state of trade would not allow us to do.



## No. 1.—TIME and PRODUCE of MILLS for 1826.

|             | TIME. |       |      |       |      | Produce. |     | Loss of Produce. |     |
|-------------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|----------|-----|------------------|-----|
|             | Days. | Lost. |      | Nett. |      |          |     |                  |     |
|             |       | hrs.  | min. | hrs.  | min. | lbs.     | oz. | lbs.             | oz. |
| M. Mill - - | 309   | 336   | 26   | 3,563 | 34   | 357,871  | 13  | 33,748           | 0   |
| T. Mill - - | 309   | 336   | 26   | 3,563 | 34   | 148,691  | 0   | 14,022           | 0   |
|             | 309   | 336   | 26   | 3,563 | 34   | 506,562  | 13  | 47,770           | 0   |

Average of time,  
11 hours 31  
minutes.

Average of time,  
11 hours 31  
minutes.

## No. 2.—TIME WOODSIDE MILLS wrought last Five Years.

|      | Days.             | Hours.             | Average Hours<br>per Day. |
|------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1828 | 311               | 3809 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$          |
| 1829 | 303               | 3664 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$          |
| 1830 | 311               | 3728 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$          |
| 1831 | 303               | 3425 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$          |
| 1832 | 311               | 3816 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$          |
|      | 307 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 3689 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$          |

Average of the  
5 Years.

## No. 3.—ARRANGEMENT for SHIFTING, owing to Scarcity of Water, 26th June 1826.

|           | MONDAY.               |                          | TUESDAY.              |                          | WEDNESDAY.            |                          | THURSDAY.             |                          | FRIDAY.               |                          | SATURDAY.             |                          |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|           | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. |
| 1st Floor | 36 min.               | past 8 for<br>the day    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 42 min.<br>past 11       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 48 min.<br>past 2        | Stopt for the day.    |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 36 min.<br>past 8        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 54 min.<br>past 5.       |
| 2d Floor  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 36 min.<br>past 8        | Stopt for the day.    |                          | 36 min.               | past 8 for<br>the day.   | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 48 min.<br>past 2        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 42 min.<br>past 11       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 48 min.<br>past 2.       |
| 3d Floor  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 42 min.<br>past 11       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 48 min.<br>past 2        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 54 min.<br>past 5        | 36 min.               | past 8 for<br>the day.   | Stopt for the day.    |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 38 min.<br>past 8.       |
| 4th Floor | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 48 min.<br>past 2        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 54 min.<br>past 5        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 36 min.<br>past 8        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 42 min.<br>past 11       | 36 min.               | past 8 for<br>the day.   | Stopt for the day.    |                          |
| 5th Floor | Stopt for the day.    |                          | 36 min.               | past 8 for<br>the day.   | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 42 min.<br>past 11       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 54 min.<br>past 5        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 48 min.<br>past 2        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 42 min.<br>past 11.      |
| 6th Floor | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 54 min.<br>past 5        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 36 min.<br>past 8        | Stopt for the day.    |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 38 min.<br>past 8        | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | 54 min.<br>past 5        | 38 min.               | past 8 for<br>the day.   |

Floors working to enter at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 in the morning, to be out 3 hours and 6 minutes alternately, and to continue till 9 P. M. Preparation-rooms, owing to scarcity of water, began shifting about the 10th of May; from the 24th of May to the 24th of June inclusive each floor stopped  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours alternately in the day, beginning at 6 A. M. and stopping at 9 P. M.; from the 24th of June to the 1st of July one floor always standing, the other five stopped 3 hours 6 minutes alternately in the day, beginning at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 A. M. and stopping at 9 P. M.; from the 1st to the 8th of July wrought the same as the 24th of May and 24th of June; from the 8th to the 22d of July the same as the 24th of June and 1st of July. Commenced regular hours the 22d of July.

## ARRANGEMENT for SHIFTING, owing to Scarcity of Water, 3d August 1826.

|           | MONDAY.               |                          | TUESDAY.              |                          | WEDNESDAY.            |                          | THURSDAY.             |                          | FRIDAY.               |                          | SATURDAY.             |                          |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|           | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. | Hours<br>of<br>Entry. | Hours<br>of<br>Shifting. |
| 1st Floor | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 1                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 6                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 8                     | 8 for the day.        |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3.    |
| 2d Floor  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3     | 8 for the day.        |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 8                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 1                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 6.                    |
| 3d Floor  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 6                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 8                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 1                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3     | 8 for the day.        |                          |
| 4th Floor | 8 for the day.        |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 1                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 6                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 8.                    |
| 5th Floor | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 8                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 1                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 6                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3     | 8 for the day.        |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10.   |
| 6th Floor | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3     | 8 for the day.        |                          | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 6                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 8                     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5  | at 1.                    |

To enter at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 in the morning, to be out  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours alternately, and continue till  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 P. M.



## No. 4.—ARRANGEMENT for SHIFTING, owing to Scarcity of Water, 5th August 1831.

|                                                                            | FRIDAY.              |                       | SATURDAY,                   |                    | MONDAY.              |                       | TUESDAY.             |                       | WEDNESDAY.           |                       | THURSDAY.            |                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                                                            | Hours of Entry.      | Hours of Shifting.    | Hours of Entry.             | Hours of Shifting. | Hours of Entry.      | Hours of Shifting.    | Hours of Entry.      | Hours of Shifting.    | Hours of Entry.      | Hours of Shifting.    | Hours of Entry.      | Hours of Shifting.    |
| $\frac{2}{3}$ of Weaving 1st & 6th Floors & $\frac{1}{3}$ Weaving 2d Floor | 8 for the day.       |                       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5        | 20 min. past 9     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 1                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 6                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 8                  |
|                                                                            | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 8                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5        | 15 min. past 11    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3  | 8 for the day.       |                       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 |
| 3d Floor                                                                   | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5        | 10 min. past 1     | 8 for the day.       |                       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 6                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 8                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 1                  |
| 4th Floor                                                                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5        | 5 min. past 3      | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 8                  | 8 for the day.       |                       | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3  |
| 5th Floor                                                                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3  | 25 min. past 7 for the day. |                    | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 8                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 1                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 6                  |
|                                                                            | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 6                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5        | 25 min. past 7     | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | at 1                  | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 | $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3  | 8 for the day.       |                       |

To begin work in the morning at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5, and dismiss in the evening at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 o'clock, each department having  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours licence within that time, with the exception of Saturday, which is only 1 hour and 55 minutes.

Woodside Works,  
16th May 1833. }

JAMES KILGOUR.

No. 7.

Stephen Pellatt.

ANSWERS of STEPHEN PELLATT, Manager for Messrs. RICHARDS, and Co.,  
Old Machar.

- A. 1.—Parish of Old Machar, county of Aberdeen.  
A. 2.—Flax-spinning, and linen-weaving by power.  
A. 3.—Old mill erected in the year 1806. The whole power (twenty-five horses) applied to flax-spinning. New mill erected in the year 1825, thirty-five horses power, of which since the period of its erection about one fifth of the power has been applied to linen-weaving, the rest to flax-spinning.  
A. 4.—Steam-power altogether; power very regular; extent of power seventy horses.  
A. 5.—No specific provision, and none necessary beyond what is mentioned in answer to Query No. 6.  
A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
A. 7.—By the foremen or their managers only.  
A. 8.—All, so far as I know.  
A. 9.—On entering the mills, the girls, old and young, I may say almost universally, change their outer dress, or so cover themselves with working-dresses that they may be protected from the effects of dust, dirt, &c., in the course of working; accordingly, on dismissing for meals, these working-dresses are thrown off, and the girls pass through the streets to their homes with an appearance of cleanness, and decency of apparel, comparable (to say the least) with any other description of people in the same condition of life.  
A. 10.—Eleven or twelve; and out of between three and four hundred not more than half a dozen so young.  
A. 11.—No, it does not.  
A. 12.—No.  
A. 13 & 14.—None; the system is wholly unknown in the manufactories of Aberdeen.  
A. 15.—There are six orphans in the mills, having no natural or legal guardians; but, with the exception of one about twelve years old, they are all of an age to be capable of taking care of themselves.  
A. 17.—Thirteen hours and ten minutes for five days in the week, and nine hours and fifty minutes on Saturday.  
A. 18.—The same hours as stated in answer No. 17. No regard is had to age.  
A. 19.—Between 30th April 1832 and 30th April 1833 thirteen hours and ten minutes; never longer.  
A. 20.—Between the dates above given three hundred and ten days.  
A. 21.—For the same period three thousand nine hundred and seven hours and a quarter.  
A. 22.—Such has not been the case within the last twelve months, nor is it so at any time.  
A. 23.—Twelve hours and thirty-one minutes between 30th April 1832 and 30th April 1833.  
A. 24.—Thirteen hours and ten minutes.  
A. 25.—At no time, and under no circumstances.

A. 26.



A. 26.—If lost time, by breakage, &c., is not to be allowed to be made up, any excess beyond the regular hours is avoidable in our business.

A. 27.—Not with one set of hands. For a period of about five years prior to 1826 our old mill was worked night and day, but with a double set of hands of course.

A. 28.—As applicable to one set of hands, I am unable to give any answer to this question derived from practice in these works.

A. 29.—The expectation that the cost of production will be reduced by dividing interest on plant and all other fixed annual charges over a greater produce. But if the effects on deterioration by running fifteen to sixteen hours a day, and beyond, be strictly observed, I believe the advantage in the long run will be found to be more apparent than real.

A. 30.—Our hours of work are uniform. Practically we cannot speak to the effect of the limitation of work on the cost of production. Theoretically and actually, limitation of the hours of work augments the cost of production as a necessary consequence; *e.g.* if the fixed expences of a flax-spinning establishment form one third of the whole cost, the working time being twelve hours per day, then the fixed charges will augment inversely as the time of going is shortened, and the return of work is reduced.

A. 31.—None; and where the hours are really extra it seems the natural mode.

A. 32.—We practised it during the time of working the old mill at night, prior to the year 1826.

A. 35.—When we worked all night (prior to 1826) the night hands for one week became the day hands for the following, *i.e.* the sets changed week about.

A. 36.—We disused night-work in 1826, and after pursuing that system five years, I am of opinion there is no advantage in it to the proprietor.

A. 37.—I conceive a national injury will be inflicted on the country, and a personal injury on the capitalist and operative servant respectively, by a reduction of time, to say ten hours per day. To the country injury will result directly by an augmented cost of production on all the grand staple manufactures carried on therein; to the capitalist injury will be done, as well from that cause, as from rendering his capital relatively non-effective and unproductive; and to the operative from the reduction of wages, which seems inevitably implied by such a measure. sooner or later, and to one degree or other.

A. 38.—The temperature of the surrounding atmosphere at as low a temperature as the workpeople can endure cold. An elevated temperature is, in fact, uncongenial to flax-spinning and linen-weaving, with the single exception stated in Answer No. 39.

A. 39.—We use artificial heat to dry the chains in the starching machines of power looms. The temperature may be about 70°.

A. 40.—Ten to twelve persons is the number engaged in the apartment where the above process is conducted.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 53.—Forty minutes are allowed for breakfast, and the same for dinner.

A. 54.—The whole are understood to leave, with the exceptions stated in reply No. 55. That is, the moving power is stopped, and we encourage none to remain. Some few, who live distant from the works, take their meals within the premises for their own convenience.

A. 55.—Twice a week two persons in each room remain during the meal hours to clean the great machinery, but these persons have liberty to go away to their meals after the work goes on.

A. 57.—Conviction that dismissal uniformly follows wilful disobedience is the moral power by which obedience and discipline are enforced within these works.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 59.—It is discountenanced and forbidden on principle.

A. 60.—Never.

A. 61.—Certainly never.

A. 62.—I have never, during twenty-one years management, had any occasion to interpose.

A. 63.—No; our foreman knows that our system is one of moral coercion, and that corporal punishment is not permitted.

A. 64.—Not one has ever been made, and the answer that is applied to the three years may be extended over the whole period of my management of twenty-one years.

A. 65.—These works being situate in the suburbs of Aberdeen, if not in Aberdeen itself, the workpeople live entirely in their own houses, and are subject to no control of ours out of work hours.

A. 66.—In regard to skill, the question is easily answered. Those who enter the works earliest become and continue the most skilful. In regard to the effect on character between those admitted into the works at a comparatively early period, as compared with those who have entered them at a later period of life, I cannot say I know any difference. At the same time I believe it is most difficult to come to any sound conclusion upon the effects of association in factories from the actual average of character found within them. In some the standard of moral character may be found better and higher than in the same condition of life out of the public works, and vice versa,—not arising, *de facto*, from the association



Aberdeenshire.

Stephen Pellatt.

association or the nature of employment, but dependent immediately on the personal character of the overseers and others placed over the operative people.

A. 67.—I know no change for or against within that period.

A. 68.—Never.

A. 69.—No.

A. 79.—None.

STEPHEN PELLATT,  
Manager for Messrs. Richards and Co.

No. 8.

Patrick Pirie.

ANSWERS of PATRICK PIRIE, of the Firm of WILLIAM PIRIE and Co.,  
Worsted Spinners, Old Machar.

A. 1.—Two mills in the parish of Old Machar, and one in the parish of Newhill, county of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—The spinning of worsted and woollen yarn.

A. 3.—Three mills, erected at different times; the first in 1823, employed for its present purpose in 1824; the second in 1829, employed in 1830; the third in 1831, employed in 1832.

A. 4.—Water power. In two works, driven by two wheels on the same waterfall, irregular. The extent of the irregularity may average about three months yearly when scarce of water, during which time we are compelled to work the smallest of these wheels at night, to which is attached about one third of the machinery; the power of these wheels about fifty-five horse; the power of the wheel in the parish of Newhills about fifteen horse, but this we never work at night.

A. 5.—No distinct or specific provision.

A. 6.—Depends entirely on the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—The overlooker chiefly; but any of the hands may open or shut the windows at pleasure, provided no injury be done by rain, &c.

A. 8.—Some parts are fenced off, but most parts are out of the reach of servants as much as possible.

A. 9.—The workpeople have all along been allowed to change their clothes on entering the works, and wash themselves, and put on additional clothing on leaving. The mills are whitewashed once a year, and are well ventilated.

A. 10.—None generally under ten. There are three at present betwixt nine and ten. None have been at any other trade.

A. 11.—Yes; on account of some of the machinery not being adapted for those of greater age.

A. 12.—We have made no alteration in our machinery, so as to require a greater or less number of children.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 17.—Twelve and a half for five days in the week; only ten on Saturday.

A. 18.—Twelve and a half for five days, and ten on Saturday.

A. 19.—Upon three or four occasions seventeen hours, for reasons to be assigned in answer to question No. 25.

A. 20.—Every lawful day, unless when the works were stopt by floods, &c.

A. 21.—In consequence of the irregularity of our power, cannot precisely say; probably about seventy hours a week, or three thousand six hundred and forty a year.

A. 22.—When deficient in power by reason of drought, we work the largest of the two wheels we have on the same waterfall, from 6 A.M. till half past seven P.M. The other wheel, which propels about one third of the machinery, we usually work 'twixt the hours of half past seven P.M. till six next morning.

A. 23.—From the irregularity of our power, cannot exactly say; but suppose about twelve hours for five days, and ten hours on Saturday.

A. 24.—Upon three or four occasions seventeen hours.

A. 25.—The circumstances that occasion the regular hours to be at times exceeded arise chiefly from the changes in the state of the river. For instance, when it rises at a time we are working during night, so that there is sufficient power to drive all our machinery at the hour of the morning the night hands leave off, they continue to work, after being allowed time to wash and take breakfast, till noon or two P.M., when they go home, and remain till six o'clock of the morning of the following day, when they resume day work as usual after sixteen or eighteen hours rest. But my orders are to work no child or any servant more than they can bear.

A. 26.—This certainly might be avoided, but not without the loss of power, and consequently the production of the manufactured articles, as well as the loss of wages to the servants, of which we think it would be wrong to deprive them, particularly when they do not consider themselves overworked.

A. 27.—During part of last year the greater number of our servants breakfasted without stopping the work, on condition of being dismissed at five instead of six o'clock on Saturday; but finding no advantage accrue from this, it has been for some time discontinued.

A. 29.



Aberdeenshire.

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A. 29.—Never having regularly practised extra hours, we cannot say; but we consider overworking children, or even adults, productive of no good.

A. 30.—Never having abridged or increased (unless to the extent as stated in answer to Question No. 27.) our hours of work, we cannot answer.

A. 31.—We do not require extra hours, but on such occasions as mentioned in answer to Question 25.

A. 32.—No. The reason is chiefly in consequence of the power being irregular.

A. 33.—We employ only one set of hands; but when the river is low we work a part during night, and their work is arranged as stated in answer to Question 22.

A. 34.—We do not work more than one set of hands.

A. 35.—When we are obliged to have recourse to night-work, the same hands have generally worked, as they preferred doing so; but they have it in their power to be periodically changed.

A. 36.—Very detrimental indeed; but for a full explanation we beg to refer to a printed memorandum as to the effect of a prohibition of night-work on our business affixed hereto.

A. 37.—I do not conceive myself competent to state this satisfactorily; but the effects of reducing the hours under seventy-two would, I think, be injurious to the trade and the country at large. The consequence would of course be a decrease of the articles at present produced; an addition of machinery, and consequently of capital, would be required to make up the deficiency in the production, and to supply the demand. All this, too, would be in favour of foreigners, by enabling them in some degree to compete with us.

A. 38.—There are various degrees of temperature in our manufactory. Some processes may be and are conducted at the lowest degree of temperature to which we are exposed in this climate. The temperature in our spinning-floors is about seventy to seventy-five degrees, often less.

A. 39.—There is one process in which a great degree of heat is applied to the wool; but the usual temperature, where the hands are attending this process, is about seventy-five degrees.

A. 40.—Nine.

A. 41.—Seventy-seven nights, of about one fifth of our hands attending about one third of our machinery in our mills in the parish of Old Machar. Our mill in the parish of Newhills is never worked during night.

A. 42.—Usually from twenty and twenty-four, whose ages may be from ten to fourteen years.

A. 43.—Ten hours for five nights; only five hours on Saturday.

A. 44.—From forty-five to fifty of the foregoing age on any particular or urgent occasion; but this has happened so rarely that I cannot call to mind the last instance of it.

A. 45.—From eight or nine at night till six o'clock in the morning.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Opening the windows.

A. 52.—Nothing injurious. See Mr. Irvine's (our surgeon) certificate appended hereto.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and same for dinner, to those attending machinery, some who work by hand, an hour to each meal.

A. 54.—For the accommodation of those who live at a distance, we have a kitchen where their meals are comfortably prepared for them. Twelve women take their meals in the work.

A. 55.—These women remain during meal-hours, to clear away the wool from the carders, and mend the bands of the frames.

A. 56.—The stopping of the machinery for some time after the hour of working commences.

A. 57.—Attention, persuasion, and kind treatment in general. A few were fined during last year to the extent in all of ten or twelve shillings. Those who are incorrigible are dismissed.

A. 58.—Corporal punishment has always been forbidden, unless on one occasion, when it was sanctioned.

A. 59.—On three or four occasions by overlookers, without sanction, and once by a parent, with sanction.

A. 60.—Once on a boy for stealing or hiding some small pieces of machinery, whose father flogged him with a strap.

A. 61.—Once. See last answer.

A. 62.—Invariably, unless in the last case. Two men were dismissed for flogging boys a few years ago.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions have always been given to the foreman and overlookers not to inflict corporal punishment.

A. 64.—No complaint ever made against me. One complaint was made to me by the father of a child about twelve years of age against an overlooker. The matter being submitted to me, I adjudged the overlooker to pay to the father a fine of 1*l.*; but the father, not satisfied with this, went to law, lost his case, and had all expences to pay.

A. 65.—Some do. No control or superintendence exercised further than sanctioning and countenancing a Sunday school on the premises; a daily evening school is also adjacent.



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A. 66.—We generally prefer those who have been employed in our work, and refer to the following in the lists:—No. 49, 79, 280, 158, 155, 151, 5, 20, 90, 94, 117, 118.

A. 67.—The health of our people has all along been so good that I cannot say there is either improvement or deterioration.

A. 68, 69, 70, 71, & 72.—No.

PATRIC PIRIE.

I hereby certify, that I have professionally attended the servants employed at the works of Messrs. William Pirie and Co., woollen manufacturers, Gordon's mills, for the last five years; that their general health has been as good as any class of labouring people enjoy; that of the great number of persons employed, the instances of disease have been comparatively few, certainly under what might have been expected. I cannot attribute the cause of dishealth in any individual case to their being employed in night-work, nor have I ever heard any complaint on that ground from any patient under my care, and that at present I have only one case under treatment.

Old Aberdeen, }  
10th May 1833. }

J. IRVINE,  
Surgeon to General Dispensary, Old Aberdeen.

*Memorandum as to the effect of the proposed Prohibition of Night Work upon the Business of William Pirie & Co., Woollen Manufacturers, Gordon's Mills, near Aberdeen.*

The gentlemen concerned in this company are the lessees of a valuable waterfall and other property upon the banks of the river Don, for the long period of one hundred years, at a very heavy rent. When the company took upon themselves the burden of this rent, when they erected expensive buildings, and filled them with machinery, excavated their reservoirs and watercourses, and embarked their whole capital in the undertaking, they fully calculated upon being obliged, at certain seasons, when the water should be low, to have recourse to night-work; and it is needless to say that no restrictive law was in operation at that period, and that none such could, by any foresight, have been contemplated. The experience of several years has shown that the average extent of night-work may be about three months in the year, of about one third part of the whole machinery which is attached to, and driven by, one particular wheel; and should the prohibition alluded to be carried into effect, this wheel, and the machinery attached thereto, would be thrown utterly useless upon their hands. It may appear at first sight that the effects of the bill, as regards this company, would be confined to three months in the year. This, however, is by far too limited a view of the consequences which would attend it. It would, of course, be quite impossible for the company to retain the same number of servants in their employment during the dry season as at present. They would have no alternative but to dismiss about one third of the present number. The servants so dismissed could not be expected to remain idle till the rise of the river should again admit of the company taking them into their employment. They would in the meantime find permanent engagements, which they would not be induced to abandon to enter the service of their former masters, and to be again dismissed when the supply of water should happen to fail.

It may be said that the employment of steam-power would obviate all the difficulties now pointed out. So indeed, in some measure, it might; but it must be recollected that steam cannot be procured and kept up, where this company's works are established, but at an enormous expence; and when, as has been already stated, they are legally bound for a heavy rent for the power they at present employ during so long a period of years, the hardship of encumbering them with the additional expence of steam must be apparent. The original cost of steam-engines would be very great, and the annual charges for upholding them, and for fuel, (upon which a large amount, both of sea and land carriage, would have to be paid,) are very heavy.

Again, it may be said that the prohibition of night-work is only intended to apply to persons under twenty-one years of age, above which there is no restriction. To this it may be answered, that the greater part of the machinery in use in the Company's mills was not intended to be worked by full-grown persons, and is not adapted for that purpose.

The usual working hours during the day are seventy-two hours per week; but when the memorialists are obliged to have recourse to night-work the class of hands employed for that purpose work only fifty-five hours per week, receiving for this the same wages as if they wrought the other seventeen. These hands thus enjoy seventeen hours a week more than the others for rest, recreation, and education. It may also be observed, that the whole time between Saturday night and Monday night is at their own disposal. Now, say that the memorialists require to work during the night with only one third of their machinery for twelve weeks in the year, this would only give ten hours of night-work in fourteen days upon the whole year to each individual; and yet for so trifling a consideration as this is the company called upon to make so serious a sacrifice of their property as the Bill in question would demand. That the health of the servants does not suffer by the night-work, as at present regulated in the company's mills, is satisfactorily established by the certificate of Mr. Irvine, the surgeon who attends them. Now, in the circumstances above explained, it may be fairly enough asked where the necessity exists for the measure in question?



tion? The working people themselves, even those very individuals whom the Bill is intended to benefit, can see none. On the very contrary, satisfied as they are with their present condition, the hands in the company's employment have most distinctly expressed themselves opposed to any change, in a Petition sometime ago presented by them to the Commons House of Parliament.

Upon the whole, therefore, the Company trusts that they have made it apparent that the enactment proposed would, in the peculiar circumstances in which they are placed, be very detrimental to their business; while on the other hand no case of necessity, or even of expediency, can be made out for its adoption.

Aberdeenshire.

Patrick Pirie.

## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER PIRIE junior, Newhills.

No. 9.

Alex. Pirie jun.

A. 1.—In the parish of Newhills and shire of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—Cutting, sorting, and bleaching rags, and making paper.

A. 3.—1770 was the first time the mill was employed for paper-making, and additions were made in 1802 and 1819.

A. 4.—Water is the power used for driving my machinery; less in summer or in strong frost, but there is at all times sufficient in the river for my purposes.

A. 5.—There is in some of the rooms distinct provision made for their ventilation (viz. fans driven by machinery), but not in all places; however, from the nature of the work carried on in many of the rooms, the air is always fresh.

A. 6.—In some of the rooms it depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The foreman certainly attends that the air in the rooms be kept fresh and healthy, but any of the hands have liberty to open the windows at pleasure, if dry weather.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are as far as possible carefully fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople have always a plentiful supply of water to wash themselves on going away to breakfast, dinner, or in the evening; and there are places for hanging up any extra clothing they may bring with them in winter or bad weather.

A. 10.—Ten years of age is the lowest at which I ever employ children, and I have no person in my works at present (1st January 1833) under fourteen or fifteen years. They were never to my knowledge employed at other trades.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—They have occasioned no difference.

A. 13.—I have employed apprentices, but do not at present.

A. 14.—They were never apprenticed from parishes.

A. 15.—There is only one girl in my work, who is an orphan, and she lives with an aunt.

A. 16.—This girl is under the care of her aunt.

A. 17.—Ten hours; a few hands work twelve hours.

A. 18.—Ten hours.

A. 19.—Twenty-four hours.

A. 20.—Every lawful day.

A. 21.—Part of the machinery is kept going the whole twenty-four hours of every lawful day.

A. 22.—The paper engines are worked uniformly all twenty-four hours; the machines are worked from six in the morning to four in the afternoon without stopping, and the rest of the work, with one or two solitary exceptions, from six to six in the daytime, with two hours stoppage for meals.

A. 23.—Twenty-four hours for the paper engines every lawful day.

A. 24.—Ten hours.

A. 25.—The usual number of hours for the persons employed at the paper machines, and in finishing the papers, were exceeded when making thin papers, and those hands are above twenty-one years of age. The usual hours in the other departments are almost uniformly the same.

A. 26.—This excess is certainly avoidable, but not conveniently so.

A. 27.—I have for a great number of years back worked my manufactory nearly the same hours as at present, and never a greater number.

A. 29.—The inducement to the manufacturer is quantity of work thrown off.

A. 30.—I have not for a very long period worked fewer hours than at present, and therefore cannot say.

A. 31.—I never work children above ten hours a day.

A. 32.—I never had occasion to try it.

A. 33.—I employ two men for night-work, at the engines and bleaching-house.

A. 34.—I only have one set of hands, with the exception of the two men mentioned in reply to No. 33.

A. 35.—These two men have the night and day work alternately every week with other two.



Aberdeenshire.

Alex. Pirie jun.

A. 36.—I only employ persons above twenty-one years for night-work; and to prohibit me from having those, would be to reduce the quantity of manufacture produced one half; and consequently the outlay of capital to produce the same quantity as at present would be greatly increased.

A. 37.—I do not think that the hours could be expected to be limited to a less number than what I presently work.

A. 38.—The highest temperature in any of the rooms in my works is seventy-five degrees Fahrenheit.

A. 39.—There is one process in paper-making which requires a great deal of heat; but where the workpeople stand the temperature is about seventy-five degrees.

A. 40.—I employ six hands above twenty-one years of age, and none under that in this process.

A. 41.—Every lawful night.

A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None.

A. 46.—None indispensably.

A. 47.—All processes, at which I employ hands, may be stopped at any time, unless the bleaching distillation, which must be continued twelve hours running.

A. 48.—The man is fifty-three years of age who takes charge of this process.

A. 49.—Because, by stopping, the whole contents of the retort would be lost.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—None, beyond what there is during the day.

A. 52.—I have never observed any difference.

A. 53.—One hour to breakfast and one hour to dinner to all except those employed at the paper-machines and engines, and bleaching-retort, and steam-boilers, who take their meals in the mill.

A. 54.—All have it in their power to go home to their meals, unless those stated in reply to No. 53.

A. 55.—Because, although not indispensable to work those without stopping, yet it would be highly inconvenient, and sometimes attended with loss, to stop them at meal-times.

A. 56.—Stopping the machinery.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—No.

A. 59.—By no person.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—I never thought it necessary to issue such orders.

A. 63.—If disobedient, to dismiss them on the spot; given by word of mouth.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Most of them live in my houses; but no control or superintendence is necessary on my part, as a regard for their own character is sufficient to insure it.

A. 66.—I have scarcely a person in any particular process of my works who has not been bred to it from childhood.

A. 67.—I have found no difference; there can scarcely be any improvement.

A. 68, 69, 70, & 71.—No.

ALEX. PIRIE jun.

No 10.

Alexander Irvine.

## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER IRVINE, Peter Culter.

A. 1.—Peter Culter, county of Aberdeen.

A. 2.—Paper-making.

A. 3.—Having purchased the works in 1821, cannot specify dates of erection of buildings, to which various additions appear to have been made periodically. The work has been used for its present purpose upwards of seventy years.

A. 4.—The moving power water; supply regular; power about equal to that of an engine of thirty-horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—Doors and windows the only provision for ventilation.

A. 7.—The persons employed.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—No apartments expressly set aside for the workpeople to change their clothes, but they have opportunities. Soap is allowed.

A. 10.—No children employed.

A. 11.—No children required.

A. 12.—No children employed.

A. 13 & 14.—No apprentices employed.

A. 15 & 16.—No children employed.

A. 17.—Ten to twelve hours.

A. 18.—Ten hours.

A. 19.—Part of the work twenty-four hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—About three thousand eight hundred hours.

A. 22.



- A. 22.—So dependent upon circumstances that we cannot specify particular times.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours for males, and ten for females.  
 A. 24.—No children employed.  
 A. 25.—Chiefly during the summer months.  
 A. 26.—Could be avoided, but we wish to increase our stock at the most favourable time for our manufacture.  
 A. 27 & 28.—We have not at any former period worked a greater number of hours daily than at present, excepting when we do night work.  
 A. 29.—We have always changed hands when we did night-work, and cannot therefore say.  
 A. 30.—We cannot say, from our own experience, that limitation of hours increases or decreases cost of production.  
 A. 31.—We know no objection.  
 A. 32.—No children employed.  
 A. 33.—Yes. We change hands at six in the morning and six at night.  
 A. 34.—When we find it necessary to do night-work we employ two sets of hands.  
 A. 35.—We change periodically.  
 A. 36.—Less work done; occasionally we would not be able to meet our demand.  
 A. 37.—A reduction of our hours we consider unnecessary. We have never heard a single complaint in reference to long hours. If hours are reduced, so must wages.  
 A. 38.—We can work at 34° of Fahrenheit, and the usual temperature is dependent on the weather, no fires being used unless for warming the workpeople when necessary.  
 A. 39.—We require no particular heat except in a stove-house, the temperature of which may be about 100°, but no person is at work in it at that heat.  
 A. 40.—One man, and he has occasionally to ascertain and regulate temperature.  
 A. 41.—No particular account kept; think not above two months.  
 A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No children employed.  
 A. 46.—Preparing engines for beating material into pulp.  
 A. 47.—Depends solely whether we are pressed for time in the execution of orders, or otherwise.  
 A. 48.—Men upwards of twenty-one years of age.  
 A. 49.—If not continuous when necessary, part of the works would be silent.  
 A. 50.—By oil.  
 A. 51.—No provision but that in answer to queries 5th and 6th.  
 A. 52.—We have never seen any injurious effect, and no workman ever said that any had followed.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and half an hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave or may leave, excepting eight men employed at the machines.  
 A. 55.—These eight men are retained for the convenience of the manufactory.  
 A. 56.—If we allowed the eight men referred to to take their meals out of the manufactory their department would be silent.  
 A. 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, & 63.—No corporal punishment allowed, and none ever inflicted.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live in houses rented by themselves, are generally clean and healthy.  
 A. 66.—We have never had any employed from infancy.  
 A. 67.—The general health of our workpeople has been good.  
 A. 68.—No process in our works injurious to health.  
 A. 69.—We believe not.  
 A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.  
 A. 78.—We cannot.  
 A. 79.—None.

Mills of Peter Culter, 15th May 1833.

ALEXANDER IRVINE.

Aberdeenshire.  
 Alexander Irvine.

## AYRSHIRE.

### ANSWERS from ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN, Catrine.

- A. 1.—Catrine Cotton Works, the property of Messrs. James Finlay and Co., Glasgow, are situated in the parish of Sorn and county of Ayr.  
 A. 2.—Throstle and mule spinning, weaving by power, bleaching, and finishing.  
 A. 3.—The erection of these works commenced in the year 1786 by the late Claud Alexander Esq., of Ballochmyle, and the late David Dale Esq., of Rosebank by Glasgow, and were carried on under the firm of Messrs. Alexander and Dale till 1801, when the present proprietors purchased them. The erection of the throstle or twist mill therefore commenced in 1786, and up to 1801 they had a good deal of mule-spinning wrought by hand. In 1801 a large addition was built to the mule-spinning factory, which, with the greater part of the old building, was re-constructed for and set to work by power. These works have undergone several alterations and additions, and now contain nine thousand one hundred and eighty

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Ayrshire.  
 No. 11.  
 Arch. Buchanan.



Ayrshire.

*Arch. Buchanan.*

eighty throstle or twist spindles, and sixteen thousand two hundred mule spindles. Weaving by power was commenced in 1806, and the present number of power-looms is four hundred and fourteen, suitable buildings having been provided.

The bleaching and finishing works were erected in 1825, and now afford employment to fifty-five people.

A. 4. The power employed is water, laid upon two water-wheels of fifty feet diameter and eleven feet wide within the shrouding; they turn the whole spinning and weaving, and require about seventy tons of water per minute laid upon a fall of forty-six feet nine inches and a quarter. This is supplied by the river Ayr, an irregular stream, which, with the assistance of reservoirs which have been formed at its source and at the works, has afforded sufficient water power for about eight months of the year, and equal to that of about two hundred horses.

The deficiency in dry seasons is made up by two steam-engines of forty-horses power each, which work in connection with the water-power as required. In the bleaching and finishing work the power is supplied by a steam-engine equal to twenty-five horses.

A. 5.—The only room where any specific ventilation is applied (beyond what is regulated by the windows) is in the first process of opening and cleaning the cotton, which is performed in the attics; these are supplied by large fans of three feet diameter; and the fleu from the cotton being confined to them, it is thrown out from thence at the top of the building, leaving these rooms as free from dust or fleu as any within the works. The external air is supplied by the staircase and windows, and affords a strong continuous current of fresh air through all parts of the building to these fans, as the heated and foul air is displaced.

A. 6. There is a thermometer placed in every room under the charge of the master, who regulates the ventilation.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the overlookers and foreman, and the degree of heat entered in a book daily.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople have such convenience as they require for washing or change of clothing; they are generally of cleanly habits; the Scotch plaid is much worn, which they wrap round them in coming to or leaving the works in wet or cold weather, especially the females.

A. 10.—Nine years of age. We know of nothing they could be employed at previous to that age beyond household matters and school. No children are admitted into the works till they are acquainted with the elements of the English language, and which is a strong inducement to the parents to have them early at school.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not necessarily require children under twelve years of age, but it is of the greatest importance to the children themselves and their parents, because in the period from nine to twelve they are trained to the business when they could do little else, which fits them for the more lucrative employments as their strength and fitness are developed.

A. 12.—With us it has reduced the number.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14.—None.

A. 15.—We neither maintain nor lodge any of our people. Eleven orphans under twenty-one years of age are employed under the protection of their relatives and natural guardians.

A. 16.—None besides their masters and relatives.

A. 17.—Twelve, and on Saturday nine hours, with the exception of mechanics and labourers, who work eleven hours for six days in the week.

A. 18.—We strictly conform to the Factory Bill of October 1831.

A. 19.—Twelve and a half when working up lost time, as per the Factory Bill of 1831.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and nineteen.

A. 22.—The works have been carried on in strict conformity to the Factory Bill of 1831, and any casual stoppage of any part has been so trivial as to be unworthy of notice.

A. 23.—Eleven and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve and a half.

A. 25.—In working up lost time in terms of the Factory Bill of 1831.

A. 26.—Not avoidable without a diminution of the people's wages, or loss to the proprietors.

A. 27.—About twenty-five years ago the regular hours of work were twelve and a half per day, or seventy-five hours per week; this was changed to twelve hours per day, or seventy-two per week, partly from a deficiency of water-power, and partly at the request of the workpeople, who generally preferred a diminution of wages to the extent of half an hour per day to longer work.

A. 28.—We do.

A. 29.—The inducement to a manufacturer to work long hours is evidently to get a larger produce from a given sunk capital in buildings, machinery, charges of management, &c., but they cannot work through the nights without an intermediate change of hands, let the law or general understanding of the trade be what they may.

A. 30.—We find an increase in the cost of production from any limitation of produce, and which extends to all branches to the extent of the interest and risk in sunk capital and fixed charges,



charges, independent of wages; and upon reduced produce higher prices must be paid if the people are to enjoy the same comforts.

A. 31.—The objections to this, in our opinion, are very great; first, because a double set of hands could not be collected and sufficiently trained for a series of years; second, supposing a relay of hands under twenty-one years of age could be got, the adults could not be supposed to work above fourteen hours in the day, allowing the least possible time for meals and refreshments, which would only give seven hours work to those under twenty-one, and the produce in that time could not afford more than half the present wages to the younger hands, which would be found totally inadequate to afford the means of support and comforts which that class now enjoy; and, third, since all our people are paid by the piece, we do not see a possibility of distinguishing the produce belonging to each, so as to pay for their individual exertions.

A. 32.—A change of hands for extra hours has never been practised by us, because, in our situation, we deemed it not only unprofitable but impracticable.

A. 33.—We never employed a set of night hands.

A. 35.—We have none.

A. 36.—A prohibition of night-work could do us no harm, never having practised it.

A. 37.—A still further reduction of the working hours would cause a still further reduction of profits and the wages of operatives, without a corresponding advance in the price of the article produced.

A. 38.—The usual temperature in carding, spinning, and weaving rooms is 60° to 70° of Fahrenheit's thermometer; these operations require no more heat than to keep the workers comfortable. In the dressing-room, where the warp-yarn is pacted and brushed in a wet state, a higher temperature is necessary, to get the work done with dispatch, and in this room the temperature is from 80° to 90°.

A. 39.—80° to 90° in the dressing room only.

A. 40.—The number of hands employed in the dressing-room is usually thirty-four; of these eleven are under twenty-one years of age, and are only employed there, being more convenient for master and servant, and we do not find their health injured.

A. 41.—No part of them.

A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 47, 48, & 49.—We have none such.

A. 50.—By coal gas, when day-light fails in winter.

A. 51.—We have no night-work.

A. 52.—We have none so employed.

A. 53.—The time allowed for meals is according to the Factory Bill of 1831.

A. 54.—All of them do.

A. 55.—They all leave the works, which is found most convenient for both parties.

A. 57.—The means we take is sending them home to their parents, and which is of very rare occurrence.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments are inflicted on any person employed in the works.

A. 59.—If at all, by parents at home.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—We have long specially forbidden such practice.

A. 63.—No other instructions than what are mentioned in answer to query 57, and they were given verbally.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A large proportion of our workers are proprietors of the houses they live in, and these are kept in a high state of order and domestic cleanliness; others rent their houses from the company and feuars in the village, who have built or bought houses there as an investment. The former are greatly to be preferred, but the whole are in very respectable order, and those belonging to the company are looked after by the person who lets the houses and receives the rents. No control is exercised for moral and social improvement, beyond the prospect of their being discharged from the works should they persist in bad habits.

A. 66.—No children are employed in infancy, nor till they are nine years of age, and have acquired something of the elements of the English language. The difference of those employed at an early period and those taken in at later periods is about equal to those who have had the advantage of an early education, when compared to those who have received it in after life. All the overlookers and those who have grown up in the works can be adduced as instances.

A. 67.—During the last ten years we cannot mark any very decided improvement in the health of our people; their circumstances are, however, gradually becoming more comfortable, and many of them are saving money. On the 31st December last the people connected with the works had above 2,000*l.* at their credit with the company.

A. 68.—Our people are at liberty to change their employment at the end of every week, and to go to any room within the establishment where the master of that room can employ them, upon giving six days previous notice to the master they leave. All who come under the Factory Bill are paid by piece work, with the exception of learners and spare hands to supply any vacancy that may occur, from the master down to the person who sweeps the floor, both inclusive, and it is equally his interest to keep good hands as it is theirs to have a good master.

A. 69.—Our factories are subject and conform to the present Act.

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Ayrshire.

Arch. Buchanan.



Ayrshire.

Arch. Buchanan.

- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 71.—Neither the one nor the other.
- A. 72.—We have none to state.
- A. 73.—We have no mills or factories in our neighbourhood; there are none of any consequence nearer than Glasgow, a distance of thirty-four miles.
- A. 74.—We do not know.
- A. 75.—Not to our knowledge.
- A. 76.—We have no information as to that.
- A. 77.—Not in the least with us, upon cause being shown.
- A. 78.—We can suggest nothing beyond the self-interest of the parties, which, when well considered, ought to be sufficient in all cases.
- A. 79.—Any further observations that we might suggest could not fail of appearing invidious, as applying more to other works than our own. Should it, however, be judged necessary to regulate the hours of labour, we are of opinion that could be most conveniently done by stopping the moving power, whether water or steam, at a given time in each day, and after having wrought the established hours, under a heavy penalty to those who exceed. This done, the time for meals may be left to the convenience of parties, the employer and the employed; if the meal hours were short, the works would be dismissed so much the sooner; and all circumstances considered, we are of opinion the twelve hours work in the day will be found the best for all parties, as well as the interests of the country; for it must be evident that, if we cannot produce our goods at or under the rates of our competitors, the trade will gradually leave us, and the most extensive branch of our manufacturing labour will ultimately be transferred to foreign countries, and lost to this nation.

Catrine, 4th June 1833.

ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN.

## BUTE.

Bute.

No. 12.

Robert Thom.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT THOM, Acting Resident Partner, Rothesay.

- A. 1.—Rothesay, county of Bute.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.
- A. 3.—The first cotton yarn produced by machinery in Scotland was spun here in 1778 or 1779 in a small mill now turned into dwelling houses. What is now called the old mill was erected in a year or two afterward, and what is called the new mill was built in 1791.
- A. 4.—Water power, estimated at from fifty to sixty horses. Up to 1824 the power was very irregular, and had to be assisted by steam-engines during very dry seasons. In that year improvements in the mode of collecting water, &c. were completed, and the power has since been pretty regular, except in very long droughts.
- A. 5.—Yes.
- A. 6.—By opening windows, or the panes of windows made to open for this purpose.
- A. 7.—It is controlled at the discretion of all or of any of the persons employed.
- A. 8.—Yes.
- A. 9.—No person of dirty or irregular habits is taken into or allowed to remain in the works. Any of them may if they choose throw off or put on additional clothes on entering or leaving the works, but the climate here being so mild and uniform it is seldom necessary.
- A. 10.—None are employed under nine years of age, and very few under ten.
- A. 11 & 12.—The nature of the work requires a number of children under twelve years of age, and the machinery has been purposely made to employ such children, there being many poor widows with small families in the place, in consequence of the fathers being lost at sea and otherwise, who if not so employed would be destitute, but are thus enabled to live in comparative comfort.
- A. 13.—We occasionally teach boys to make machinery, but they are never bound apprentices.
- A. 15.—All the children employed are lodged and maintained by their parents or natural guardians.
- A. 17 & 18. The usual number of hours for all persons employed are twelve daily for five days in the week, and nine on Saturdays.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours.
- A. 20.—Two hundred and fifty-four days of twelve hours each, fifty-two days of nine hours each, and one day of eight hours and a quarter.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-four hours and a quarter.
- A. 22.—All carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—The average of the hours for each day the works were kept going during the year is eleven hours twenty-eight minutes forty-six seconds; but there were the fifty-two Sundays and other six holidays in which no work was done; if those were included the average would only be nine hours thirty-nine minutes twenty seconds.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 25 & 26.—Not exceeded.
- A. 27.—Previous to the last Act of Parliament regulating the hours the works were kept going three hours in the week longer than at present.

A. 28.



A. 28.—In this case the wages were reduced in proportion to the time, but the cost of production was still enhanced by the interest of capital, insurance, and several other charges remaining the same on the smaller quantity now produced as was on the larger quantity formerly. This to a work such as ours, if the time be shortened one hour daily, would amount to an annual loss of 300*l.*, supposing the business to yield no profit beyond interest on the capital; should there be profit beyond this, then one twelfth of it would have to be added to the 300*l.* to show the total amount of loss occasioned to the proprietors by working one hour in the day shorter; the workpeople would at the same time lose about 600*l.* a year.

A. 29.—The inducement is to avoid the loss just stated above.

A. 30.—Answered partly in 28; but it may be added that to shorten or limit the hours one sixth part would increase the cost of production fully one fourth part.

A. 31.—The objection to relays or fresh sets of children for extra hours is, that they cannot be had without paying as much for a few extra hours as for the whole day, and the business cannot afford this; besides, two sets of hands injure the machinery by taking away individual responsibility; but we do not ask nor wish to work any longer hours on any occasion than at present.

A. 32.—It was tried by the subscriber, though not at Rothesay mills, and found as stated in A. 31.

A. 34.—I do not conceive it to be the interest of the proprietors of respectable works generally to work over night, or employ more than one set of hands, for the reasons stated in A. 31; but it is sometimes done when profits are great (which has not been the case for many years past), or by individuals in desperate circumstances.

A. 35.—We have but one set of hands.

A. 36.—None.

A. 37.—That it would be productive of much misery to the workers in the first place, and ultimately remove the trade to other countries where living is cheaper, taxes less, and where no such vexatious restrictions exist. It would in fact amount to a bounty to the foreign manufacturer, at the expence of the trade here. Were the competition confined to this country, there might be a reasonable hope that by lessening the production the price of the manufactured article would rise; but as a great part of the cotton yarn now spun in this country has to meet the competition of foreigners in foreign markets, as these foreigners already compete with us so successfully that for several years we can hardly realize prime cost, it seems clear that either the workers wages would have to be reduced, so that the yarn should not cost more than at present, or the trade given up to foreigners. Factory hands have heretofore been enabled, not only to live with comparative comfort themselves, but to help to relieve the distress of others; but were the Ten Hour Bill to pass, they would be plunged into the same poverty and misery as the hand-loom weavers, and their numbers being so great it is painful to contemplate the probable consequences. Not only would corn laws be then out of the question, but what property could be considered safe with a whole population reduced to desperation and beggary?

A. 38.—From 68° to 70° Fahrenheit.

A. 39.—70° of Fahrenheit.

A. 41.—No night-work.

A. 42, 43, 44, 45 & 46.—None.

A. 47.—No process carried on longer than twelve hours daily.

A. 49.—Not continued.

A. 50.—By gas in winter evenings and mornings.

A. 52.—No night work.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast at nine, and the same to dinner at two.

A. 54.—All take their meals at home.

A. 57.—If they refuse orders, they are sent home to their parents or natural guardians.

A. 58.—No; the standing order is, that any person striking another in the work is dismissed.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 64.—Never any, though the subscriber has conducted such works for more than thirty years.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in whatever houses they please. The children are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic in an evening school at the mill at the expence of the proprietors, and no bad character is taken into or allowed to remain in the works. The same rule applies to cleanliness. (See query 9th.)

A. 66.—There is no marked difference observable; if there be a difference it is rather in favour of those who enter the work when young, whether in regard to health, activity, or education.

A. 67.—We are not sensible of any difference; the workpeople with us have always been and still continue to be healthy, as compared to any other of the working classes.

A. 68.—No; we do not find it necessary.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—No.

A. 73.—There are no other mills in Bute, save a small weaving-mill, and for any thing we know it conforms to the Act.

A. 74, 75, & 76.—Not to our knowledge.

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A. 77.



Bute.

*Robert Thom.*

A. 77.—I have no reason to think so. The workpeople generally are of an independent spirit.

A. 78.—I am not aware of the provisions of the present Act being infringed in this country, and in as far as my personal observation goes, public opinion alone is now sufficient to protect the children or other workpeople. No one really using them ill would be able to obtain workers here.

A. 79.—In my opinion, all that is necessary to insure good usage to workers, young and old, would be for government to appoint a few respectable and independent men, in whom the public would have confidence, to inspect all works large and small, once a year or so, and publish the result. The public feeling is hostile to all vexatious restrictions on trade, and hence, probably, the want of informations against those who have infringed the present Act; but if individuals offending against humanity were held up to public notice, it would soon compel them to give up such conduct. Those offending might be fined, to pay the expence of such inspections.

ROBERT THOM, Acting Resident Partner.

## CLACKMANANSHIRE.

Clackmananshire.

No. 13.

*William Archibald.*

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM ARCHIBALD, Keillers Brae, Alloa.

- A. 1.—Keillers Brae, parish of Alloa, county of Clackmanan.  
 A. 2.—Blankets and worsteds.  
 A. 3.—Twenty years since first erected, and enlarged in 1824 and 1831.  
 A. 4.—Water power; regular, excepting in dry seasons; in such cases without water altogether, being supplied from a reservoir; six-horse power.  
 A. 5.—None.  
 A. 6.—By opening doors.  
 A. 7.—By all.  
 A. 8.—What is considered dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age, and mine their first employment.  
 A. 11.—In the piecing department I require children under twelve years of age, as the girls generally leave from twelve to fourteen, and the boys likewise, unless they become apprentices.  
 A. 12.—No difference.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—None from parishes.  
 A. 15.—None are lodged with me; all are under the charge of their parents and guardians.  
 A. 16.—A foreman.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours a day.  
 A. 18.—Eleven hours a day; no difference as to age.  
 A. 19.—Nineteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and twenty-four hours.  
 A. 22.—Carried on at the time.  
 A. 23 & 24.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 25.—Never exceeded by the same set of workers.  
 A. 26.—I consider this avoidable.  
 A. 27.—Not more than half an hour.  
 A. 28.—No.  
 A. 29.—A little more gain to the employer.  
 A. 30.—No, not having tried it.  
 A. 31.—I have no objection.  
 A. 32.—I have tried it, and found it to answer.  
 A. 33.—Yes; night set from three to nine o'clock A.M., and day set from nine o'clock A. M. to ten P.M.  
 A. 34.—I never resort to night-work but when I cannot fill up my orders with one set of hands during the day.  
 A. 36.—I would consider not to affect me at all.  
 A. 37.—A little less gain to the master. I consider ten hours labour for children quite sufficient, being convinced from personal experience, having had fatherless children sent from necessity whose means were unable to provide them with the necessary support, and consequently unable to undergo long fatigue; and more, long hours deprives factory children of all education.  
 A. 38.—About sixty degrees.  
 A. 39.—Not particular.  
 A. 41.—Sixty times in ten weeks.  
 A. 42 & 44.—Four.  
 A. 46. None.

A. 50.



- A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—None.  
 A. 52.—Generally very sleepy.  
 A. 53.—Two hours each day.  
 A. 54.—All leave if they please.  
 A. 57.—Advised to avoid mistakes in future, and if not attended to dismissed.  
 A. 58.—No, none.  
 A. 60 & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—No.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live in their own houses.  
 A. 66.—I have observed no difference.  
 A. 67.—I know no difference.  
 A. 68.—None.  
 A. 69.—I never saw a copy of the Act.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 71. & 77.—No.  
 A. 79.—I trust the Factory Bill introduced into parliament will speedily pass into law.

WILLIAM ARCHIBALD.

Clackmananshire.  
 William Archibald.

ANSWERS of ALEXANDER PATON Manager, and T. JOHN PATON Manufacturer,  
 Clackmanan.

No. 14.  
 Alexander Paton  
 and  
 T. J. Paton.

- A. 1.—The parish and town of Alloa in the county of Clackmanan.  
 A. 2.—Stocking yarns.  
 A. 3.—The works were first erected in 1812, and enlarged in 1819, and were first employed for their present purpose in 1814.  
 A. 4.—Water power is employed. The power may be estimated at ten horses during the greater part of the year, but in a very dry summer the power is diminished one half; and when the drought is very great and long continued, the stream has been dried up for two or three weeks together.  
 A. 5.—There is no distinct apparatus for ventilation.  
 A. 6.—The windows and doors are opened at the pleasure of the workers.  
 A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—Every part of the machinery which is considered dangerous is fenced.  
 A. 9.—As the heat of the works is regulated for the comfort of the workers, no additional clothing is necessary on leaving the works; and the nature of the employment is such that washing in the course of the day is unnecessary.  
 A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest age at which children are employed. None of them has been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Ten years is preferable to twelve. Were children not admitted under twelve years of age, it would be of great disadvantage to the manufacturer, because a long time is spent in teaching them, and in a very short time they must be advanced to the higher branches for which their years qualify them; and that, remaining a short time at the work at present done by children, it would be very imperfectly performed; and then parents are, in general, too poor to provide for them till they are twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—A greater proportion, though in a small degree.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—None are apprenticed from parishes.  
 A. 15.—None of the children are lodged or maintained. There is only one orphan.  
 A. 16.—They are all under the care of their parents or natural guardians.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours a day.  
 A. 18.—Young and old work eleven hours a day.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and sixty-nine.  
 A. 22.—The whole is carried on together.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours seven minutes, counting working days.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—During the months of November and December, when the demand for goods was very brisk.  
 A. 26.—It is avoidable, with a certain loss to the manufacturer.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 28.—No reduction of hours has taken place, unless during bad trade; and the expence of manufacturing in these circumstances is greatly increased.  
 A. 29.—The children are never wrought more than two hours extra, and it would be impossible to find others to fill their places during two hours each day; and when the works are continued during the night a change of hands is uniformly made.  
 A. 30.—There is, first, the loss on the fixed capital vested in the trade; and if the hours



Clackmananshire.

Alexander Paton  
and  
T. J. Paton.

are much shortened it might be impossible to execute certain orders within the time specified, as many articles cannot be made till the orders are received.

A. 31.—Children cannot be got to work a short time each day.

A. 32.—It has never been tried, because the children never work more than two hours extra.

A. 33.—No night set has been employed.

A. 34 & 35.—There is only one set of hands kept.

A. 36.—It would prevent the market being overstocked with goods, would equalize the competition between manufacturers, and would contribute greatly to the comfort of the workers. Night-work is injurious to the whole trade.

A. 37.—Were the hours reduced below ten or eleven, it would greatly increase the expence of manufacture, would lower the wages of workers, and, instead of improving their morals, would have an opposite effect.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—No particular temperature is required for any of the processes.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—At no time were they worked during the night.

A. 46, 47, 48, & 49.—None.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—There is no other provision than the opening of windows and doors.

A. 52.—Generally destructive to health, and must induce irregular habits.

A. 53.—Young and old have one hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—All leave them at meal-times.

A. 57.—When the children repeatedly refuse to submit to the regulations of the work they are turned off.

A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—No.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—No instructions farther than to dismiss them when they do not obey.

A. 64.—No complaints lodged.

A. 65.—All the workpeople live in their own houses.

A. 66.—All have been employed from infancy.

A. 67.—Ever since the introduction of the woollen trade here the people employed at it have been considered as healthy as any other class of mechanics, as during the prevalence of any epidemic there are proportionably few of them affected. The cause may be the extreme regularity of their labour, none of it being oppressive. The apartments are large, compared with the number of workers. The atmosphere is not deteriorated by any dust or noxious vapour.

A. 68.—As no process is injurious that is unnecessary.

A. 69.—It is not subject.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 73.—So far as I know, they do.

A. 74, 75, & 76.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 77.—I believe they are not.

ALEXANDER PATON, Manager.  
T. JOHN PATON, Manufacturer.

No. 15.

John Archibald.

ANSWERS of JOHN ARCHIBALD and SONS, Menstree by Stirling.

A. 1.—Our work is in the parish of Logie and county of Clackmanan.

A. 2.—Yarns, Scotch blankets, pladens, and shawls.

A. 3.—The west part of the factory was built in the year 1800, and the east part in 1810, and used for manufacturing yarns, blankets, &c. immediately after being built.

A. 4.—We employ steam and water power. The latter is irregular, and does not average more than half power for turning our machinery. The power is ten horses.

A. 5.—Yes; but it does little good.

A. 6.—It depends on opening two squares in a few of the windows of the west part of the factory which have hinges for the purpose of opening.

A. 7.—It is at the discretion of all.

A. 8.—The most dangerous parts of our work are fenced off.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, and none of them have been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—No difference.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—None from parishes.

A. 15.—We have no orphans in our work; all the children in our work live with their parents.

A. 17.—Eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 18.—All persons in our employ work eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 19.—Twenty-two hours.

A. 20.—About three hundred.

A. 21.—We do not know.

A. 22.—All are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.



- A. 23.—About eleven hours and three quarters per day.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half per day.  
 A. 25.—When we exceed the regular hours it is in the autumn and winter months, when we have an extra demand for goods.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The only inducement we have to work extra hours are to supply an extra demand, and serve our merchants with goods, which they rely on us to manufacture with as little delay as possible.  
 A. 30.—Yes; the diminution of hours in our factory will increase the cost of production in proportion to the reduction from the present hours.  
 A. 31.—We have no objection.  
 A. 32.—A system of relays has not been tried, because we cannot get a fresh set of children for a few hours without paying them full wages for a day's work.  
 A. 33.—Yes; one set commences at one o'clock A.M. and continues until one o'clock P.M., then they are relieved by the other set, who works till one o'clock A.M., and so on.  
 A. 34.—The reasons why we conceive it to be our interest to work more than one set of hands are to serve the merchants who depend on us for goods, and who would send their orders elsewhere were they not attended to without delay.  
 A. 35.—They change periodically with the day set.  
 A. 36.—It would at times disappoint some of our merchants.  
 A. 37.—It would make us less able to compete with foreign manufacturers, and ultimately to a reduction in wages.  
 A. 38.—The usual temperature of our work is 65° Fahrenheit, and the lowest temperature at which we can conduct our work without disadvantage is 55°.  
 A. 39.—65° is the highest temperature required.  
 A. 40.—All our hands.  
 A. 41.—Once.  
 A. 42.—Fourteen children.  
 A. 43.—During one half of the night, and then relieved by another set of hands.  
 A. 44.—Seven children.  
 A. 45.—One shift commences at one o'clock A.M. and continues till P.M.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—Our works are lighted with gas.  
 A. 51.—The opening of squares of a window on opening the door.  
 A. 52.—We never observed any alteration in the habits of children in our factory produced by night work.  
 A. 53.—All our hands go to breakfast at nine o'clock and return at ten, and go to dinner at two and return at three o'clock.  
 A. 54.—All leave at meal-times.  
 A. 57.—We have no particular means to enforce obedience.  
 A. 58.—Yes.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60.—Yes.  
 A. 61.—With both.  
 A. 62.—We never forbade corporal punishment, nor took steps for its prevention.  
 A. 63.—No instructions have been given.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—None of the workpeople live in our houses, neither have we control for their moral or social improvements, or arrangements made for their cleanliness.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been from their infancy in our factory are in general better skilled in these works than those employed at latter periods, but little or no difference in their general character.  
 A. 67.—No difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—We are not acquainted with the provisions of the present Act.  
 A. 70, 71, 78, & 79.—No.

Clackmananshire.

*John Archibald.*

JOHN ARCHIBALD and SONS.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT ARCHIBALD and WILLIAM ARCHIBALD.

No. 16.

Robert Archibald  
and  
William Archibald.

- A. 1.—Tillicoultry parish, in the county of Clackmanan.  
 A. 2.—Woollen factory; carding, spinning, weaving, and dyeing.  
 A. 3.—The work has been erected at different times. I bought it in 1817, and I built an addition in 1821, and another addition in 1826; it was first employed as a waulk-mill in the year 1796.  
 A. 4.—The power is employed by water, irregular; eight months in the year plenty of water, and four months in the year scarcity of water; when the water is plenty seven-horse power, when light four-horse power.  
 A. 5.—There is a good ventilation in the factory, and has good effects.  
 A. 6.—Some of the windows open in the middle, and some of the windows open with iron panes; can open and shut at pleasure.  
 (APP.—A. 1.)

D 4

A. 7.



Clackmananshire.

Robert Archibald  
and  
William Archibald.

- A. 7.—The ventilation is controlled at the discretion of all.
- A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.
- A. 9.—I have no arrangement for washing or changing clothes at my factory, and do not require it in this place.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age.
- A. 11.—Yes; I find them answering very well.
- A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery has caused more children to be employed, but at about twelve years of age.
- A. 13.—Yes.
- A. 14.—From Logie parish, sent from their parents.
- A. 15.—The children I employ all lodge with their parents.
- A. 16.—No.
- A. 17.—In summer each day, except Saturdays, eleven hours; in winter twelve hours. All the Saturdays in the year ten hours.
- A. 18.—There is no difference in the number of hours under twenty-one years of age. There is no difference at any age from nine and upwards.
- A. 19.—Fourteen hours.
- A. 20 & 21.—I do not know.
- A. 22.—The different parts of the works have been carried on at different times during the same day, but I cannot specify the times during which each department has been carried on.
- A. 23.—In summer eleven hours, except Saturday, ten hours; in winter twelve hours, except Saturdays, ten hours.
- A. 24.—Fourteen hours.
- A. 25.—In the month of November or December the demand was for yarn.
- A. 26.—I consider this or any excess beyond the regular hours of work avoidable.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 29.—I am not certain upon this point.
- A. 30.—No.
- A. 31.—No objection.
- A. 32.—I tried a system of relays in the employment of children about fourteen years ago; I believe I only tried the experiment for about two weeks in all.
- A. 33.—I have employed a night set of hands as well as a day set, but I do not now remember how their work was arranged.
- A. 34.—I now work my factory with one set of hands.
- A. 36.—The demand would be more in general.
- A. 37.—I believe the children would be better educated by means of attending a night school, if the work was stopped at seven o'clock in the evening; then the children can get about two hours and a half of education each night before they go to bed.
- A. 38.—On the 21st May 1833 I have a very fine temperature in the different parts of my factory; it is on average 60° while at work. I have not tried the experiment of the lowest temperature of the work; but the woollen requires a good warm temperature in winter.
- A. 39.—Sixty degrees is sufficient.
- A. 40.—No more hands than ordinary times.
- A. 41.—No night further than ten o'clock.
- A. 42.—No children employed after ten o'clock.
- A. 43 & 44.—None after ten o'clock.
- A. 45.—No hours after ten o'clock.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—By candle and oil.
- A. 51.—There is good openings in the windows for ventilations at evenings and mornings.
- A. 52.—I have no night work at present.
- A. 53.—They are allowed one hour, from nine to ten o'clock morning, to breakfast, and one hour, from one to two, to dinner. The weavers are allowed a few minutes to take tea, &c. The children are allowed to go out between four and five o'clock to take a refreshment; but the machinery is kept going on, and the children assist one another when they go their turn, and the spinners are allowed to take a refreshment about five o'clock.
- A. 54.—They all go out at breakfast and dinner; but those who work at the machinery between four and five o'clock afternoon do not at all at once go out and take their refreshment, as the machinery is going on.
- A. 55.—This practice is adopted for the convenience of the manufactory.
- A. 56.—I cannot say what would be the effect in large towns; but could desire no alteration in the meals taken by the persons in this village.
- A. 57.—They are punished sometimes by the overlookers with the palms of their hands, or with a belt; but when the crime is grievous a penalty is laid on them, and when the crime is very grievous they have been put away from the work for it.
- A. 58.—Yes.
- A. 59.—By overlookers.
- A. 60, 61, & 62.—Yes.
- A. 63.—Yes. The instructions are given verbally, such as I allude to in my answer to the 57th query.
- A. 64.—No.



A. 65.—None except one family. I have desired my employers to keep order, but I have made no arrangement to enforce domestic cleanliness, as I never saw it required.

A. 66.—Those that I employ to be weavers, who have been engaged in infancy, or who have been a number of years at the mill with me, are the best tradesmen by far than those who I have employed at a later period, such as James Young.

A. 67.—My employers are healthy. Some of my employers have been sent into work when they were weakly, and they have improved in health. I believe it is from the oil and wool.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—I do not know what are the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70 & 71.—No.

A. 75.—I do not know; never heard of any.

A. 77.—I never had the experiment of it.

A. 78.—No. But I think it would be better if there was a legislative provision for regulating the hour of labour, say from six o'clock in the morning to nine, then one hour for breakfast, then work from ten to two o'clock, then take one hour for dinner, then commence at three and work till seven o'clock in the evening; that is eleven hours per day, and on Saturday ten working hours.

A. 79.—No.

23d May 1833.

ROBERT ARCHIBALD.  
WILLIAM ARCHIBALD.

Clackmananshire.

Robert Archibald  
and  
William Archibald.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES DAWSON, Woollen Manufacturer, Tillicoultry.

No. 17.

James Dawson.

A. 1.—Parish of Tillicoultry and county of Clackmanan.

A. 2.—Manufacturing of blankets, plaidings, and tartan shawls.

A. 3.—Erected in the year 1821.

A. 4.—A water-wheel of about seven or eight horse power.

A. 5.—The works are ventilated at the discretion of the worker, by opening doors and windows to suit their own comfort.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—I am not aware of having children under nine years of age. I am not aware of their being previously at any other trades.

A. 11.—Yes; because the work is easy, and they can do it as well at nine or ten as at twelve years of age.

A. 12.—As far as I am concerned, it has not.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—Tillicoultry, and under the care of their parents.

A. 15.—I lodge and maintain none.

A. 16.—Foreman.

A. 17.—Eleven hours in summer and twelve in winter; but no lost time from stoppages by machinery going wrong, and only ten hours on the Saturdays.

A. 18.—The same as the last, as the one cannot get on without the other.

A. 19.—Never exceeds twelve hours.

A. 20.—Every lawful day, except stopped by machinery going wrong or repaired, of which no account has been kept.

A. 21.—Not exceeding three thousand three hundred and fifty hours.

A. 22.—All parts are carried on at the same time.

A. 25.—Night-work three months in the year 1822; ditto 1825, three months; ditto 1826, three months; ditto 1828, not exceeding twelve months in eleven years.

A. 26.—Consider this avoidable.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 29.—I do not do this, nor am I aware of it being done in the woollen trade.

A. 30.—I am not aware of any restriction on the woollen manufacturer.

A. 31.—If required, there should be none.

A. 32.—Seldom work extra hours except when a night set is wanted.

A. 33.—Have employed a night set of hands as well as a day set. Commence with the night set at seven o'clock, and drop work at six in the morning, allowing one hour for refreshment out of the above betwixt twelve and one. Commence with the day set at six in the morning, and drop work at seven in the evening, allowing two hours for meals.

A. 34.—I require two sets of hands when working all night.

A. 35.—They change periodically with the day set.

A. 36.—The effect would be a less quantity of goods manufactured, and the receivable markets not so much glutted.

A. 37.—A diminution of workmen's wages, and the quantity produced by the same machinery stopped, in consequence of which the cost enhanced, thereby rendering it more difficult to compete in foreign markets.

(APP.—A. 1.)

E

A. 38.



Clackmananshire.

*James Dawson.*

A. 38.—In winter, requires heat for the comfort of the workers only, in summer have no heat but the common air.

A. 39.—No process of the kind.

A. 40 & 41.—None.

A. 42.—Five, sometimes six.

A. 46.—None.

A. 49.—Have none.

A. 50.—With oil and candles.

A. 52.—Injurious to general health.

A. 53.—Nine to ten for breakfast, one to two for dinner.

A. 54.—All at the same time.

A. 57.—If gentle correction does not do, they are turned off.

A. 58.—None but what is included in the above.

A. 59.—What is allowed them is by the men for whom they work.

A. 60.—Never by my orders.

A. 63.—None; but if they would not do their work, I would turn them off.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—The workpeople live either in their own or friends houses.

A. 66.—It is reasonable to suppose that those employed in a manufactory from infancy should be better skilled in machinery than those going into one after up in years; this, however, depends upon the intellect of the individual.

A. 67.—The workpeople in woollen factories generally enjoy good health; I cannot say there is any difference.

A. 68.—I have no process of the kind.

A. 69.—If it be, I am not aware.

A. 70.—The following queries are unnecessary to answer. I may however state, I am not aware of any of the children in my mill, or in any other woollen factory with which I am acquainted, being any thing but well treated.

22d May 1833.

JAMES DAWSON.

No. 18.

*James Paton.*

## ANSWERS of JAMES PATON, Tillicoultry.

A. 1.—Parish of Tillicoultry, county of Clackmanan.

A. 2.—Carding, slubbing, spinning, and weaving; the goods finished are soft tartan shawls, blankets, and twilled flannels.

A. 3.—Our work was erected in 1825, and has been employed in the manufactory of woollen goods ever since.

A. 4.—Water is the power employed, and is generally irregular during four months in summer; ten horse is the extent of power, and in severe drought decreases so low as four horse.

A. 5.—The ventilation depends on the opening of doors and windows, which is at the discretion of all or any of the workmen.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—As no heat is required for the factory, change of clothes, either on entering or leaving the factory, is unnecessary. All the workers live out of the factory, and pay particular attention to their own cleanliness.

A. 10.—Nine years old is the lowest age at which we employ children. None of them have been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have rendered necessary the employment of a greater number of children, but not under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—No.

A. 15.—We lodge and maintain no children.

A. 17.—Such persons work eleven hours each day when the trade is slack, which is generally about six months in the year; and when busy twelve hours, with the exception of Saturdays, which is never more than ten hours.

A. 18.—As the work of one person in most cases depends on another, all employed work the same hours.

A. 19.—One spinning-frame was kept on for twelve days seventeen hours each day, with a change of hands.

A. 20.—Three hundred days.

A. 21.—About thirty-three hundred and seventy-five hours.

A. 22.—All the different departments usually go on together.

A. 23.—Eleven and one-fourth hours.

A. 24.—Four children were employed twelve days fourteen hours each day.

A. 25.—The spinners were not able to keep up with the slubbers, which was the cause of the extra hours.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.



A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—We know of no inducement.

A. 30.—The cost of production is increased from the limitation of hours, the interest of capital expended on building and machinery being the same when a less quantity is produced as when a greater.

A. 31.—We know of no objection to a fresh set of children when the extra hours required are to any extent.

A. 32.—Have seldom required extra hours to any extent; but when resorted to have always employed a change of hands, and found it answer well enough.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—We conceive a prohibition of night-work would be an advantage to the trade.

A. 37.—The effect of a still further reduction of the working hours would be an increase of value in the manufactured article.

A. 38.—Our manufacture requires no heat in summer, and only as much in winter as keeps the workers comfortable.

A. 41.—At no time during the whole night.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—With oil, but are preparing for gas.

A. 51.—Doors and windows.

A. 53.—To adults, one hour to breakfast and one hour to dinner; to children, fifty minutes to breakfast, and one hour to dinner.

A. 54.—All leave at meal-times.

A. 57.—Our instructions to the workmen with whom the children work are to turn them away in case of disobedience, and use no punishment.

A. 60.—In cases of great carelessness, mischievousness, or bad conduct, the persons with whom the children work have been provoked to use corporal punishment, which we have always discountenanced.

A. 61.—None.

A. 62.—We have.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in their own houses.

A. 66.—We know of no difference.

A. 67.—We cannot say that the health of the workers has either improved or deteriorated, only we have always been told by the parents of the children that if the children were delicate before they came to the factory their health very soon improved.

A. 68.—None, all processes being alike healthy.

A. 69.—Our opinion is that it is not.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—The mills in our neighbourhood we think not subject to the provisions of the Act.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78 & 79.—None.

JAMES PATON.

Clackmananshire.

James Paton.

#### ANSWERS of J. and G. WALKER, Tillicoultry.

No. 19.

J. & G. Walker.

A. 1.—In the parish of Tillicoultry and county of Clackmanan.

A. 2.—Manufacturing blankets, plaidens, and tartan shawls.

A. 3.—Erected in the year 1824; no alteration in building since.

A. 4.—Water is the power employed, and estimated about eight horses power; not very regular.

A. 5.—The work is ventilated; at the discretion of workers, by opening the doors to suit their own comfort.

A. 6.—We consider the above method quite sufficient.

A. 7.—Left entirely to the workers own discretion.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—None; we consider it unnecessary, as their houses are quite at hand.

A. 10.—Seldom under nine years of age, and none of them have been at any other trade.

A. 11.—Yes, because the work is easy, and they can do it as well at nine or ten years of age as at twelve.

A. 12.—As far as we are concerned, it does not.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—None from parishes.

A. 15.—The children whom we employ do belong to the village, and are always under the care of their parents at meal-times and during the night.

A. 16.—Every four children have a superintendent, besides their master, while at work.

A. 17.—The usual number of hours each day are eleven and a half.

A. 18.—The same as the last, as the one cannot get on without the other.

A. 19.—We never kept a correct statement as to that.

(APP.—A. 1.)

E 2

A. 20.



Clackmananshire.

*J. & G. Walker.*

A. 20.—We may have stopped about fourteen lawful days during the last year, from repairs and other incidents.

A. 21.—Can be calculated from the above statement.

A. 22.—All parts are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—About eleven hours and a quarter per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—In the summer season, when we are scarce of water.

A. 26.—Not avoidable. (See A. 25.)

A. 27.—Much the same as at present.

A. 29.—Nothing of the kind done by us.

A. 30.—We cannot answer that from experience, as our hours are always about the same.

A. 31.—For our part, we can see no objection to fresh sets of children where extra hours are required.

A. 32.—We have tried a system of relays on very rare occasions, but never found any satisfaction from it, for during the night season the work is seldom as well done.

A. 34.—We do not require more than one set of hands.

A. 35.—We have no night-work.

A. 36.—The machinery would last considerably longer.

A. 37.—We are of opinion that the present hours do well enough, as any fewer would diminish the earnings of the workers.

A. 38.—In winter, heated for the comfort of the workers, and in summer the usual temperature of the atmosphere.

A. 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, & 46.—None.

A. 50.—With oil.

A. 51.—No night-work.

A. 52.—None employed.

A. 53.—Breakfast from nine to ten, and from one to two for dinner, and half an hour allowed at five for tea.

A. 54.—All, with the exception of the foreman and two children.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the manufacturer.

A. 56.—Our workers go all to their own houses.

A. 57.—If a gentle correction proves ineffectual they are turned off.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—None but gentle correction.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Our workpeople either live in their own or friends houses.

A. 66.—It must be admitted that those put to a business when young are generally more expert at it than those who go to it at a more advanced period of life.

A. 67.—We are not sensible of any difference; they are all generally healthy.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—We are not acquainted with any act relating to woollen manufactories.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 71.—No.

A. 73.—They do for ought we know.

A. 74 & 75.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 78 & 79.—None.

J. and G. WALKER.

Edinburgh.

No. 20.

*H. Henderson.*

## EDINBURGH.

ANSWERS of H. HENDERSON of the Firm of RICHARD WHYTOCK and Co. Damask and Carpet Manufacturers, 7, George Street, and Queensberry House, Canongate.

A. 1.—Canongate of Edinburgh.

A. 2.—Furniture, damask, and carpets, and dye-works.

A. 3.—The building, formerly the military hospital of Queensberry barracks.

A. 4.—Neither steam nor water power.

A. 5 & 6.—Generally at the pleasure of the workmen, by opening windows.

A. 7.—Discretion of all.

A. 8.—None dangerous.

A. 9.—None, but plenty of water at hand.

A. 10, 11, & 12.—The only young people employed are four boys, all above twelve, employed by the weavers as draw-boys, and three employed at rugs. The most of the looms having machinery no boys are required.

A. 13.—Only three apprentices, say two dyers and one weaver.

A. 14.—Not parish apprentices.

A. 16.—None.

A. 17.—Almost all on piece-work, so they work when they choose; the dyers work ten or eleven hours.

A. 18.



A. 18.—The draw-boys must keep time with the men.

A. 19.—Cannot say exactly, but it is very rare that there are any extra hours.

A. 20 & 21.—All the week days.

A. 22, 23, 24, 25, & 26.—No record kept to enable us to answer these queries.

[It is presumed as we employ no children except the few specified above, that answers to the following queries will not be expected from us.]

18th May 1833.

H. HENDERSON.

Edinburgh.

H. Henderson.

## ANSWERS of JOHN CRAIG, Cockpen, Prestonholm.

No 21.

John Craig.

A. 1.—Parish of Cockpen, county of Mid Lothian.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in 1827. A former mill, erected in 1793, was burnt down in 1827.

A. 4.—About 50 horse power, partly steam and partly water; the latter falls off considerably in summer.

A. 5.—None but high ceilings and open windows.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows, the upper sashes of which draw down.

A. 7.—The overlookers have orders to keep sufficient air.

A. 8.—Some of them, but not all.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Ten years is the regulated age, but sometimes the parents send them as ten when they are believed to be younger.

A. 11.—Economy, and the wish of their parents.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 15.—There are a few poor's-house children boarded by the overseers of Dalkeith in private families in our village whom we employ. We neither lodge nor board any of the children.

A. 16.—The poor's-house overseers and the people with whom they are boarded.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 19.—Twelve and three quarters or thirteen hours, but that very rarely, and never for more than a week at a time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.

A. 21.—See the three former queries.

A. 22.—All work the same hours.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half or a trifle less.

A. 25.—When time had been previously lost by breakage of machinery.

A. 26.—Perfectly avoidable.

A. 27 & 28.—No.

A. 29.—No existing law applying to flax, diminishing the expence of production is the motive for long hours.

A. 31.—Our situation renders two sets impossible.

A. 32.—No.

A. 33.—Before we had any steam-engine, when very short of water, part of the mill has been stopped during the day, and that part run at night; this was found disadvantageous.

A. 35.—Altered weekly when we did it.

A. 36.—No change.

A. 37.—It would increase the expence of production, perhaps, by higher wages being paid for the same quantity of work, certainly by the whole interest of the capital being charged against less produce.

A. 38.—There is no artificial heat except in middle of winter.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as during the day, till the mill stops at eight o'clock.

A. 52.—No experience.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and half an hour for dinner, forty minutes of the breakfast hour employed in school by all under sixteen years old.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Overlookers may fine from 1*d.* to 6*d.*, but the person fined may apply for redress to the manager.

A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—No overlooker is allowed to inflict any corporal punishment. The manager of the mill in particular cases is allowed to strap the hands of the younger children in the counting-house.

A. 62.—Overlookers have often been fined for inflicting such punishment.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—The people either live in family or in private lodging-houses.

A. 66.—They are usually employed in different parts of the manufacture. Most of the spinners have entered between ten and twelve years of age.

A. 67.—No change, rather improved, if there be any difference.

A. 68.—No.

(APP.—A. 1.)

E 3

A. 69.



Edinburgh.

John Craig.

A. 69.—There is no act about flax mills.

A. 70, 71, &amp; 72.—No.

A. 73.—No mills in our neighbourhood except paper mills.

A. 77.—No experience.

A. 78.—First, give the whole penalty to the informer. Second, the time book as proposed in Mr. Sadler's bill. Third, a prohibition of any legal engagement beyond a month with children.

A. 79.—That there should be no interference whatever except about the hours of work and ages and engagements of the children. Any interference with the hours of meals would in many cases be very injurious to the workers.

Prestonholm, 1st May 1833.

JOHN CRAIG.

No. 22.

W. Bailey &amp; Co.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM BAILEY &amp; Co., Glass-makers, 25, Greenside Place.

A. 1.—In the parish of Duddingstone and county of Edinburgh.

A. 2.—Flint-glass manufactory in all its branches.

A. 3.—Erected 1829 and 1830, and immediately afterwards put into operation.

A. 4.—Steam power employed for the cutting department.

A. 5.—By windows, which can be opened at pleasure.

A. 6.—Upon windows, as stated above.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—The engine fly-wheel is fenced off, and no danger is apprehended from other parts of the machinery.

A. 9.—An abundant supply of water is always at hand for purposes of cleanliness and convenience, for making changes of dress.

A. 10.—No specific age as a rule, but generally at twelve; one boy spent a few months at the jewellery trade.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—Not aware of the nature of these alterations — not applicable to this work.

A. 13.—Several.

A. 14.—None so apprenticed.

A. 15.—The apprentices of this establishment are all boarded out, chiefly with their parents or guardians; none are orphans.

A. 16.—Being under the roof of their parents in nearly every case, the necessary direction is inferred.

A. 17.—Glass-cutters, allowing two hours for meals, work ten hours, and glass-makers about eleven hours, out of twenty-four, half of the time during the day, and the other half at night.

A. 18.—Same time as stated above in answer to Q. 17.

A. 19.—In flint-glass making the works are in constant operation day and night, from Monday morning till Friday, with double sets of men, sufficient time being allowed for meals, &c.

A. 20.—Every lawful day in the year.

A. 21.—Not exceeding 3,100.

A. 24 & 25.—The boys in this manufactory never exceed eleven hours per diem, but ten hours is the general attendance.

A. 26.—All irregular hours of work avoidable and avoided here.

A. 27.—At no former time.

A. 29.—Not sufficiently acquainted with works so conducted as to be able to state with certainty the inducement of the manufacturer.

A. 30.—Our working hours being regular, have not made the calculations required in this query.

A. 31.—We entertain no objection.

A. 33.—One set commences at seven A.M. and works till one P.M., at which hour these are relieved by another set who work till seven P.M., and so on till Friday, as stated in answer 19.

A. 34.—The nature of the work does oblige us.

A. 36.—In convenience to the workmen who prefer dividing the hours of labour, and as only half the number of hands would be employed, the produce must necessarily be materially affected.

A. 37.—The hours of labour in a flint glass manufactory being consistent with the comfort and convenience of all employed therein, in proportion as the hours become less the price of the manufactured article would be increased.

A. 38.—The usual temperature used for flaxing is very great; but the heat to which the workmen are exposed is not severely felt.

A. 40.—About seventy.

A. 41.—About two hundred.

A. 42.—About twenty-five boys from twelve to sixteen years of age.

A. 46.—It is indispensable keeping the furnace of a glass-house constantly alive.

A. 47.—From 1st January to 31st December.

A. 48.



- A. 48.—From twelve to sixty years of age.  
 A. 49.—A suspension of the works would be occasioned.  
 A. 50.—The furnace affords light sufficient.  
 A. 51.—By windows and other means.  
 A. 52.—No peculiar effects seem to be produced by the practice; they are in general healthy.  
 A. 53.—One hour for each meal if they choose to avail themselves thereof.  
 A. 54.—About forty leave.  
 A. 55.—Those who do not leave remain chiefly for their own convenience, being employed at piece-work.  
 A. 56.—Loss of wages and produce.  
 A. 57.—No children employed.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 62.—Have not found it necessary to give any instructions to foremen or others in reference to punishments.  
 A. 64.—None whatever.  
 A. 65.—Some of them do; but being discreet sort of people, their domestic affairs have been left to their own management.  
 A. 66.—A boy of ordinary quickness, taken at twelve or thirteen years of age, generally can be made a clever glass-maker of; if taken at fifteen or sixteen, he is generally the reverse.  
 A. 67.—Our people have always been healthy, and they are so at present.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Not applicable to glass-making.  
 A. 79.—None.

8th May 1833.

W. BAILEY &amp; Co.

Edinburgh.  
 W. Bailey & Co.

ANSWERS of CHARLES COWAN, of the Firm of ALEXANDER COWAN and SON,  
 Pennycuick.

No. 23.  
 Charles Cowan.

- A. 1.—Bankmill, Valleyfield, and Lowmills, all contiguous, in the parish of Pennycuick in the county of Edinburgh.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of paper.  
 A. 3.—Part about 1760, or before it; about 1800 much extended; sold to government for a French prison in 1810, repurchased in 1818, and soon after rebuilt and adapted to the improvements in the manufacture by means of machinery.  
 A. 4.—Water only; at Bankmill about ten-horses power, Valleyfield thirty-five, and at Lowmill fifteen. Total, fifty-horse power.  
 A. 5.—No artificial means. The rooms are all large, and not in any case crowded.  
 A. 6.—The windows are made to open, and are frequently opened.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all the persons employed, as well as of those in charge.  
 A. 8.—It is.  
 A. 9.—We have no specific arrangements, except that cleanliness is inculcated and insisted upon, and is almost invariably complied with on all occasions.  
 A. 10.—Very rarely under twelve years; at present, none below that age; none, so far as I know, have been employed at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—Very rarely, and only now at the millwright department of the work.  
 A. 12.—Never had any from parishes, nor otherwise than that the parent or near relative became "cautioner" for the apprentice.  
 A. 13.—No orphans employed; all children or young persons reside with their parents.  
 A. 16.—It very rarely exceeds ten hours each day.  
 A. 18.—The preparation of the stuff or pulp goes on constantly, excepting on Sundays and during repairs, that is, night and day; all other processes only from six A.M. to six P.M., and very rarely longer.  
 A. 19.—Cannot say precisely at present, but I believe about 310 days.  
 A. 20.—About 3,100.  
 A. 21.—All about the same.  
 A. 22.—Never, I believe, more than twelve hours, and probably not above ten in any one day.  
 A. 25.—No.  
 A. 28.—It varies in different apartments. In the machine-houses, near the hot drying cylinders, it is about 80°; but in all places where persons are exposed to it, it ranges from 50° to 70°.  
 A. 30.—Two or three men in the machine houses.  
 A. 31.—The preparation of the stuff, as stated in No. 18, always goes on during the night as well as by day.  
 A. 32.—None.  
 A. 36.—That part where work goes on—see Nos. 18 and 31,—and by gas light.  
 A. 37.—None required.  
 A. 38.—Not in the least injurious.  
 A. 39.—An hour each at breakfast and dinner, viz. at each time.  
 A. 40.—None required.

(APP.—A. 1.)

E 4

A. 64.



Edinburgh.

Charles Cowan.

- A. 41.—Never.
- A. 43.—All, except a few who have the care of the machinery.
- A. 44.—For the convenience of both.
- A. 45.—The machinery would be needlessly stopped, and a waste would ensue, besides that the work would occupy longer time.
- A. 46 & 47.—Never.
- A. 48 & 49.—They were never dreamed of, and are assuredly quite unnecessary.
- A. 50 & 51.—No.
- A. 52.—Many do, and have gardens and piggeries attached, and none are kept who do not attend to personal and domestic cleanliness.
- A. 53.—There is but little difference now since the substitution of machinery for hand labour in the more laborious occupations.
- A. 54.—If any change, I should say it has improved, chiefly from the making of paper by hand over a hot vat being now but little practised.
- A. 55.—None of them injurious.
- A. 56.—In the preparation of the pulp (see Nos. 18 & 31.) They are men who remain in the mill for twelve hours at a time.
- A. 58.—They change alternately week about, and sometimes they prefer to remain twenty-four hours on at a time, resting of course twenty-four hours thereafter; this is their own choice.
- A. 59.—Our power of production would be diminished one half were the mill stopped, and the stuff in preparation would besides be injured.
- A. 60.—I believe not.
- A. 61.—No.
- A. 71.—The same observations I have made above will apply to the case of our paper-mill near Edinburgh, in the parish of Colinton, where about twelve men and thirty women are employed. At this place, Valleyfield, we have had for twelve years past an infant school, where the children of all the families remain from about two years old to ten or twelve, and which allows the mother and elder children to work during the day instead of being required to watch over an infant family. I would humbly suggest the propriety of considering whether proprietors of factories should not be required to promote the education of young children for some years before they are allowed to employ them.

2d May 1833.

CHARLES COWAN.

Fifeshire.

No. 25.

James Hendry.

## FIFESHIRE.

## ANSWERS of JAMES HENDRY, Abbotshall.

- A. 1.—Parish of Abbotshall, county of Fife.
- A. 2.—Flax spinning.
- A. 3.—Erected in the year 1807.
- A. 4.—Steam-engine of eight horses power.
- A. 5.—By windows.
- A. 6.—By opening windows.
- A. 7.—By overlookers.
- A. 8.—All fenced off.
- A. 9.—None necessary, having their parents house quite convenient and adjacent to the work.
- A. 10.—Eleven years; never any to my knowledge.
- A. 11.—To learn and clean.
- A. 12.—No alteration.
- A. 13.—No apprentices.
- A. 15.—Do not lodge and maintain any of my workers.
- A. 16.—Their parents and relations.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours.
- A. 18.—No difference made in the time; children and adults are employed daily.
- A. 19.—From twelve and a half to thirteen hours when making up time for a market-day.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days, or as near to that as possible.
- A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty, or as near to that as possible.
- A. 22.—The various departments go or stand together.
- A. 25.—When loss of time from breakage of engine or great gearing, or holidays, are to be made up.
- A. 26.—Not avoidable, unless the time lost be deducted from the workers wages; the workers prefer making up time to having short wages.
- A. 29.—No night-work.
- A. 30.—No limitation to hours at present.
- A. 31.—Do not work extra hours.
- A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—No night work.
- A. 37.—It would reduce the workers wages considerably, and cause a positive loss to the owners or holders of mill property.

A. 38.



- A. 38 & 39.—No artificial heat necessary in a flax-spinning mill.  
 A. 40.—I employ thirty-four hands.  
 A. 41.—No night-work.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour.  
 A. 54.—All leave the work at meal-times.  
 A. 55.—Convenience of workpeople.  
 A. 56.—Cannot say what effect.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal from the work.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—I have.  
 A. 63.—Strict orders, verbally.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—The workers all live with their parents or relations.  
 A. 66.—More expert.  
 A. 67.—Health improved.  
 A. 68, 69, 70, 71, & 72.—No.  
 A. 73.—There is no Act for the regulation of flax-mills.  
 A. 74.—I know of none.  
 A. 77.—I do not think so.  
 A. 78.—Do not approve of penalties or any other legislative provisions for regulating the hours of labour of children in flax-spinning mills, but twelve hours per day.  
 A. 79.—No.  
 6th May 1833.

Fifeshire.

James Hendry.

JAMES HENDRY.

## ANSWERS of ANDREW TEMPLETON, Abbotshall.

No. 26.

Andrew Templeton.

- A. 1.—Parish of Abbotshall, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1821.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5.—Ventilation by windows.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By myself.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None required.  
 A. 10.—Eleven years.  
 A. 11.—It does, because there are many trifling acts to be done in the room which adults are not so suitable for; further, they are necessary to keep up the stock of workers.  
 A. 12.—I am not aware of any difference in this respect.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—I do not lodge any of my workers.  
 A. 16.—Their parents or guardians.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and one quarter of an hour, except on Saturdays, ten hours.  
 A. 18.—Same as those above twenty-one years.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half, or thereby.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days, or as near to that as possible.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty hours, or as near to that as possible.  
 A. 22.—The various departments of the work go or stand together.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours and one half.  
 A. 25.—Before or after holidays, or in consequence of any damage done to any material part of the engine or great gearing.  
 A. 26.—I do not consider it avoidable unless the workers were to suffer a reduction in their wages, and they generally prefer to work up lost time.  
 A. 27.—Never for a greater number of hours than before stated.  
 A. 29.—Do not work during night.  
 A. 30.—There is no limitation in the hours of work up to this date.  
 A. 31.—Do not require relays of hands.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 37.—A reduction in the worker's wages, and a certain loss to the owners of mill property.  
 A. 38.—No artificial heat required in flax-spinning.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as during the day.  
 A. 53.—One half hour.  
 A. 54.—All leave at once.  
 (APP.—A. 1.)

F

A. 55.



Fifeshire.

Andrew Templeton.

- A. 55.—For the mutual convenience of workpeople and their employers.  
 A. 56.—No meals taken in our mill.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—I have, while I kept an overlooker.  
 A. 63.—The instructions given were verbal.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Much more expert than adults. I employ none who had not learned to spin when young.  
 A. 67.—Am not aware of any change in this respect.  
 A. 68.—There are none of our processes injurious to health.  
 A. 69.—No.  
 A. 73.—Flax-mills are not under any Act.  
 A. 74.—Cannot tell.  
 A. 75.—See last answer, but not with my knowledge.  
 A. 77.—I believe they would speak truth without reference to their master's feelings.  
 A. 78.—I entirely disapprove of penalties, as well as of legislation for regulating the hours of the labour of children in factories in this quarter of the country; I cannot speak as to other districts.  
 A. 79.—None.

ANDREW TEMPLETON.

No. 27.

W. & J. Yool.

W. and J. Yool, Ceres, Fife.

- A. 1.—Ceres, Fife, Scotland.  
 A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow.  
 A. 3.—In 1827 and 1833.  
 A. 4.—Water; twenty-five horse power; deficient about one third of the power generally for three to four months in summer.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—All live in houses not 200 yards from the work.  
 A. 10.—At nine; weavers, tailors, and farm-service.  
 A. 11.—They are pressed on us by their parents.  
 A. 12.—No difference.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 15.—No orphans; parents and guardians see them daily.  
 A. 17, 18, 19, & 24.—Thirteen.  
 A. 30.—Both in the diminution of hours and also interest on capital.  
 A. 37.—A reduction of wages to the extent of the reduction of hours and interest on capital, which the workers neither could nor would submit to.  
 A. 38.—No artificial heat used.  
 A. 50.—By coal gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast, and half an hour to dinner, which the workpeople think sufficient.  
 A. 54.—All go to their meals in their own houses.  
 A. 57.—Reprimand; if that will not do, dismissal.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 64.—None of any kind.  
 A. 65.—In the houses of their employers; no control over them, all living under the care of their parents or guardians.  
 A. 66.—From the short time we have been in the trade cannot say.  
 A. 68.—It is not required, but are often employed at different parts of the work.  
 A. 69.—No.  
 A. 79.—None.

W. and J. Yool.

No. 28

George Moon.

ANSWERS of GEORGE MOON, Fife.

- A. 1.—Hospital mill, parish of Cults, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax tow-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Built in 1821.  
 A. 4.—By water from the river Eden; very irregular, from drought in summer and frost in winter; sometimes reduced to one third of the ordinary supply; power required about ten horse power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—None except the opening and shutting of windows, which is found to answer the purpose quite well.  
 A. 7.—The overseer in each room has the charge of opening and shutting of the windows.

A. 8.



Fifeshire.

George Moon.

A. 8.—The wheels of the carding-engine which are considered most dangerous are covered in. The machinery of the spinning-frames are not considered so, and cannot be covered up.

A. 9.—Being in a country situation, and all living either in the place or in the adjoining village of Springfield, it is not the custom here for the workers to change their clothes at meal-times. Private places are placed within the work.

A. 10.—None are employed under ten years of age, with one exception.

A. 11.—In the spinning-department unless they are begun by ten or twelve years of age, they seldom make so expert hands, and as it takes them a long time to learn to spin, they have low wages, which girls more advanced would not work at. It is in fact, the nursery from which the other departments of the work are supplied.

A. 12.—Within the last ten or fifteen years the improvements in flax and tow spinning machinery has been such, that the labour attending a spinning-frame has been greatly reduced.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14.—Nothing of the kind known here.

A. 15.—There are four; their father was an overseer and died; their grandmother has the charge of them, and they have never received any parochial relief, and they have been able to support themselves, their grandmother, and two younger ones, who have been at school for the last year.

A. 16.—Their grandmother.

A. 17 & 18.—Seventy-five hours per week, or twelve hours and a half per day for all ages.

A. 19.—No record kept; when there was any additional time it was always at the request of the workers, for the purpose of enabling them to get away on particular occasions, and at same time have their full wages.

A. 20.—308 days; during part of the dry season one half of the work was wrought during the day, and the other half at night.

A. 21.—No record.

A. 22.—For several months during the last summer the spinning was carried on during the daytime, and the carding during the night; the water being so short that in many instances it would not drive one half of the machinery; but no set of hands were employed more than twelve hours per day.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half per day when there was a sufficient supply of water.

A. 24.—No record kept.

A. 25.—See A. 19. To make up time to allow the hands when they requested it themselves, that they might attend sermons on their particular days, go to markets, Cupar races, &c. &c.

A. 26.—Avoidable where there is a regular moving-power, but not so in water-mills; most of the excess beyond regular hours is occasioned by the workers themselves requesting it for their own convenience, and that they may draw full wages.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Yes, if the hours are reduced, the cost must be enhanced.

A. 29.—The reasons may be various, but I know of no such practice.

A. 30.—In tow-spinning wages is about one half of the actual cost of the process. If the rate of wages is reduced in proportion to the time, and the hours reduced one fifth, or ten hours per day, the increased cost will be twelve and a half per cent. on the process of manufacture, but if the people cannot live on such wages, and we shall have to pay as high wages as at present, the increased cost will be twenty-five per cent.

A. 31.—See A. 25. There are in practice many objections to employing relays, or fresh sets of children even in towns, but in most situations in the country they could not be obtained.

A. 32.—Not by me.

A. 33.—See A. 22. During some months in summer the hands were divided into two sets, the one working by day, and the other by night.

A. 34.—I employ only one full set of hands, but divide them as above. See A. 33. Without making this arrangement during a short time in summer I must abandon the work.

A. 35.—The same set works uniformly during the night.

A. 36.—Absolute ruin to all water-mills where they have a short supply during summer. It would deprive the landlord of his rent, reduce the value of the surrounding property, both land and buildings, which have been erected for the accommodation of those employed, deprive me of a great part of the capital invested in these works, deprive the workers of their employment, force them to leave a healthy and comfortable home under the roof of their parents house, and force the moral, healthy, and contented population employed in the country mills to leave their houses and seek employment in large towns where steam-power is used.

A. 37.—Increased cost of the article produced. See A. 30.

A. 38.—No artificial heat is required.

A. 41.—No record kept, but only when absolutely necessary during summer from want of water.

A. 42.—Two of thirteen years of age, three of fourteen years, four of eighteen years, and five about twenty-one; twenty-one workers and an overseer.

A. 43.—Varying according to the supply of water.

(APP.—A. 1.)

F 2

A. 45.



Fifeshire.

George Moon.

- A. 45.—Varying between the hours of five in the evening and five in the morning.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—By coal gas.
- A. 51.—The same as during the day, see A. 5.
- A. 52.—Being only for a short time during summer, I know of no effect it has upon them.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, half an hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for tea.
- A. 54.—The mill is stopped, and they may go out or remain in as it suits them. They have a place to take their victuals in if they choose.
- A. 55.—It is entirely optional with themselves.
- A. 56.—I know of no effect it would have ; but they are the best judges of what is best for their own comfort.
- A. 57.—Reprimand, fines, or dismissal.
- A. 58.—There have been some of the children struck by the manager and overseer, but contrary to my instructions.
- A. 60 & 61.—Never.
- A. 62.—The moment it came to my knowledge, I most strictly have again forbidden it. I reside at a considerable distance from the work.
- A. 63.—No instructions of the kind were ever given by me, and where it has been done it was contrary to my instructions.
- A. 64.—Never.
- A. 65.—Partly in houses belonging to me, and partly in the adjoining village of Springfield. The superintendence as to morals, cleanliness, &c. lies with the manager, who resides at the work.
- A. 66.—Generally speaking, those make the best hands that begin early ; see A. 11.
- A. 67.—The work has only been in my possession little more than four years and a half. They are healthy. No case of cholera either at the work or in the village of Springfield.
- A. 68.—No injurious process in this work.
- A. 69.—No.
- A. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Not subject to the provisions of Sir John C. Hobhouse's Act, it having been proved to Parliament in 1831 that the flax-mills in Scotland require no legislative enactment.
- A. 77.—Our workpeople are too independent and too honest to refuse giving evidence when called upon in a court of law, whether it be against their masters or any body else.
- A. 78.—The common law of Scotland has hitherto been found quite sufficient to settle all disputes between master and servant, and has been very seldom appealed to either by proprietors or workers at flax-spinning mills.
- A. 79.—Let us alone.

GEORGE MOON, Tacksman of Hospital Mill.

No. 29.

W. Drummond.

## ANSWERS of WM. DRUMMOND, Cupar.

- A. 1.—Cupar mills, parish of Cupar, and county of Fife.
- A. 2.—Spinning of tow from flax.
- A. 3.—Erected about thirty years ago.
- A. 4.—Water power, irregular. In the summer and autumn months seldom work above eight hours a day, and during that time lose about two horses power. There are a washing mill and snuff mill on the same fall, and the spinning is frequently stopt in order to afford these mills a supply of water. Wheel of spinning-mill equal to about eight horses power.
- A. 5.—A row of large windows on each side of the flats, hung both upper and lower sashes, and at the command of the workers and overseers.
- A. 6.—Depends on the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of all the persons employed.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off, so far as practicable.
- A. 9.—Most of my people live with their parents at the work, and the remainder at Cupar within less than a quarter of a mile. There is a room kept for them at the work, with a fire in winter.
- A. 10.—None under ten years of age.
- A. 11.—To make good spinners girls must begin early, and their wages, until they are fit to keep on a frame, are low. The employment is so light that no injury can arise from beginning early.
- A. 12.—They have not, but the machinery being so much more perfect they have not now half the labour they had formerly.
- A. 13.—I do not.
- A. 14.—No parish apprentices. I have occasionally had families recommended by the Kirk Session, but no allowance was ever made by the Session to any worker after being employed by me.
- A. 15.—I do not lodge any persons at the work but such as are of age. In the few instances in which orphans have been sent, they were lodged with and attended to by relations in Cupar, distant about a quarter of a mile or nearly from the work.

A. 16.



Fifeshire.

W. Drummond.

A. 16.—See the answer to the last query. The members of our Kirk Session have always shown kind attention to such families; but, as I said before, few orphans have been sent.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours in spring and winter, excepting in time of keen frost or during floods, when a good deal of time is lost to the master. In summer and autumn the mill frequently stands during different hours in the day until the lead fill, and likewise that the washing-mill and snuff-mill may be supplied. Average work from seven to eight hours a day at these periods.

A. 18.—All attend the same hours.

A. 19.—Never exceeded thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Besides holidays and playdays the mills stand idle for about a week annually while the lead is cleaning, and occasionally from accidents arising to the machinery or alterations. As nearly as I can estimate we had only 300 working days last year.

A. 21.—Owing to the irregularities alluded to I cannot specify the number of hours.

A. 22.—All the work in the spinning-mill is carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Taking the whole year I do not think it will average ten and a half hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen.

A. 25.—At no time exceeded to my knowledge.

A. 26.—Avoidable, and never allowed but to gratify the wishes of the servants, so as they may make up time and enable them to get away for a half or a whole day for some purpose of their own without loss of wages.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—There can be no question that the price will be enhanced if the hours of working are lessened and the same wages paid.

A. 29.—That he may manufacture, as I conceive, at less cost, but never practised by me.

A. 30.—I consider the permanent expence equal to a half of the cost on productions. If the working hours are reduced from thirteen to ten hours, and if the same rate of wages are paid, but which may not be the case, the cost of production will be increased upwards of 25 per cent.

A. 31.—In country situations impracticable, and many strong objections present themselves to it even in towns.

A. 32.—Never tried by me. Even if hands could be found I could not with an irregular water power afford to pay fair remunerating wages to two sets.

A. 33.—I never have employed a night set.

A. 34.—My spinning mill does not require to be carried on during the night.

A. 35.—No night-work.

A. 36.—No night-work.

A. 37.—Cost obviously increased. See answer to No. 30. If we are only at present with our protecting duties nearly on a level with the foreign manufacturer, it seems evident that were such a change as contemplated carried through our relative situation would be wholly changed.

A. 38, 39, 40.—No particular temperature required.

A. 41, 42.—On no occasion.

A. 50.—With coal gas from the public works at Cupar from September to end of March.

A. 51.—The same as during the day. See No. 5.

A. 52.—No night-work.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and half an hour for dinner.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—All.

A. 57.—Reprimand, light fine, or dismissal.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—The men servants are always informed when they enter the service, that if they strike a child they will be instantly dismissed.

A. 63.—No corporal punishment would be tolerated by the servants in my work. If such were attempted I am satisfied they would all leave instantly.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—I give the greater number of the servants houses to live in, and the remainder reside in Cupar near by. I never have occasion to find fault with the manner in which they are kept. As to their morality I annex copy of the clergyman's certificate.

A. 66.—I believe all my female workers have begun early. Spinners must always be taught when young.

A. 67.—The workers are generally healthy, and I can conscientiously affirm that they are more so than the generality of persons in the same rank of life in Cupar. They are subject to no particular complaints, and when cholera was raging in Cupar, and although a person died in a house at the work, but who was not employed in the mill, and although this person's family came in daily contact with the workers, not one of them was seized with this disease.

A. 68.—No particular processes injurious.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Not applicable to flax and tow mills, these having been taken out of Sir John C. Hobhouse's Bill by the House of Commons.

A. 77.—Not in the slightest. The reverse is the case.

A. 78.—As regards flax and tow mills, the present law is the "common law," and as no breach of that law has come under my observation, I of course cannot suggest the propriety

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of



Fifeshire.

W. Drummond.

of making any change or imposing any new penalties. In Scotland it has been found sufficient, in times too when a very inferior class of persons, both masters and servants, were engaged in the trade to what there is at present, and no legislative interference was considered necessary, therefore it may humbly be presumed it is still less necessary now. No law will change the nature of a bad master, nor will the proposed bill find out a more comfortable means of subsistence to those sought to be prohibited from working at mills.

A. 79.—No one acquainted with this trade will assert that the manufacturers profits are so large as to enable him to submit to a reduction of 20 per cent. on the commodity he brings to market, and as it is evident the change proposed (apart from all the vexatious provisions in the bill) will have this effect, it must follow that wages must be reduced greatly, or, if the works are carried on, no one under twenty-one can be employed. The young workers cannot exist if wages are much reduced, and a positive injury is sought to be inflicted on a set of industrious and willing people, all of whom are voluntary and free servants, and, if uncomfortable, entitled to leave on a very brief warning.

WM. DRUMMOND.

No. 30.

George Moon.

## ANSWERS of GEORGE MOON, Cupar.

A. 1.—Russell Mill, parish of Cupar, Fife.

A. 2.—Flax tow-spinning.

A. 3.—Built in 1799; first occupied by me in 1811, extended in 1818, 1822, 1824, and 1826.

A. 4.—Water-power from the river Eden; very irregular from drought in summer and frost in winter; sometimes reduced to one third of the ordinary supply; assisted when short of water by a steam-engine of twenty horses power.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—Ventilators were originally put into the ceiling of the carding-room, but found to be detrimental; the opening and shutting the windows is found to answer the purpose quite well.

A. 7.—The overseer in each room has the charge of opening and shutting the windows; the workers may also do so.

A. 8.—The wheels of the carding-engines which are considered most dangerous are covered in; the machinery of the spinning-frames is not considered so, and cannot be covered up.

A. 9.—Being in a country situation, and all living in the immediate neighbourhood, it is not the custom here for the workers to change their clothes on going to or leaving the work. A sufficient number of private places are provided for the men, boys, and girls.

A. 10.—None are employed under ten years of age; when any have been employed under that age it has been from charity more than any other cause.

A. 11.—In the spinning-department, unless they are begun by ten or twelve years of age, they seldom make so expert hands; and as it takes a long time to train them to spin they have low wages, which girls more advanced would not take. It is, in fact, the nursery from which the other departments of the work are supplied.

A. 12.—Within the last ten or fifteen years the improvements in flax and tow spinning machinery have been such that the labour of attending a spinning-frame has been reduced two-thirds, and this operation is generally performed by the youngest hands; but there is no difference in the relative numbers of those above or under twelve years of age.

A. 13, 14, 15, &amp; 16.—None.

A. 17 &amp; 18.—During last year twelve hours per day. Since last January it has been seventy-five hours per week, or twelve hours and a half per day, on an average, for all ages.

A. 19.—No record kept. When the people work more than twelve hours and a half per day it is for their own convenience and at their own request, to make up for the time occupied in occasionally going to hear sermon in the village on week days, as they prefer making up the time than lose the wages; also to get early away on pay-days.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days, and five holidays, viz. New-year's ball, national fast, parochial sacrament days, and the jubilee for reform, none of which were made up.

A. 21.—Three hundred and eight days at an average of twelve hours per day is three thousand six hundred and ninety-six hours.

A. 22.—All at the same time.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—No record kept.

A. 26.—Avoidable where there is a regular moving-power if the servants choose to work regularly or want their wages, but they prefer to get away at one time, and make it up by a quarter or half an hour per day at other times, and get full wages.

A. 27.—I have wrought twelve, twelve and a half, and thirteen hours per day.

A. 28.—Yes, it is.

A. 29.—The reasons may be various, but I know of no such practice.

A. 30.—In tow-spinning the wages is about half of the whole cost of spinning, hence if a mill spin one thousand two hundred sple. weekly, working seventy-five hours per week, the cost for wages may be taken at - - - - - £15 0 0

Outlay of capital, rents, insurance, &amp;c. &amp;c. - - - - - 15 0 0

£30 0 0

The



The same machinery working sixty hours per week will only spin nine hundred and sixty sple. and if the wages continue at the same rate they will amount to - £12 0 0  
But the outlay of capital, rents, &c. will remain the same, say - 15 0 0

£27 0 0

Fifeshire.

George Moon.

1,200 sple. costs 30*l.* being 2*l.* 10*s.* per 100 sple.

960 — costs 27*l.* being 2*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* per 100 sple.

being an increase of 12½ per cent. on the cost of spinning, and supposing the wages to remain at the same rate.

A. 31.—There are many objections to this mode in practice, but although practicable in large towns, yet in country situations they cannot be procured.

A. 32.—Not by me.

A. 33.—Not at this work.

A. 34, 35, & 36.—No night-work.

A. 37.—Increased cost of the article produced. See answer to question 30.

A. 38.—No artificial heat is required. During winter it is warmer in the mill than in the open air, and in summer it is kept cooler by a current of air from the windows.

A. 41.—No night-work here.

A. 46.—None.

A. 47, 48, & 49.—No work of the kind.

A. 50.—By coal gas during the winter season, when the days are not sufficiently long to accomplish the day's work; that is between September and April.

A. 51. The same as during the day. See No. 5.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, half an hour for dinner, and generally a quarter of an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—All take their meals out of the mill.

A. 57.—The overseers are ordered when necessary to report what faults may have been committed by any person in their department, either to the master or manager, on every pay-day, when the person offending is either reprimanded, fined, or dismissed, according to the nature of the offence. If a very bad fault, a report is immediately made.

A. 58.—None.

A. 63.—No instructions but to prevent it.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Partly in houses belonging to me, and partly in the adjoining village of Springfield. No particular control is found necessary to enforce domestic cleanliness. The houses are annually whitewashed, and the people keep themselves clean and comfortable. As to morality, I refer to two certificates sent herewith\*, which were obtained for the purpose of being laid before Parliament.

A. 66.—Generally speaking, those that begin early make the most expert hands; see query 11.

A. 67.—The people here have always been healthy. When cholera was so fatal in Cupar, the only case in this whole neighbourhood was the manager (aged 58), who was attacked and confined to the house about a week, and notwithstanding of his family living with him and regularly attending their work, not a single worker caught the infection. I annex a medical certificate.

A. 68.—No process in this work injurious to health.

A. 69.—No.

A. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Not subject to the present Act. When Sir J. C. Hobhouse's Bill was before Parliament it was proved to the satisfaction of both the Government and the House of Commons that the flax-mills in Scotland required no legislative enactments, no complaints having been made from the Scotch flax-mills until after Sir J. C. Hobhouse had given notice of his Bill.

A. 77.—Our workpeople are too independent and too honest to be actuated by such feelings. If they are called upon in a court of law they will give true evidence, whether it be against their masters or anybody else.

A. 78.—The common law of Scotland has hitherto been found quite sufficient to regulate all matters and settle all disputes between master and servant, and has in very few instances been appealed to either by mill-owners or their servants, and will in future regulate these matters much better than any new law such as that proposed, which if made law will destroy that good and cordiality that at present exists.

A. 79.—None, except that you let us alone.

GEO. MOON, Proprietor.

#### \* COPIES of CERTIFICATES.

Cupar, 17th January 1832.

I do hereby certify, That the spinning-mill at Russel Mill, in this parish, was established by Mr. George Moon in the year 1811; that to my personal knowledge the persons employed in that manufactory have been distinguished by correct moral conduct; that no

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charge against any of them has been brought before the kirk session, and that none of them have come upon the poor funds of the parish, except one family, which had been but a short time at the work, and had been afflicted with two deaths among the children, and that they received only the sum of fifteen shillings and sixpence to assist them in defraying the expences of the funerals.

(Signed) LAURANCE ADAMSON, D.D.,  
First Minister of Cupar.

Cupar, 11th January 1832.

I hereby certify, That since my connection with the parish of Cupar, six years ago, I have repeatedly visited, and once examined, according to the usages of our church, the people employed in the spinning-work of Mr. Moon at Russel Mill. On these different occasions I have uniformly found them, of all different ages, most respectful and exemplary in their deportment, and as far advanced in intellectual and religious attainment as the generality of the class of the community to which they belong. Some I have even found entitled to rank among the very foremost in that class. This I attribute very much to the respect which the parents and guardians of the young in that establishment pay to the general customs of the country in regard to their education, and also to a very excellent regulation observed by Mr. Moon of having a teacher brought to the work for six months in the year, and making it imperative upon the parents and guardians of the children to have them placed so many hours a day under his charge. I can also say, that for the last six years none of the people connected with the work have at any time applied for parochial relief.

(Signed) JOHN BERRILL, Minister.

Cupar, Fife, 12th January 1832.

I do hereby certify, upon soul and conscience, That I have been for nearly twenty years the medical adviser and attendant on the workpeople employed at the spinning-mill of Russel Mill, belonging to Mr. George Moon, where are seldom fewer than two hundred people of both sexes engaged; that during this time I have had frequent opportunities of observing the effects which mill-spinning has on the general health and constitutions of those employed at it, and I can with confidence say, that the spinners of this manufactory have uniformly enjoyed as good, if not a better, share of health than most other classes of the community, and that, with the exception of certain diseases which they are liable to in common with all other ranks of society, they are generally free from all kind of ailment. It is but justice to the proprietor of this establishment to add, that the healthy condition of the workpeople is in some respects to be attributed to his judicious and benevolent superintendence, and the readiness with which he at all times executed any suggestion which had for its object the preservation of the health of those placed under him.

(Signed) CHARLES GRACE, M. D.

Cupar, Fife, 13th January 1832.

These are to certify, That, for the period of eight years past, I have furnished the medicines used at Russel Mill, as well for Mr. Moon's family as those employed under him at the fore-mentioned work; and that, taking the average of three years, the whole sum amounts to 2*l.* 5*s.* sterling per annum, being the value of the medicines according to the charges usually made at this place.

(Signed) ADAM WISEMAN,  
Surgeon and Apothecary.

No. 31.

James Kirkland.

## ANSWERS of JAMES KIRKLAND, Dunfermline.

A. 1.—Dunfermline parish, Fifeshire.

A. 2.—Spinning of linen-yarn.

A. 3.—The spinning-mill was erected in 1828, and employed for that purpose in 1829. The preparing and carding house was erected in 1831, and employed for these purposes in 1832.

A. 4.—Steam-power, ten horse.

A. 5.—Ventilation by windows.

A. 6.—One part (the spinning) by a part of the window sliding aside. The other part (the preparing and carding) by nearly the whole window opening.

A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all.

A. 8.—No; because there are no dangerous parts therein.

A. 9.—In 1832 a small house was set apart for the workpeople, and a good fire put on every day in the winter season, where they might go and change their clothes if they pleased, or wash, having a woman servant to attend them.

A. 10.—Ten years of age is the lowest; I have workers (females) who have been household servants both in town and country.

A. 11.—None but as mechanics.

A. 12.—No parish apprentices.

A. 13.—No children of this description.

A. 16.



- A. 16.—Thirteen hours and a quarter each day, except Saturday ten and a quarter.  
 A. 17.—Same as above. The operations of spinning are combined together that no difference can be made.  
 A. 18.—Not more than the above hours.  
 A. 19.—Cannot say exactly; about three hundred days.  
 A. 20.—Cannot say; something less than the hours stated above.  
 A. 21.—Cannot say.  
 A. 22.—Never more than thirteen hours and a quarter.  
 A. 23.—Never.  
 A. 25.—No.  
 A. 26 & 27.—Not having had any limitation of hours of work, cannot say from experience, but think to take off two or three hours each day would add one fifth or sixth of increased cost, because capital lies dormant.  
 A. 28.—Temperature from 60° to 70°.  
 A. 29.—Nothing above 60°.  
 A. 39.—All have half an hour to breakfast, the same to dinner, except the mechanics, who have half an hour more each meal.  
 A. 40.—None, but the fear of being paid off.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 43.—They all leave the work at meal-times except tea-time, when it is brought to them.  
 A. 44.—Some have their victuals brought to the neighbourhood for the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 45.—If at tea-time, the mill would stand.  
 A. 46.—Never.  
 A. 49.—No punishment allowed.  
 A. 50.—No complaints have been made.  
 A. 51.—Yes, because from ten to twelve years of age they are more apt to learn to use their fingers than after that age.  
 A. 52.—The workpeople live in their own houses, or with their parents.  
 A. 53.—Those who have been employed from infancy are more steady, attentive, and expert at their work than those who have been taken in at a later period.  
 A. 54.—I do not know any change; they all seem in good average health.  
 A. 55.—Each keep their own place.  
 A. 56.—Not employed at night.  
 A. 69.—The workpeople in this place are as independent as their masters.  
 A. 70.—The less legislating with regard to flax-mills the better; they can do without it; both employed and employers would be better not to be interfered with.  
 A. 71.—In my opinion, if the hours of working are reduced it will ultimately reduce the rate of wages to the workers, which they are not calculating on, and which they can ill afford to bear; it will also increase the cost of production of linen yarn, because capital must lie dormant, and it will set many of the hand-loom weavers idle, because the supply of linen yarn at present is not able to keep pace with the demand.

JAMES KIRKLAND.

Fifeshire.

James Kirkland.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS KINNELL, Dunfermline.

No. 32.

Thomas Kinnell.

- A. 1.—Dunfermline, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected and first employed for its present purpose, August 1830.  
 A. 4.—Sixteen-horses power. Steam.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The windows are made to open from the top.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced in.  
 A. 9.—The greater part of the workers have a dress that they put on on entering the mill. They are not so dirty as to require washing.  
 A. 10.—Very few apply before ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—They are useful for some purposes, and besides they are generally keen to learn.  
 A. 12.—I do not know what was required previous to the recent alterations in machinery.  
 A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.  
 A. 15.—The orphan we employ is visited by parish minister.  
 A. 16.—I am not aware of any others.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 18.—No difference is made.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days last year.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred. We allow them one hour less per week than thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 22.—The whole is always in motion.  
 A. 23.—Seventy-five hours per week, twelve hours and a half per day.

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Fifeshire.

Thomas Kinnell.

- A. 24.—Thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 25.—We make up no time.  
 A. 26.—It is certainly avoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 53.—A quarter of an hour to breakfast, one half hour to dinner.  
 A. 54.—The most of them do not leave.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of both parties.  
 A. 56.—Some have bothies, they would require more time to go home.  
 A. 57.—If they offend repeatedly, they are fined.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Distinctly.  
 A. 63.—Repeatedly.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—None of ours.  
 A. 66.—If a person is advanced in years, they never learn some parts of the work, spinners particularly.  
 A. 67.—Only two years and a half in the trade.  
 A. 68.—We do not require to do so.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 74.—I never heard of any.  
 A. 77.—I do think so.  
 A. 78.—I do not want any government interference at all; but if any measure is enacted, let it be fixed for all ages, let the age to be taken in be what it may.

3d May 1833.

THOMAS KINNELL.

No. 33.

John Malcolm  
and  
John Wilson.

## ANSWERS of JOHN MALCOLM and JOHN WILSON, Dunfermline.

- A. 1.—Dunfermline, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning.  
 A. 3.—The whole erected in the year 1824.  
 A. 4.—By steam or water, but chiefly by a steam-engine of six-horse power.  
 A. 5.—Four ventilating apertures in the roof.  
 A. 6.—The windows are frequently opened for the purpose of ventilation.  
 A. 7.—At the control of any of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All parts that we consider dangerous are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—We have none under ten years of age, and never wish any under twelve. Our children are all girls, except one boy.  
 A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—They have not.  
 A. 13.—We employ no apprentices.  
 A. 15.—All the children we employ lodge with their parents or relations.  
 A. 16.—They have the superintendence of their parents or relations.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Eleven hours on the Saturdays, and thirteen hours and a quarter on the other days of the week.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and two days; but full wages were paid to the workers for three hundred and thirteen days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine hours, or thereby.  
 A. 22.—The different parts of our works are usually carried on at one and the same time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—At no time and under no circumstances are our regular hours of work exceeded.  
 A. 26.—We consider that all excess beyond the regular hours may be avoided.  
 A. 27.—We have not.  
 A. 29.—We do not know, as we have never practised it, but we suspect it is done for the purpose of being enabled to undersell their neighbours; besides, the extra quantity of yarn spun has a very injurious effect on the market in bad times.  
 A. 30.—Most unquestionably the cost of production would be increased were the same wages paid and the hours limited.  
 A. 31.—The employing two sets of workers would be attended with a deal of trouble to the employers, and with ruinous low wages to the employed. We are certain the workers themselves would be better pleased to work twelve hours for 1s. than eight hours for 8d.  
 A. 32.—We have never tried two sets, because if the hours of labour were reduced the wages of the workers would be reduced in proportion, and are afraid we could not procure workers on these terms.  
 A. 33.—We have never employed a night set.  
 A. 34.—We disapprove of night-working altogether, as being disadvantageous both to the interest of the employers and to the health and morals of the workers.  
 A. 36.—We have no night-work.

A. 37.



A. 37.—Any reduction in the working hours would cause either a proportional reduction in the workers wages or a proportional advance in the price of yarn; at present we are barely able to compete with foreign yarn, and were we obliged to raise the price of our yarn, foreigners would supplant us in the market both at home and abroad.

A. 38.—The temperature ranges from 64 to 72°; the work does not require so high a temperature, but the workers seem to like heat, which shows that their work is not very laborious.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—None of the processes are continuous.

A. 50.—In the dark mornings and evenings our mill is lighted with gas.

A. 51.—The same provision as during the day.

A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast and half an hour to dinner; but sometimes a quarter of an hour is only taken to breakfast, in which case the workers get a quarter of an hour sooner away at night.

A. 54.—Part of our workers take their meals in the mill, which is brought to them by their friends, and part go home to their meals.

A. 55.—The workers are allowed to take their meals anywhere that is most convenient to themselves.

A. 57.—Admonition and remonstrance, and if that will not do we levy a small fine from them, and if both fail we give them our regular warning of fourteen days and part with them.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 59.—By none that we know of.

A. 60.—Never, to our knowledge.

A. 61.—Our overseers are strictly enjoined never to inflict corporal punishment.

A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishments, and we never knew of any being inflicted at our mill.

A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made before any magistrate against us or our foreman.

A. 65.—None of our workers live in the houses of their employers.

A. 66.—We seldom or never begin with workers under eleven years of age, and we have found from experience that those who begin at the age of eleven, twelve, thirteen, or fourteen make better workers than those who begin after fourteen.

A. 67.—We know of no difference.

A. 68.—We have no processes injurious to health, so far as we know.

A. 69.—We know of no act on the subject.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 71.—We have not.

A. 74.—They have not.

A. 75.—Never.

A. 76.—We never had any action against us.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe they would be afraid.

A. 78.—In flax-mills the working hours might be limited to twelve, and night-work prohibited altogether; apprenticeships might be limited to two years, and none taken who could not read or write, or that were under twelve years of age.

A. 79.—The more free any trade is of legal restrictions or interference between masters and servants so much the better; and when servants are at liberty to part with their masters, as all ours are, on giving fourteen days notice, there cannot be much to complain of by either party.

JOHN MALCOLM.

JOHN WILSON.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN RUTHERFORD, Dunfermline.

No. 34.

John Rutherford.

A. 1.—Parish of Dunfermline, Fifeshire.

A. 2.—Flax-dressing, spinning and twisting, reeling, bleaching and dyeing.

A. 3.—Extended at different times, but owing to the death of the late proprietor, his successors cannot distinctly state these. The earliest date is 1816.

A. 4.—Steam. Twenty-eight-horse power.

A. 5.—No provision.

A. 6.—Except what depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Opening and shutting of the windows, at the discretion of the workers themselves.

A. 8.—Dangerous parts fenced off.

A. 9.—The bothy or schoolhouse at hand is in the option of the workers for changing their clothes, while there is no want of water for washing themselves, and such has always been the case.

A. 10.—Ten or eleven years; viz. the thread-reelers (who have generally shorter hours than the rest of the workers). All girls.

A. 11.—Were grown-up persons to be substituted at the thread-reels for those at ten or eleven, (who are perfectly well adapted for the work, and from the nature of it may accomplish as much as the former,) it would be at considerable additional expence.

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A. 12.



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*John Rutherford.*

- A. 12.—No necessity at machines for any under twelve.  
 A. 13.—One or two as flax-dressers, and one mechanic; all above eighteen.  
 A. 14.—None apprenticed from parishes.  
 A. 15.—None at all, orphans or others, lodged and maintained.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours and a quarter, and ten and a quarter on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a quarter.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days, including days not whole.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and thirty-six hours.  
 A. 22.—No part carried on at different times.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and three quarters.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours and a quarter.  
 A. 25.—The occasional excess alluded to was the wish of the workers themselves, that they might get off the sooner on Saturday beyond the two hours, and latterly three hours allowed them at any rate.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 28.—Hours never reduced.  
 A. 29.—The inducement is obvious, it being so much more convenient to continue the same set of hands, besides that it would be undoubtedly cheaper.  
 A. 30.—As yet no limitation of the hours of work.  
 A. 31 & 32.—No extra hours required.  
 A. 33.—But one set, and that a day set.  
 A. 36.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—That as the hours so should consequently be the production or profits is evident.  
 A. 38.—Scarcely above the ordinary temperature of any room in a dwelling house.  
 A. 39.—No particular heat at all, it being all longstaple spinning.  
 A. 41.—None at all.  
 A. 42.—No night-work.  
 A. 46.—None that require waiting on, and  
 A. 47.—For the general processes the time indifferent.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 53.—A quarter of an hour at breakfast, three quarters of an hour at dinner, while what is called "four hours" is brought to them within the manufactory during work.  
 A. 54.—Most of them.  
 A. 55.—Many of them living at a distance, it would not be very convenient for each to take their meals at home; they are therefore brought to them and taken in the bothy or schoolhouse.  
 A. 56.—Here it may suffice to state one point; were works caused to stop that "four hours" might be taken in the afternoon, the consequence would be so much waste inevitable (from one cause or other) every time that the engine starts.  
 A. 57.—Premiums.  
 A. 58.—No corporal punishments.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—A considerable number; the houses in good habitable condition, and scattered in groups through the neighbourhood, subject, therefore, to no special control.  
 A. 66.—Generally the case in point of skill, viz. the superiority of those who have been bred spinners from (comparatively speaking) more tender years to those grown up, while in point of general character the difference appears as much in favour of the former as the latter, whether referring to the morals of the persons in question or their particular temperament, supposed to be affected by the nature of the employment.  
 A. 67.—See the annexed list, which renders any statement superfluous; it is referred to with confidence.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—No—(flax-spinning).  
 A. 77.—No.  
 A. 78.—The present factory not subject to the Act in question; and it is humbly submitted that the annexed list should render unnecessary any legislative interference whatever.  
 A. 79.—No.

Harry Brae Spinning-mill, }  
 3d May 1833.

JOHN RUTHERFORD.

No. 35.

*Laurence Wilson.*

## ANSWERS of LAURENCE WILSON, Dunfermline.

- A. 1.—Parish of Dunfermline, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Making yarns from flax.  
 A. 3.—The mill was erected in 1815.  
 A. 4.—Water; irregular in very dry weather, sometimes to the extent of a fifth of the power required. Twelve-horse power required to drive the whole machinery.  
 A. 5.—The ventilation is by opening the whole or a part of every window.  
 A. 7.—Ventilation usually regulated by the overlookers.

A. 8.



A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are placed outside of the walls of the mill.

A. 9.—The nature of the work does not require those employed to change their clothes either on entering or leaving the work, and no arrangements of the kind mentioned are necessary.

A. 10.—I never wish to take children under eleven or twelve years of age. I have in a very few instances departed from this, when their parents were employed in the mill with them. I employ only girls in the mill, and none have been at any trade before, except a few who have been at other mills of the same kind.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—I do not think that the recent alterations in machinery have made any difference of the age necessary; but it has made this difference, that fewer children are necessary for the same quantity of machinery.

A. 13.—I only employ apprentices as flax-dressers.

A. 14.—I have no parish apprentices.

A. 15.—I maintain none of the children employed by me; I provide lodging for a few who are too far from home to go there every night; their parents or relations provide victuals for them; I have one orphan, but her relations provide for her.

A. 16.—The greater number go home every night; the few who lodge at the work go home on Saturday evening, and their parents provide food and clothing for them.

A. 17.—The whole number of every age work the same number of hours; viz. last year, on an average, eleven hours and a quarter.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours is the greatest number that the mill has been kept on in any one day during last year, and that for a few days only in order to make up lost time. This is done with the girls' consent, to keep their wages entire.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and fifty-two hours.

A. 22.—The whole departments of the work are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—The average for the last twelve months is about eleven hours and a quarter each day.

A. 24.—Only one set of children are employed, and fourteen hours is the greatest number they have been kept any one day. (See query 19.)

A. 25.—The regular hours are only exceeded to make up for short stoppages, such as any thing going wrong with the machinery, or when the children propose it themselves to get away to a merry-making; but when the mill is standing for a whole day they do not make up that time, and they in that case receive no wages.

A. 26.—The excess beyond the regular hours may be avoided by deducting the wages for the time the mill is standing; but these stoppages all parties rather incline to make up, as it keeps their wages entire.

A. 27.—I never have.

A. 29.—I consider one set of children perfectly able to work the hours I require of them, and I never work the mill through the night.

A. 30.—I can give no answer to this query, never having tried the experiment.

A. 32.—I never have had occasion to try two sets of children.

A. 34.—Does not apply to this manufactory.

A. 37.—A limitation to ten hours will have the effect of raising linen yarns so high that we will be undersold in our own market by German hand-spun yarns. It will also have the effect of reducing the wages of the workers, who, I believe, will be very unwilling to agree to it, and would rather work the present hours than take lower wages.

A. 38.—No particular temperature is necessary in flax-spinning mills. I heat the mill by means of a flue, so as to keep the workers comfortable in cold weather.

A. 41.—No night-work ever done.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—Nine o'clock morning for breakfast, and two o'clock afternoon for dinner.

A. 54.—All the persons employed leave the mill at meal times, and the whole machinery stops.

A. 57.—When they will not do their duty, after being repeatedly told by the overlooker, they are fined a small sum, and if still disobedient they are dismissed from the work.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—My instructions to the overlooker are, to mark them for a fine, or if that has no effect to let me know, when they are generally dismissed from the work.

A. 64.—No complaint has ever been made to a magistrate against me or any of the overlookers.

A. 65.—The mechanic overlookers and foreman flax-dresser are married, and live at the work. The girls who do not go home every night lodge under the same roof with the overlookers, and a person is appointed to keep their rooms clean, and make ready their meals for them.

A. 66.—Those who come to the mill from eleven to twelve years of age I have generally found to give more satisfaction than those who come at an earlier or later period. I never like to take any for spinners who are above fourteen, for if they do not begin early to that department of the work they never can do it well.

A. 67.—The health of all those employed here has always been remarkably good, so much



Fifeshire.

Laurence Wilson.

so that during the period of seventeen years (when the works commenced) only one death has taken place amongst the workers, and that was a girl, about two months ago, and she was complaining when she came to the work.

A. 68.—I do not, as I consider no part of the processes employed injurious to the health.

A. 69.—I know of no act to which flax-mills are subject.

A. 79.—As there is no act regulating the hours of labour for flax-mills, one for that purpose would have the good effect of putting all in the trade on an equal footing, but ten hours I think too short; they would require to be from eleven to twelve hours; also a regulation as to age no one can object to, but to bind us down to short hours for all below twenty one years of age, is in this country giving us no advantage, for very few comparatively remain at a mill after that age. Boys (when boys are employed) leave early, and go to trades, and the girls marry, or go to be servants in private families; at all events, do not plague us with the vexatious and worse than useless provisions in the bill lately before Parliament. If it pass with all those clauses, it will drive every one out of the trade, and the trade out of the country. It puts the proprietors of mills completely in the power of their servants, who, by their stupidity or maliciousness, may in a few months make their masters liable to penalties that will reduce them to ruin and a prison.

LAURENCE WILSON.

No. 36.

Thomas Philp.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS PHILP and Co., Dysart.

A. 1.—Burgh of Dysart, county of Fife.

A. 2.—Heckling, and flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in 1825 and 1826, and commenced working in July 1826.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, fourteen-horse power.

A. 5.—No specific provision.

A. 6.—The upper sashes of the windows fall down.

A. 7.—It is regulated by those of the workers who are nearest the respective windows according to their own feelings.

A. 8.—What we consider the dangerous parts of our machinery are all fenced off.

A. 9.—We have no specific arrangement for this purpose; the workpeople generally throw an old gown over their dress to keep it clean while working, and in cold weather put on cloaks or shawls when they go out.

A. 10.—Nine years; we are not aware of children under that age being employed at any trade in our neighbourhood.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—Not in our experience.

A. 13.—A few at heckling.

A. 14.—None.

A. 15.—All the children we employ are lodged and maintained by their parents or guardians.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

A. 18.—Twelve hours for all ages.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and one days, from the 30th April 1832 to 1st May 1833.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and twelve.

A. 22.—Our whole works begin and end at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours thirty-two minutes twenty-three seconds.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes.

A. 25.—In making up time, but when lost time amounts to half a day we never make it up.

A. 26.—Any excess of work that we do in any one day is so trifling, we consider it would be no great loss to avoid it altogether.

A. 27.—Previous to the year 1831 we worked thirteen hours, since then twelve hours daily.

A. 28.—We do not find the cost enhanced, chiefly because wages were reduced in more than an equal proportion.

A. 29.—The only inducement we should suppose to be to have his work carried on regularly; and should any accident happen to the big gearing or to the engine, which a few hours work at night might rectify, we think it better that a few mechanics should work a few hours at night than the whole workers be idle a whole or part of a day.

A. 30.—The increased cost of production must be in a greater proportion than the shortening the hours of labour, as a great number of minor expences cannot be reduced.

A. 31.—The difficulty of getting learned hands in sufficient numbers, in our opinion.

A. 32.—We never considered it necessary, and therefore never tried the system.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—We consider that it would give the continental manufacturer such an advantage over us, as to drive us out of the foreign market upon which we so much depend, the more so as they have cheaper raw material than we have, our whole supply being imported from the Continent.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of the atmosphere.



- A. 41.—No times.  
 A. 42, 43, & 44.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 47.—No maximum.  
 A. 48.—We have none such.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 52.—We have no night-work.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for dinner and half an hour for breakfast.  
 A. 54.—All leave except two, who are kept for oiling; and we leave the work when the others come back.  
 A. 55.—Some may at times stop about the work at meal-hours, but it is solely to suit themselves.  
 A. 56.—We find no bad effect.  
 A. 57.—A system of small fines, scarcely ever exceeding 1*d*.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 59.—By none.  
 A. 60 & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishments, and have at times, when it was proved that one worker had struck or abused another, fined to the extent of 6*d*., or, in case of refusal to pay the fine, dismissed the party offending.  
 A. 63.—None other than the prohibition of corporal punishments, and the infliction of small fines for disobedience or other faults.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—All our workpeople live either in their own or their parents or guardians houses.  
 A. 66.—We consider children under ten years of age rather as a tax on than any advantage to our work.  
 A. 67.—Since we first began working our mill we do not know any sensible difference in the health of our workers, except perhaps in the number of cholera cases last year.  
 A. 68.—We have no such processes.  
 A. 69, 70, & 71.—No.  
 A. 72.—We never were convicted.  
 A. 73.—None of the mills in our neighbourhood are subject to the provisions of the Act.  
 A. 74 & 75.—No.  
 A. 76.—Never required.  
 A. 77.—We have every reason to believe that our workers would give unbiassed evidence either for or against their masters.

Dysart, 7th May 1833.

THOS. PHILP & Co.

Fifeshire.

Thomas Philp.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN WALKER, Spinning-master, Blebo Mills.

No. 37.

John Walker.

- A. 1.—Parish of Kemback, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—The principal building was erected in 1799 for spinning flax yarns; soon after both flax and tow yarns were spun in it, and about 1810 the spinning of flax ceased, and tow only has been spun in it since. New additions and alterations have made almost yearly.  
 A. 4.—Both steam and water power are employed. The water is very irregular; at times being many times more than sufficient for the work, while at other times it is not half enough; and to make up the deficiency a steam engine of eight-horse power is applied to assist, both powers being then jointly applied. The water-wheel is about fourteen-horse power.  
 A. 5.—None, except as answered to query 6.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlookers, and occasionally by the workers themselves.  
 A. 8.—All, when danger is apprehended, as far as can be done.  
 A. 9.—There are separate and necessary conveniences for men and women at the work; but washing and shifting clothes are not required, the apartments in which the people reside being close to the mill.  
 A. 10.—I never to my knowledge employed any under ten years of age. I do not like them under twelve; but when I have had families at the work with a number of children, I have found it necessary at times to take one of a family into the mill under this age, to enable the family to live more comfortably. I have had many who have been previously employed at trades and services of different kinds, but these were necessarily not children of the lowest age.  
 A. 11.—Unless girls have been introduced into the spinning department at or under twelve years of age, they seldom become expert spinners; and it is therefore necessary for the success of the work that a certain number of this age be kept up in this department; and as an education of several years is necessary before a girl can become an expert spinner, and young girls can be had at lower wages than those of more advanced ages can be had at, the cost of production is therefore less when the younger girls are employed. These young girls,

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*John Walker.*

girls, however, have not the charge of spinning-frames, but others, who have been bred up as they, and are necessarily fifteen years of age and upwards before they are fit for this charge, the younger girls being merely their assistants. The workers in the other departments of my work are, with few exceptions, grown-up people, steadiness and attention being qualifications more necessary here than expertness.

A. 12.—They have not; but the machinery being much improved, children, as well as those of a more advanced age, have less to do.

A. 13 & 14.—I do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—None but who have either father or mother. Parents occasionally visit their children; and children, whose parents are within a proper distance, are with them on Saturday evening and Sunday; those at greater distances less frequently.

A. 16.—I have no children under twelve years of age whose parents do not reside here, and they live with their parents, and are consequently under their superintendence.

A. 17 & 18.—My present number of working hours is for a week at an average of thirteen hours a day, and it is necessary that the whole of my work be carried on at one and the same time; consequently all the workpeople of all ages are employed during all the working hours, and with me they have always been so employed.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours for the last four months, and twelve for the preceding fourteen months, were the regulated working hours; but the workpeople, when they wish a day or part of a day to themselves to go to public markets or other amusements, apply to work extra time for the time to be taken up on these occasions, and this time is made up as found to be most convenient and agreeable to the workpeople; but no statement has been kept of what portion of this extra time may have been made up on any one day.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days, at an average of twelve hours and one third per day; the days for amusement noticed in preceding answer are included in this number, they having been made up by the extra work. There were two other days not included in the above on which no work was done, time made up, nor wages withheld; viz. the national fast and parish fast.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and twenty-three hours.

A. 22.—All parts of my work are carried on together, and for the same length of time.

A. 23.—Twelve and a third hours.

A. 26.—This might be avoided in my work, if I were inclined to pay my servants for no work, or, if the servants were inclined to want their wages for the sake of a play-day; but neither are so inclined, and the workers choose rather to work extra, and to keep their wages full. Excess beyond the regular hours of working is unavoidable in mills driven by irregular water power. (See A. 36.)

A. 27.—I never worked my factory for a greater number of hours daily than at present, and for many years for only twelve hours a day. I commenced spinning-master in 1803, and for many years the working hours in my mill, as well as in all mills in this quarter, were but twelve. In course of time, however, the working time was increased to twelve and a half and thirteen hours a day, and wages were increased accordingly. I did not raise the wages, because I had not lengthened the time of working, but my workpeople asked the same wages from me as were paid at mills working thirteen hours a day; I told them the wages paid by me were as high, in proportion to the time employed at my work, as in the mills where thirteen hours working was carried on, that they could live comfortably with the wages received from me, and that twelve hours work was long enough, but they insisted to have the wages, and they would give the long hours; I of course gave the high wages, and got the long hours work. Eighteen months ago a number of spinning-masters in Fife agreed to reduce the working hours to twelve daily, and I was one of them. We reduced the hours accordingly, but did not reduce the wages. Others, however, continued to work the long hours at the same wages as formerly. This continued twelve or thirteen months but a demand for workers taking place, those who wrought the long hours raised their wages, and my people, who were still employed the short hours, insisted for having wages equal to those working the long hours, and I was in consequence obliged a second time to lengthen the hours and raise the wages.

A. 28.—I do; for although the wages of the workers were reduced in proportion to the shortening of the time of work, and I very much doubt if they could live comfortably on lower wages, yet there are other expences necessarily attending the work which do not vary, whether the work be carried on during longer or shorter hours, such as rents, premium of insurance, interest on capital in machinery, putting in machinery of a new and improved construction, &c. &c.

A. 29.—To increase his profits, or to save himself from loss, by being enabled to manufacture the article which he manufactures at less cost. That children or adults have been worked through the night without any intermediate change of hands is unknown to me.

A. 30.—In my factory I find the permanent expences (see answer to query 28) fully half of the cost of production when the work is carried on thirteen hours per day, and therefore a good deal more when carried on only twelve; but say twelve, and the permanent expences only half, and say the whole expences are 5*l.*, and the produce two hundred sps. Suppose now the working hours were reduced from twelve to ten, or to five-sixths of twelve hours, the quantity will be one sixth less, and the expence the same; thus,—

Twelve



|                                                              |   |   |   |   |                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Twelve hours work produced                                   | - | - | - | - | sps. 200 cost 5 <i>l</i> .  |
| Deduct from this one sixth of quantity of yarn, the cost re- | - | - | - | - |                             |
| maining the same                                             | - | - | - | - | 33½                         |
|                                                              |   |   |   |   | <hr/>                       |
|                                                              |   |   |   |   | sps. 166⅔ cost 5 <i>l</i> . |

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John Walker.

But to make the quantity one hundred and sixty-six and two thirds spun in the day of ten hours equal to the quantity of two hundred sps. spun in the day of twelve hours, one fifth of another day of ten hours must be employed. One fifth of the quantity one hundred and sixty-six and two thirds is thirty-three one third, and one fifth of the price is 1*l*. Add then - 33½ cost 1*l*.

Were the time reduced from twelve to ten hours a day - - sps. 200 cost 6*l*.

Thus by altering the working hours from twelve to ten hours a day the cost of production is increased one fifth or twenty per cent.; but the present working hours are thirteen, and, if reduced to ten, three hours are taken off in place of two, as in the above statement; and the quantity produced corresponding to the time employed in the production, and three hours being half more than two, the additional cost incurred in reducing the working hours from twelve to ten being twenty per cent., half of this sum, on account of reducing it from thirteen to ten being ten per cent., must be added to twenty per cent., making together thirty per cent. of additional cost when the working hours are reduced from thirteen to ten each day. Now, supposing the wages of the workers were reduced thirty per cent., this would still leave fifteen per cent. to be added to the cost of production, because workers wages being but half the cost of production, the permanent expences make up the other half. Sixty in place of thirty per cent. would therefore require to be deducted from the wages of the workers to enable the spinning-master to produce the article at the same cost; and in this event a girl's wages of 5*s*. per week would be reduced to 2*s*. To suppose that this could be done is absurd. Little or no reduction in this way, therefore, would or could take place. The additional cost must then fall on the spinning-master; but his profits have been little or nothing for years bygone, he cannot then afford thirty per cent. additional on the cost of production, and he cannot get a higher price for his yarns from the manufacturer. As the manufacturer cannot afford this, for his profits are on a par with the spinner, nor again can the manufacturer get a higher price for his manufacture from the merchant, for the merchant must sell these manufactured goods in a foreign market, where the manufactured linen cloth of other foreigners comes in competition with ours, and these foreigners are not limited to any specified number of working hours. Prohibit the working hours to ten each day for those under eighteen years of age, and we lose the linen trade, and foreigners will get possession of it and keep it.

A. 31.—My work being in the country, and at too great a distance from town or village for my people to live in and attend it, I am under the necessity of finding accommodation for all in my own houses; and these houses are no more than sufficient for the accommodation of those who are unavoidably employed the whole working hours.

A. 32.—I never tried a system of relays or change of hands in the employment of children. I had it not in my power to do so; and even were factories in large towns to do so, it must be attended with considerable additional trouble and expence. Children would require more than half wages; their present wages are barely sufficient; and half the quantity of victuals is not; and there are no poor rates in Scotland to help them.

A. 33.—I never did.

A. 34 & 35.—No night-work.

A. 36.—The prohibition of night-work would not directly affect me, I having no night-work. It would put on a more equal footing those who have a steady and invariable power, such as steam; it would hurt many, and in some cases completely ruin those who depend entirely on water power. When the water comes irregularly, and in summer is reduced to say half the quantity requisite, and when the mill-masters are accustomed to keep half their work going through the day, and the other half in the night, and to divide their people to work accordingly, were night-work prohibited they would lose the night-work, and half their people would be thrown idle, and only half the work performed which but for this prohibition would have been performed, and the prohibition would also have a ruinous effect on those whose works are dependent on a supply from dams above them, over which they have no control, and whose supply depends entirely on those people above them opening their sluices at what times and letting down the water in what quantities they please. In this case those having works so situated must wait the time and the quantity of water coming to them, and make the most of both. Any prohibition as to time would in this case absolutely ruin them.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—No artificial heat.

A. 50.—By oil burned in argand lamps from September till April.

A. 51.—Letting down windows from the top, if required.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and the same time for dinner, and this is found to be sufficient, the people employed residing close to the work; and this short time is more agreeable to all concerned, as their work is over sooner at night.

A. 54.—All, except a few who leave the work half an hour before the rest, and return when the rest leave it, that they may clean the machinery when it is standing.

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A. 57.



Fifeshire.

John Walker.

A. 57.—Firmness and kindness, and when these fail, dismissal.

A. 58.—On none, and I dare not. Generally many mills are in want of workers, and on application they would willingly take mine in. My workers can at any time leave me on giving three months previous notice of their intention to do so; but if corporal punishments were inflicted on any, they would leave me immediately.

A. 59.—By none.

A. 60 & 61.—Not for many years.

A. 62.—My people know that corporal punishments are not allowed by me, and as they never are inflicted, I do not require to take steps to prevent them.

A. 63.—When any of the workers misbehave, the overseers are instructed to let me know, and they are either reprimanded, fined, or dismissed, according to the nature of the offence. No written instructions.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—There are families in the place, part of whose fathers and children work in the factory, and they have each a house for themselves. In these families one or more girls also lodge when it is found convenient to do so. The rest of the women live in apartments, four to six in each; a bed and bed-clothes for every two, and properly cleaned sheets are regularly furnished them. Their apartments are annually washed with whitening or white lime, and occasionally visited to see that all be right. All my people go to church, and many besides attend a Sunday-school in the neighbourhood. When any improper conduct or uncleanness is noticed in any of my people, I am very soon informed of it by those among whom they lodge, their character and comfort in such cases being at stake.

I annex copy of the certificate of the minister of this parish respecting the morals of my people.

Kemback, 30th January 1833.

That Mr. J. Walker, mill-spinner at Blebo Mills, has resided in this parish during the period of twenty-eight years; that he exercised a most praiseworthy inspection over the character of the persons employed in his mill, dismissing those whom he finds addicted to disorderly and dissipated habits; and that, so far as I have known or heard, fewer instances of irregularity have taken place in his mill than could have been expected among so great a number of workpeople as he finds it necessary to employ.

It may be proper to add, that the spinners of the mill have rarely applied to me for relief from the session funds.

(Signed) JAMES M'DONALD.

A. 66.—As to difference in skill (see A. 11.), and as to general character, those who have been employed in public works from infancy are more likely, I believe, to acquire steady and industrious habits than such, particularly in large towns, who have been allowed to go idly about for a greater number of years, and necessarily mix with youth of idle and disorderly habits; and fewer of these profligate youth will, I believe, be found in the great manufacturing towns of Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen, in proportion to the number of the inhabitants in those towns, than in Edinburgh. I am satisfied that the general character of those who have been employed in public works from infancy is preferable, as compared with those who have been taken into employment at later periods. When I happen to have suspicious or bad characters about the work, I take the first favourable opportunity to get free of the first of these, and I, with very little ceremony, dismiss the last. I am happy however to say, that I have no such with me at present, so far as I know; and if I were to give a preference to any, it would be to those who have been longest with me, as in proportion to the length of time they have served me I can with the more confidence say as to their real character.

A. 67.—I cannot say that the health of my people has either improved or deteriorated during the last ten years. Mine have generally been very healthy. Attention is now given to keep all the spinning-mills much more cleanly than I recollect of them being kept, and also the houses of the workpeople immediately connected with spinning-mills in the country. Spinning-mills, too, are now made more roomy and airy. These circumstances, no doubt, conduce to the health of the people employed in spinning-mills.

I annex copy of certificate by the doctor who visits my workpeople:

Ceres, 31st January 1832.

I have attended the workpeople employed in Mr. Walker's spinning-mill, of Blebo Mills, for the last thirteen years, and I have found distress amongst them fully as little as among the same number of individuals in any other avocation. They are less liable to the vicissitudes of the weather, wet, heat, and cold; their employment is exercise rather than hard work, and their pay enables them to procure the necessaries of life better than the generality of people in their rank.

(Signed) J. C. ANGUS, Surgeon.

A. 68.—Except in the case of two or three individuals I have never had occasion during the long time that I have been a spinner (nearly thirty years) to do so; and these were asthmatic subjects, who were in the dustiest part of the mill, the carding department, and complained of the dust. But I have few complaints of this kind. Two carders now in my employment,



employment, and who have served me, Isabel Scott twenty-six years, and Eppie Kirk twenty-five years, and who never have been in any other department in my work, are to this day as healthy as any in the work.

A. 69.—I am not sensible that flax-spinning mills in Scotland are subject to the provisions of the present or of any other act of parliament.

A. 77.—The workpeople are as independent of their masters as their masters are of them. I have no reason, therefore, to believe that the workpeople would be afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence.

A. 78.—The common law of Scotland is, I believe, sufficient for the protection both of servants and masters in the public works of Scotland. Were the provisions proposed in Lord Ashley's Bill to become law, the kindly feelings which generally subsist between masters and servants would be extinguished, and instead jealousies, spies, and informers would be introduced; the workpeople would become restless, discontented, and unhappy, and the masters would, too, be sufferers in consequence.

A. 79.—We have no poor's rates in Scotland, nor is any aid received from the parishes, unless in extreme cases, and that a mere pittance; a father of a family has to provide for himself and his family until the family be able to provide for themselves, and he will suffer much before he degrades himself to seek parish relief, for a degradation it is considered to be, and long may this feeling exist here; he knows his wellbeing depends alone on his exertions; he is industrious, frugal, and provident; not satisfied with providing for the wants of the day, but laying up against occasional want of employment and sickness; and far better clad, too, on the Sabbath-day than working classes will be found, I believe, in almost any other country; nor does he cease, after his children are able to provide for themselves, to take a fatherly interest in them. Unless in the case of orphans without father or mother, and foundlings, I believe the parishes here take no charge; and there are consequently very few parish apprentices, and I strongly suspect that the evils complained of respecting children in English factories mainly originate in the English poor laws. If Lord Ashley's Bill pass into a law with the limitations proposed, both masters and servants will find it their interest to disregard it, and those who comply with it will be the exception to the general rule, and the Act will become a dead letter. In Scotland it occasionally happens that a girl gets married at fifteen, and has a child at sixteen years of age, and then she has the charge of herself, her child, and her own house. But if she should be in a factory, and has the two other charges left her, she is not, however, to have the charge of herself, although she be at liberty on giving warning to leave the factory thereafter in the space of two weeks, or one, two, or three months, according to the regulations; she is nevertheless, to the astonishment of herself and of every body else, declared to be a child at eighteen, and put under the tutorage of an act of parliament till twenty-one, as not being till then capable of taking care of herself!!! One does not work for the love of working, but from necessity and the desire of bettering his condition, and any hindrance to him in these is clearly an act of injustice. Sympathy for the distressed, and particularly for children who work long hours in large factories, is a natural feeling, and whoever should free them from this would be hailed as a benefactor of the human race. But let him first beware that the means he adopts for this purpose do not, in place of relieving them, put them in a far worse condition. Let first the cause which necessitates them so to work be removed, and then there will be no necessity for passing laws to shorten their working hours, or other enactments respecting them.

JOHN WALKER.

Fifeshire.

John Walker.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN ARTHUR, Kinghorn.

No. 38.

John Arthur.

A. 1.—Kinghorn, county of Fife.

A. 2.—Spinning of flax and tow.

A. 3.—The flax-mill buildings remain unchanged since 1814, the period at which they were purchased. The erection of the tow-mill only took place last year.

A. 4.—The tow-mill is wholly steam power. The flax-mill is partly steam and partly water. The average supply of water does not exceed three horse power. We have at each mill a steam-engine of sixteen horse power.

A. 5.—No distinct provision for ventilation.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows, which are all hung from the upper sash on purpose.

A. 7.—Under the control of the overlooker.

A. 8.—All the most dangerous parts of the machinery fenced off.

A. 9.—No arrangements thought necessary.

A. 10.—In a very few instances we have employed children under nine out of charity to their parents; we have none at present under that age; none of these were previously employed at other work.

A. 11.—No; except when there is a scarcity of hands.

A. 12.—No change.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a quarter for the first five working days of the week, and eleven hours and a quarter on the Saturdays.

A. 18.—No difference from the above.

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H 2

A. 19.



Fifeshire.

John Arthur.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half, which does not occur above six or eight times in a year.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and forty-nine hours, or thereby.

A. 22.—All carried on together.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and forty-five minutes, or thereby.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—Only when a few hours were lost by a stoppage of the machinery; when it went the length of a day it was optional on the part of the workers either to make up the time or have the day's wages deducted.

A. 26.—It is avoidable, at a sacrifice on the part of the masters of the value of the work done, after deducting the wages and fuel.

A. 27.—Yes; half an hour longer.

A. 28.—Enhanced in proportion to the diminution of time, or nearly so.

A. 29.—The hope of more gain.

A. 30.—An increase in the cost of production in all the branches, but with regard to the extent and the exact proportion, from a difference of only a twenty-fifth part, we do not feel competent to give a decided answer.

A. 31.—We have no experience upon these points.

A. 32.—We never tried relays of hands, not judging it necessary for the length of the working hours, the longest day not exceeding thirteen hours and a half, and that only upon very rare occasions. (See A. 19.)

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—We have no night-work.

A. 37.—Our opinion is, that were the hours to be reduced to ten, and eight on Saturday, it would enhance the cost of production so much as to render it impossible to compete with the foreign manufacturer, who is already treading on our heels; it would lessen the value of capital embarked in machinery to a most injurious extent; it would diminish the necessary supply of yarns to such a degree as either to throw many weavers out of employment, or compel their masters to resort to other countries for the goods they require. But were the legislature to limit the hours to an average of eleven per day, it would be entirely satisfactory to the workpeople; it would not materially increase the cost of production; it would not deteriorate in such an unwarrantable degree the value of capital sunk in spinning factories; it would not lessen the supply of yarns in such a dangerous ratio; and one advantage would result from the change, provided the other provisions of the bill were capable of being complied with; it would place the selfish and the generous, the unfeeling and the compassionate, the considerate and the inconsiderate, among the masters, upon an equal footing.

A. 38.—We have no artificial temperature, no particular degree of heat or cold being necessary for our manufacture, and consequently it varies with the different seasons.

A. 41.—Not any.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—Nothing but the windows.

A. 52.—No experience.

A. 53.—All alike; half an hour to breakfast, and three quarters of an hour to dinner.

A. 54.—They all go to their homes at meal-times, except a very few, who stay occasionally.

A. 55.—It is their own free choice, and for their own convenience.

A. 56.—It would not disturb the work, but occasionally inconvenience the people.

A. 57.—Dismissal from employment.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—Yes; they have been told we do not approve of blows, and they are prohibited from inflicting corporal punishment. (See A. 57.)

A. 64.—Nothing of the kind.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—There is a certain department of the work, viz. the spinning, where they never acquire the same dexterity as when taught young. As to character, from the education and religious instruction they receive, they are at least equal, if not superior, to those who are employed at later periods.

A. 67.—The health of the workpeople has improved; no death has occurred among them for some years, which may be ascribed partly to the regular visits of a medical man and the healthy nature of the employment, and partly to the increasingly improving behaviour of the people.

A. 68.—Not necessary.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—We have no experience on this point.

A. 79.—With regard to the penalties in Lord Ashley's Bill, the framers of it must have been utterly unconscious of their practical working, or they never would have had the temerity to have proposed them for the adoption of parliament; they are so extravagant and partial and unjust, that the persons and property of the masters would be placed completely at the mercy of any unprincipled or malicious servants, without any means of redress, although the accusations turn out false and spiteful, and the injuries sustained by the workers proved to be the result of design and an intention to defraud.

JOHN ARTHUR.



## ANSWERS of WILLIAM SWAN, Proprietor of the Upper Mill at Kinghorn.

Fifeshire.

No. 39.

William Swan.

A. 1.—Town of Kinghorn, parish of Kinghorn, and county of Fife.

A. 2.—Spinning of flax and tow yarn.

A. 3.—The mill, and greater part of its appendages, were erected in the year 1793; and except for a few years, when cotton yarn was spun at it, since that time has been employed as at present.

A. 4.—Steam power employed regularly to the extent of about twenty-four horse power, and an irregular water power; in winter never exceeding six or seven horse power, and in summer barely sufficient to supply injection water.

A. 5.—There is no distinct or specific provision for ventilation.

A. 6.—The windows of the mill on both sides draw down at top, and this, with the casual opening of the doors, answers every good purpose of ventilation.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the overseer of each flat, at the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Most parts of machinery may be considered dangerous, and cannot of course be entirely fenced off; but the side wheels, and other parts which are considered most dangerous, are fenced off with boxes.

A. 9.—There cannot be said to be any special arrangement for the purposes mentioned. As the workpeople all lodge in the immediate neighbourhood, they are not much exposed to the inclemency of the weather going to and from the mill; but the female part of the workers generally change their outer garment when they come to or leave the work, and boxes are placed in various parts for the purpose of keeping their spare clothes. It may here be mentioned, that in point of health, domestic comfort, and personal cleanliness, they will bear a comparison with any class of operatives in the country whose employment is within doors, and I am sure they would take it as an affront to be likened to the squalid, ill-fed, and ill-clothed part of the population who may be seen in every town prowling the streets in idleness, vice, and wretchedness.

A. 10.—Ten is the lowest age at which we are willing to admit children; but many applications are made for admission at an earlier period. The circumstances of the working classes generally are such as to compel parents to look out for employment for their children as soon as they are able to provide for themselves.

A. 11.—Although the nature of our work does not properly require the employment of children under twelve years of age, yet it is found by experience that unless they begin early they do not acquire such expertness and proficiency as often distinguish them in after life.

A. 12.—I am not aware of any material difference in this respect. Only a small portion of our machinery is of the most recent construction. The number at present employed under twelve years of age is only seven.

A. 13.—None within the mill; the only apprentices employed belong to the heckling and mechanics departments.

A. 14.—Parish apprentices are unknown here.

A. 17.—The usual number of working hours for five days in the week is twelve and a half each day, and eleven hours on Saturday, beginning at a quarter to six o'clock A.M., and ending at half past seven o'clock P.M. On Saturday they leave off at six o'clock.

A. 18.—There is no difference in the hours of work to any class of workers.

A. 19.—The mill which now belongs to the respondent formerly belonged to Charles Arthur and Company, of which firm he was a partner, but took no share in the management. Only came into his possession in the month of June last year; since that time it has undergone considerable alterations, and many stoppages have consequently occurred, so that the hours of employment are not on record. The preparing machinery being the most deficient, that department was wrought for a time one or two extra hours, in order that the workers at the spinning machinery might not be thrown idle. This state of things only lasted a few weeks. The workers were of course paid wages for the extra hours labour.

A. 26.—The excess above mentioned could only have been avoided by throwing the spinners and others idle, thereby depriving them of wages for the time.

A. 27.—The hours of working were at no time longer than at present, and they have been the same for many years past.

A. 28.—In answer to this question it may be stated, that the value of a mill depends upon its productiveness; of course the cost of production must be enhanced by a reduction in the hours of working it.

A. 29.—In machinery a very large capital is embarked, which becomes valuable only as it is wrought or employed; in any case it soon wastes, and requires to be renewed, but were it allowed to stand idle it would soon become valueless; any abridgment, therefore, of the hours of labour, must lessen the production, and be followed with loss to the concern. Hence the inducement to the manufacturer to have his work continued.

A. 30.—The limitation of the hours of work must unquestionably increase the cost of production, and will be found to affect every branch of the trade. So far as the spinning of yarn alone is concerned, if you reduce the time of going to ten hours per day, you lessen the production about one fifth part. Now, supposing that it requires four fifths of the present production to pay wages, and the every day contingent expences, which cannot be lessened, where, I would ask, is the return for capital to be found? Although wages were to undergo



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*William Swan.*

a proportionate reduction, which the operatives cannot afford, it is clear that the millowner would not thereby be compensated.

A. 31 & 32.—Relays or fresh sets of children or persons under twenty-one years of age could not be procured in this place, and that system of change has never been tried at this work.

A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—We have no night-work, and consequently no double set of hands.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—The mill is not heated by any artificial means, and any particular temperature is not much studied; but by the means referred to in A. 5. and A. 6. a salubrious or comfortable temperature is generally kept up.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No night-work.

A. 46, 47, & 48.—None.

A. 50.—With coal gas.

A. 51.—A small opening of the windows at top is sufficient for the purpose.

A. 52.—No night-work.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and three quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—With the exception of two or three persons, all leave the work together at meal-times.

A. 55 & 56.—Those who do not leave with the rest of the workers stop for the purpose of oiling and cleaning the machinery when standing; but the same time for meals is allowed to them, which they take either before or after the mill stops, as suits their convenience; and all take their meals at their respective lodgings.

A. 57.—The ordinary means adopted by parents towards their children, viz. persuasion, gentle chastisement, or dismissal from the work.

A. 58 & 59.—None.

A. 60 & 61.—Neither with my knowledge or sanction.

A. 62 & 63.—Corporal punishments have been forbidden by verbal instructions.

A. 64.—Never at any time.

A. 65.—Very few of the workpeople live in houses belonging to the proprietors; but in general they either occupy houses in the town of Kinghorn as tenants, or they lodge with householders; and the young people are in general either with their parents or relations, and as far as I know enjoy as much comfort as narrow circumstances can supply.

A. 66.—The circumstance of a person being long employed at the work infers general good character; and, besides, those who have been employed from infancy are always the most expert and ready-handed.

A. 67.—During the last ten years the health of the people at this factory has been as good as that of any equal number of the community, as may be attested by the medical attendant; and it may be mentioned that during the prevalence of cholera last year not one of our people fell a victim to it.

A. 68.—None of the processes are considered injurious to health, consequently there is no selection of persons or change of employment for any purposes referred to.

A. 69.—I do not understand that this mill is under the provisions of any particular act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—Having had no experience of this kind, I cannot speak to the point; but I am of opinion the workpeople would not be afraid of giving evidence if they were properly called upon to do so.

A. 78.—As we are not under any special Act of Parliament, I suppose this question has reference to the Bill intended to be brought forward by Lord Ashley for regulating factory labour. With regard to that bill, its provisions and penalties, I hesitate not to pronounce many of them despotic and unjust in a high degree, and quite uncalled for and inapplicable to the flax-mills of this district. It seems to proceed upon the assumption that mill proprietors and managers are tyrannical and cruel taskmasters; and that the parents of children employed at factories are reckless, unfeeling, and indifferent to the present welfare and future happiness of their offspring. The reverse of this is the fact, so far as my knowledge and experience go; but I would not object to the Bill if it only went to prohibit the employment of children under a certain age; and to limit the hours of labour (or rather of attendance, which would be a more proper name for it) to twelve hours per day for all the workpeople. A simple measure of this kind would do good; but the Bill as proposed by Lord Ashley would be intolerable, destructive of every kind feeling which now exists betwixt master and servant, and fraught with ruin to many manufacturing establishments.—N. B. A medical practitioner is retained at the expence of the workpeople themselves, aided by an allowance annually from the proprietor, who gives daily attendance; and a teacher is employed for the instruction of the younger portion of the workpeople.

4th May 1833.

WILLIAM SWAN.

No. 40.

*James Archibald.*

## ANSWERS of JAMES ARCHIBALD, Kirkaldy.

A. 1.—Parish of Kirkaldy, county of Fife.

A. 2.—Spinning flax into yarns.

A. 3.—In the year 1815.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5.—By windows.

A. 6.



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*James Archibald.*

- A. 6.—By the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—They are.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—It does, 1st, because there are many trifling acts to be done, such as carrying bobbins and cleaning, to which little exertion is required; 2dly, because it is necessary to keep up a supply of workers by learning young persons.  
 A. 12.—I do not think it does.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Lodge and maintain none.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours each day.  
 A. 18.—No difference in the hours of employment of children and adults.  
 A. 19.—Cannot answer positively.  
 A. 22.—The various departments of the work go or stand together.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—Before or after holidays, or in consequence of breakage.  
 A. 26.—Not avoidable, unless the time lost be deducted from the amount of wages.  
 A. 29 & 30.—No night-work.  
 A. 31.—Do not work extra hours, and no relays of hands necessary.  
 A. 36.—Cannot say.  
 A. 37.—Reduce the workers wages, and cause a positive loss to proprietors of mill property.  
 A. 38.—Use no artificial heat.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—No particular provision. See A. 6.  
 A. 53.—From nine to half past nine, and from two to half past two.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 55.—Both.  
 A. 56.—No meals taken in the mill.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal from the works.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—Instructed him not to use corporal punishments.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 77.—No.

JAMES ARCHIBALD.

## ANSWERS of JAMES AYTOUN, Abbotshall Spinning-mills, near Kirkaldy.

No. 41.

*James Aytoun.*

- A. 1.—Parish of Abbotshall, near Kirkaldy, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—The spinning of flax, tow, and hemp.  
 A. 3.—Thistle Mill erected in 1821, Rose Mill in 1825; both employed since these periods as spinning factories.  
 A. 4.—Steam power in both; Thistle Mill-engine fourteen horse power; Rose Mill twenty-two horse, but not fully occupied.  
 A. 5.—Chimneys, or wide tubes, were made in the wall, opening into the carding room of Rose Mill; but the draught produced such an uncomfortable degree of cold, that they were soon shut up.  
 A. 6.—The only other means of ventilation in either mill is by occasionally opening windows; but from the extent of the flats, and frequent opening of doors, other means are not required.  
 A. 7.—Entirely regulated for the general comfort by the overlookers of the several rooms.  
 A. 8.—The most dangerous parts of the work are the carding-engines, which have the wheelwork and revolving parts entirely boxed in, and only the belts connecting them with the driving machinery aloft left exposed. The spinning machinery have their wheels so placed within the frame-work, that they can only be dangerous from gross negligence on the part of the workers, or disobedience to express regulations as to the proper times for cleaning.  
 A. 9.—No regulations of the kind referred to are necessary at this work, where the employment is neither dirty nor unhealthy; the people generally come and go in their working dresses, which are little different from those in use when off work.  
 A. 10.—About ten years of age; none of the younger workers previously employed at any other trade, except two or three for a short time at the weaving.  
 A. 11.—The dexterity necessary for managing a spinning-frame can only be acquired by beginning young; the time spent in gaining it, the waste made in the attempt, and consequent

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James Aytoun.

consequent necessity for a low rate of wages, would effectually prevent grown-up persons from attempting it. Children can also be employed in many petty operations which would not afford wages to older people.

A. 12.—Not aware of any late difference.

A. 13.—None within the factory.

A. 14.—Scotland is happily without the reproach of parish apprentices.

A. 15.—No unprotected orphans are known to be at the work.

A. 16.—None to superintend.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve working hours a day for old and young at the factory.

A. 19.—Twelve and a half hours, including extra half hours to make up for occasional stoppages.

A. 20.—Every lawful day throughout the year, with the exception of the parish fast day, Hansel Monday, a jubilee day for the passing of the reform bill, and partially on two fair days; also excepting interruptions from accidents to the machinery.

A. 21.—No time-book kept by which this can be ascertained farther than is above given.

A. 22.—All departments of the work go on together.

A. 23.—A little under twelve hours.

A. 24.—Twelve and a half hours when making up lost time.

A. 25.—After occasional interruptions from accident or otherwise, which are made up by an extra half hour's work per day, no deductions being made from the wages at such times.

A. 26.—It might certainly be avoided; but the servants are more inclined to make up time lost by accidental interruption, than to suffer a proportional reduction of wages.

A. 27.—Till within the last twelve months, the regular working hours were twelve and a half; about that time they were reduced to the present rate of twelve, in consequence of an agreement between the greater part of the mill-spinners in Fife, and which the respondent and some others still adhere to.

A. 28.—As a matter of course, whatever limits the quantity produced within a given time enhances the cost of production. The proposed Ten Hour Bill would reduce the produce about one fifth part; the same deduction made from the wages of the operatives would be grievously felt by them, and masters could not afford to pay the present rates; even a proportionate reduction of wages would not make up the loss they would sustain, as many of their expences would remain the same.

A. 29.—It is believed that there is not amongst the flax-spinners in Scotland generally any wish to extend the working hours beyond twelve per day, still less for night-work, but from unavoidable necessity, such as the irregularity of water power, or accident.

A. 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35.—Can best be answered by manufacturers in districts where night-work and relays of hands have been in use. But, as matter of opinion, such relays necessarily implying working the machinery double time, and consequently encroaching upon the night, they are to be deprecated, whether as regards the comfort, the health, or the morals of the workers, tending to an excess of population as well as of manufactured produce; and in case of glutted markets would be attended with the most serious evils to both masters and servants. It is very desirable that all spinning establishments should be upon an equality. In many situations relays of hands could not be obtained; and those making use of them, supposing they were thereby to work twenty hours per day, would have an undue advantage over the rest of the trade.

A. 36.—Included in the last answer.

A. 37.—Lessened product and increased cost, ending in probable ruin to many spinning establishments, and certain reduction in the workers means of subsistence.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—In the flax and tow spinning operations temperature is of no consequence, other than as it affects the comfort of the workers. The different flats are always kept warmer than the air outside in winter and cooler in summer by the ventilation before referred to.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—Never wrought at night after the regular hours. As there are two mills worked by different steam-engines, in case of any extraordinary accident to the machinery of either, night-work might be resorted to by transferring to the other those who were thrown out of employ while repairs were being completed (probably though the law should forbid it), so that the workers might receive wages to subsist them, but it would never be resorted to from choice.

A. 46, 47, 48, & 49.—No part of the process requires to be continuous during the twenty-four hours.

A. 50.—Lighted within the regular hours of working, morning and evening, by coal gas from the public works.

A. 51 & 52.—No continued night-work, therefore no need of extraordinary ventilation; only a slight vapour rises from the gas, which easily escapes by a partial opening of the windows.

A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast at nine o'clock, another half hour at two for dinner, being the regular meal-hours with most workpeople.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—All leave the work together at meal-times. The workers prefer the half hour to a longer period, as affording them more time for recreation or instruction in the evenings.

A. 57.



A. 57.—No compulsory measures are employed. In cases of disobedience they are dismissed from the work, or subjected to a slight pecuniary fine; but it is optional either to pay this or to leave the work.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Corporal punishment has never been in use at these works. Overseers are instructed to report misdemeanors, which are only followed by reprehension, slight fine, or dismissal, by the master, as found needful.

A. 63.—Included in last answer.

A. 64.—No complaint.

A. 65.—Most of the workers live in houses belonging to the proprietor, close by the mills, or lodge with families in the neighbourhood, but are entirely out of his control farther than being obliged to observe a set of printed regulations in regard to cleanliness about their houses and doors, in common with all his other tenants. A school is kept at the proprietor's expence for the young people at the work, where they are instructed gratis in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and which is voluntarily well attended in the evening after the regular working hours are over.

A. 66.—No exceptions can be made as to skill or general character, other than is produced by a longer or shorter period of service or advance in life. In a moral point of view, the people at these and other works in the neighbourhood stand as high in the scale as any others in the country who earn their bread by daily labour.

A. 67.—Since the commencement the works have been uniformly healthy, as can be established by the certificate of a medical gentleman produced in some late parliamentary inquiries. As an additional proof of this, during the late prevalence of cholera only one case occurred amongst the workpeople, and that very doubtful; the sufferer had from his earliest infancy been in a state of both mental and bodily weakness. Certificate by Dr. Johnson of Kirkaldy referred to.

A. 68.—Frequent transfers are made from one part of the operation to another, but without reference to their unhealthiness; all are alike in this respect.

A. 69.—Not subject.

A. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, & 75.—No complaints, informations, or convictions against the respondent or any of his neighbours, that ever he heard of, for any misconduct in regard to treatment of their workers.

A. 76 & 77.—Had the workpeople just grounds of complaint, they have too great a choice of employment for dread of their masters to prevent them giving evidence; there would therefore be no occasion to tempt them to act the infamous part of informers by the prospect of pecuniary reward in sharing penalties.

A. 78.—No penalties or penal enactments, further than the existing laws provide for the safety of every subject, ought to be introduced; they would only tend to disturb the harmony at present subsisting between master and servant at such works, and give rise to jealousies and vexatious disputes, which could not in the end advance the interests of either party. For the same reason, till a desire is shown on the part of the masters to extend unreasonably the working hours, and so long as parents and children are contented with them, any legislative interference for their restriction must be ungracious and uncalled for.

A. 79.—Any legislative enactment between master and servant is beset with difficulty. To regulate the age at which children should come into flax-spinning mills would be no hardship on masters, though, were it fixed at twelve years, it would be cruel and oppressive upon many parents in destitute circumstances, who, it ought to be remembered, have in this country no parochial aid but in extreme cases, and then not so much as to keep soul and body together. If mill-work be not afforded to many of them, they have no alternative but to beg or steal; hence arises the great prevalence of juvenile crime in towns where manufactories are not established.

The respondent has been connected with spinning-mills for a period of forty years (with the exception of a short interval), and cannot remember an instance of any of the people working to him having been legally convicted of any serious offence. He has seen no evil arise from twelve regular working hours per day, or seventy-two per week; and to him it appears obvious that, if there must be a bill, the hours should be regulated by so many per week, particularly as regards mills worked by water power, which is from different causes irregular. He has never seen parents in this country inclined to have their children over-worked; they are always disposed to take their part, and the management of their hours of work may be safely entrusted to them.

Upon the whole, I hope the flax-mills in this country will be let alone.

6th May 1833.

JAMES AYTOUN.

#### ANSWERS OF ALEXANDER BOSWALL, Leslie.

A. 1.—East Prinlaws, Leslie, parish of Leslie, county of Fife.

A. 2.—Flax-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in 1823, and first employed in 1824.

A. 4.—Water power; pretty regular; the extent about twelve horse power.

A. 5.—No distinct provision.

A. 6.—Ventilation is caused by opening of the windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the workers.

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A.8.



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Alex. Boswall.

- A. 8.—As far as practicable.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangement.  
 A. 10.—Ten years of age, and none at this age have been at other employments.  
 A. 11.—Not below eleven or twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—About the same proportion.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours each day.  
 A. 18.—No difference; twelve hours each day.  
 A. 19.—From twelve to fourteen hours; never exceeding, and this for the making up of lost time.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and ninety-six hours.  
 A. 22.—All carried on at one time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—From 29th December 1832 to 12th January 1833 beyond twelve hours each day, under contract for delivery of yarns.  
 A. 26.—Perfectly avoidable.  
 A. 27.—Yes; previous to the last eighteen months twelve hours and a half daily.  
 A. 28.—In proportion to the reduction of time the cost has been enhanced.  
 A. 29.—No night-work here, therefore cannot answer this question.  
 A. 31.—No objections if extra hours were wanted.  
 A. 32.—Never been tried, because not required.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 36.—Cannot say what the fearful effects would be.  
 A. 37.—Were a further reduction of hours made, the workers and all other persons connected with the manufactory would be injuriously affected, and consequences would follow which it is not possible to contemplate without serious apprehension, by allowing foreign manufacturers to compete and eventually drive us out of the market altogether.  
 A. 38.—No artificial heat required.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—No particular provisions, except from the windows, at the discretion of workers.  
 A. 52.—No night-work.  
 A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for dinner and three quarters of an hour for breakfast; but to get off sooner on Saturday they only take half an hour for breakfast.  
 A. 54.—The whole leave.  
 A. 55.—Answered above.  
 A. 56.—All taken out of the manufactory.  
 A. 57.—If threats wont do, dismissal from the work.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 63.—No instructions.  
 A. 64.—No complaints have been made.  
 A. 65.—All live in houses of their own.  
 A. 66.—Always best skilled when young.  
 A. 67.—From inquiry I find health to be greatly improved.  
 A. 68.—No injurious process.  
 A. 69.—Not subject.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 74 & 75.—Never. Does not apply to me.  
 A. 77.—Have no reason to believe that workers are afraid to speak their minds to their masters; at least I have never found this to be the case, but quite the reverse.  
 A. 78.—Would neither suggest nor recommend legislative interference betwixt master and servant.  
 A. 79.—No further observation. "But to be prosperous we must be free."

East Prinlaws, 8th May 1833.

ALEX. BOSWALL.

No. 43.

John Fergus.

## ANSWERS of JOHN FERGUS, Leslie.

- A. 1.—Parish of Leslie, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning.  
 A. 4.—There is a water-wheel of about twenty horses, and a steam-engine of fourteen horse power. The water power is irregular, varying in degree according to the season.  
 A. 5, 6, & 7.—We have flues for heated air in cold weather, but there is no provision for ventilation except opening the windows, which is regulated by the overseers in each room, according to the state of weather, &c. The people themselves are averse in general to much ventilation, and I observe that they rather prefer the rooms kept warm.  
 A. 8.—No. There are no parts of the machinery dangerous; no accident could happen unless by some great carelessness of the people themselves, and it is impossible to fence off every part where such accident might happen consistently with carrying on the work.  
 A. 9.—None in the mill.



A. 10.—I have none at present under eleven years of age; I am not aware that any of them have been engaged in other trades previously.

A. 11.—No. The work is better done by children above twelve years of age.

A. 12.—From the improved construction of machines, children can now sometimes do the work of an adult.

A. 13.—No, except mechanics.

A. 15.—There is one family orphans, but they live in family with the grandfather.

A. 17.—Twelve.

A. 18.—Twelve; we can make no difference.

A. 19.—Twelve and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days of twelve hours, and two half days of six hours.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and ninety-six as nearly as I can ascertain.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 24.—Twelve and a half.

A. 25.—To make up time for two half holidays given to the people on occasion of the markets in the village of Leslie, at their own desire.

A. 26.—I consider any excess beyond regular hours avoidable, except where irregular water power is used. Making up time is generally excused from some repair being needed, and a stop made in consequence, but this very generally arises from the steam-engine being over-burthened, in bad and insufficient state, or some other cause which might be provided against.

A. 27.—I did at one time work twelve and a half hours; never more.

A. 28.—The quantity of yarn produced by the mill was reduced exactly in proportion to the shortened time; and the wages remaining the same, (excepting reellers, who are paid by piece-work,) the cost of production was exactly so much increased at the time.

A. 31 & 32.—In country situations we cannot command more than one set of hands.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—No night-work.

A. 36.—I believe no bad effect whatever would result.

A. 37.—If the working hours be reduced to such a point as to deprive the manufacturer of fair return for his capital, the effect will be to lower wages, unless, as is more probable, any such enactment be open to evasion by that part of the trade who are disposed to evade it.

A. 38.—There is no artificial heat.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas light.

A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, and three quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—To the best of my knowledge the whole of them go home to meals.

A. 57.—None, excepting occasionally a small fine.

A. 58.—Never are, or never were.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Chiefly in houses belonging to myself. They are not allowed to accumulate any filth about their dwellings, which is regularly removed. There is a school attached to the work, but there is no control over the people, who may send their children or not, as they please.

A. 66.—I cannot reply to this.

A. 67.—I have had the mill only five years, during which time the health of the people has been as good as that of the neighbourhood generally.

A. 68.—We have never had occasion to do so.

A. 69.—Not subject.

A. 73.—None of the mills in my neighbourhood are subject to the provisions of any act of parliament for regulating hours.

A. 77.—None whatever.

A. 78.—If a ten hour bill is carried it will, in my opinion, be quite inefficient; the trade could not go on under it; it would be inoperative. The legislature should enact such a measure as it would be disgraceful to evade, and that respectable manufacturers would desire to see carried into effect. The age at which children should be admitted to a factory should not be under twelve; there should be no night-work for persons under eighteen, and working hours for the same set of hands should not exceed twelve per day and ten on Saturday. No time lost from any accident to the machinery should be "made up;" but mills where irregular water power is used should be allowed their time by the week, say seventy hours per week.

JOHN FERGUS.

#### ANSWERS by JAMES HAGGART, Leslie.

A. 1.—Parish of Leslie, Fife.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Part erected in 1796, and part in 1819; always employed as a spinning-mill.

A. 4.—Water; regular; eighteen-horse power.

A. 5.—No specific provision.

(APP.—A. 1.)

I 2

A. 6.

Fifeshire

John Fergus.

No. 44.

James Haggart.



Fifeshire.

James Haggart.

- A. 6. On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—All or any of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangements.  
 A. 10.—Ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—Does not require children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—None.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 15.—No orphans.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours each day.  
 A. 19.—A small part of the work was kept going for a few days thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and eight hours.  
 A. 22.—All carried on at one time, except a small part, which was kept going for a few days in breakfast hour.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—To make up time lost by unavoidable stoppages, or voluntarily by the workers themselves, to have shorter hours on particular occasions.  
 A. 26.—Unavoidable, because machinery may break, and the workers choose to make up time to have full pay.  
 A. 27.—Wrought previous to Martinmas 1831 thirteen hours.  
 A. 28.—Enhanced.  
 A. 29.—Cannot say what may be the inducement.  
 A. 30.—In proportion to the diminution of hours the cost is increased.  
 A. 31.—Do not require extra hours.  
 A. 33.—I have not employed a night set.  
 A. 34.—Work only one set of hands.  
 A. 35.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—If working hours are reduced, workers wages must be reduced in proportion. Capital expended on building and machinery will be less productive, and foreigners will be more able to compete with us, and may ultimately be ruinous to our trade.  
 A. 38.—Does not apply to my work.  
 A. 50.—Oil lamps.  
 A. 51.—No particular provision.  
 A. 52.—No night-work.  
 A. 53.—Three fourths of an hour to breakfast, same to dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave the works.  
 A. 57.—No means, except the orders of the overseer, and if they do not obey they are dismissed  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 65.—All live in houses of their own.  
 A. 66.—Generally best skilled when employed young.  
 A. 67.—Improved greatly; find a great deal fewer have been absent on account of sickness than formerly. Mills are kept cleaner; workers are more cleanly themselves; have good wages; are well clothed and well fed.  
 A. 68.—No injurious process.  
 A. 77.—I believe they would not.  
 A. 78.—Would suggest no penalties, nor would approve of any legislative interference for regulating the hours of labour and general treatment of children.  
 A. 79.—No farther observation, only leave the trade, masters and workers, to themselves.

JAMES HAGGART.

No. 45.

Mr. Law.

## ANSWERS of Mr. LAW, Balgonie Spinning-mill, Markinch.

- A. 1.—No. 1, Markinch parish, county of Fife.  
 A. 2.—Flax heckling, and flax and yarn spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected and employed for its present purpose about twenty-five years ago.  
 A. 4.—Water; the power regular to the extent of twenty-six horse power.  
 A. 5.—Ventilation is effected by opening the windows from the top.  
 A. 7.—By overlooker, in compliance with the feelings of those employed in the flat.  
 A. 8.—The most dangerous are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is no specific arrangement, but the females generally clean themselves before leaving the work at meal-hours and night.  
 A. 10.—Ten years of age; to the best of my knowledge, none of them have been at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Cannot employ more than two or three under twelve years of age; being light work, they are able for it, and it saves wages.  
 A. 12.—None in my employ.  
 A. 13.—In the heckling department, but have none at present, and would not take them under sixteen years of age.

A. 14.



- A. 14.—None.
- A. 15.—I have only two under twelve years of age; they live with their parents.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours, except the hecklers, who being on piece-work generally work considerably under that time.
- A. 18.—Twelve hours.
- A. 19.—Fourteen hours, and only four persons employed.
- A. 20.—In consequence of standing for repairs, cannot positively say.
- A. 22.—Flax-preparing department; two hours extra for about twenty days.
- A. 23.—Twelve.
- A. 24.—Twelve.
- A. 25.—About the month of June, for want of a sufficient quantity of flax-preparing machinery to keep forward the spinning department.
- A. 26.—It was and is still avoided by a sufficiency of machinery mentioned above being got.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—I think there is no profit by working more than twelve hours at most.
- A. 29.—No inducement, unless an idea that he will get more work done for a less proportion of wages.
- A. 30.—Have neither increased nor diminished the hours of labour.
- A. 31.—No objections, unless the expence.
- A. 32.—Never tried that mode of working.
- A. 33.—No night hands employed.
- A. 36.—No alteration, as it is not tried.
- A. 37.—Think the hours should not be less than eleven hours, as the manufacturer could not be fairly remunerated for his capital, neither could he pay wages sufficient to maintain workers.
- A. 38.—No particular temperature is required.
- A. 39.—According to the state of the atmosphere.
- A. 41.—Never worked at night.
- A. 49.—Do not allege they should continue.
- A. 50.—Burning oil in lamps.
- A. 51.—Lowering the windows at top.
- A. 52.—Know of none, not practising it.
- A. 53.—Forty-five minutes each meal.
- A. 54.—All, except a few, for their own convenience.
- A. 57.—Dismiss them from the work.
- A. 58.—No.
- A. 63.—The only instructions given is to manage the children without corporal punishment of any kind.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—Do not live in the houses of their employers.
- A. 66.—I consider those employed from infancy equal in skill and morals to those coming to work at more advanced years.
- A. 67.—These who have come here from other factories have improved; thinks it is in consequence of free ventilation of country air.
- A. 68.—No parts unhealthy.
- A. 69.—Not subject.
- A. 77.—I think none in my employ are the least afraid to give evidence.
- A. 78.—Thinks the law should be, the time of labour not less than eleven hours (see No. 37); but not to work above twelve hours a day, as children get too fatigued, and there is no time for education, or any other improvement necessary for youth.

Fifeshire.

Mr. Law.

## ANSWERS of SCOTT and TAYLOR.

No. 46.

Scott & Taylor.

- A. 1.—Mill for tow-spinning, parish of Markinch, county of Fife. Mill for flax-spinning, parish of Falkland, county of Fife.
- A. 2.—Tow and flax spinning.
- A. 3.—Tow-mill at Martinmas 1822. Flax-mill twenty-three years ago.
- A. 4.—Water; regular in winter, but irregular in summer, if it be a dry season. A third of the labour is generally lost at the tow-mill in summer. The highest power on the mills is about four horses.
- A. 5.—Doors and windows at the control of any individual in the mills.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are boxed in.
- A. 9.—In the tow-mill the workers have gowns which they put over their dress on coming into the factory, and throw off on leaving it; in both mills they have an opportunity of washing themselves in a small stream close by if they choose.
- A. 10.—Generally about nine or ten. None.
- A. 11.—No.
- A. 12.—Machinery same as when mills commenced.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—All live with their parents.
- (APP.—A. 1.)



Fifeshire.  
 —  
 Scott & Taylor.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—From twelve hours and a half to thirteen, excepting as explained in A. 4, as to summer. The feeders and carders are employed only nine hours per day in the tow-mill on an annual average.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four in each mill.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred in each mill.

A. 22.—All work together, excepting as explained in A. 18, as to feeders and carders.

A. 23.—Twelve and a half.

A. 25.—Never exceeded the hours stated in answer to A. 18, excepting on the application of the workers to enable them to attend a fair, or such like.

A. 26.—It is avoidable by refusing their request.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To produce the article as cheap as possible, in order to sell with the greater profit.

A. 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35.—Not applicable to our works.

A. 37.—A further reduction of the working hours would in our opinion enhance the value of the article produced, so that the manufacturers of other countries not under the same regulations would undersell us in the market.

A. 38.—The temperature of the atmosphere. No other temperature required except fires in winter for the comfort of the workers.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 50.—From four till half past eight P. M. in winter by oil lamps.

A. 51.—Ventilators in ceiling, which are opened if required.

A. 52.—Answered in forty-one, if connected with that question; if not, no difference known.

A. 53, 54, & 55.—At the desire of the spinners they breakfast in winter about eight A. M. before the mill is set agoing: half an hour is allowed for dinner. In summer they breakfast in the mill, spare hands looking after their work; an hour and a half or nearly two hours is allowed for dinner, in order that the water may accumulate.

A. 56.—On account of the irregular supply of water, if the summer breakfast hour were taken it would cause the workers to work so much later at night, which they themselves do not wish.

A. 57.—No correction required farther than a threatening word or look.

A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—No corporal punishments inflicted.

A. 62.—Strictly forbidden.

A. 64.—None.

A. 66.—Those who enter young are better and more active workers than those who enter late. There is no difference in "general character," if by this term be meant moral character.

A. 67.—This question is answered by referring to the list, on which all are healthy. The workers are not stationary.

A. 69.—No.

A. 73.—Unknown.

SCOTT and TAYLOR.

No. 47.  
 James Peter.

ANSWERS by JAMES PETER, for NEILSON and COMPANY, Wemyss.

A. 1.—Parish of Wemyss, county of Fife.

A. 2.—Spinning, bleaching, and weaving.

A. 3.—The spinning works were erected in 1790.

A. 4.—Wholly water power.

A. 5.—The windows all drawn down in the upper sash, which the people use as they find necessary.

A. 6.—The opening of windows.

A. 7.—Generally at the discretion of the overseer, who has orders to leave them open at the diet hours.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—These arrangements are all attended to in their own families.

A. 10.—Ten years are the age at which children are admitted to these works; when any have been taken younger it has been on account of the poverty of the family.

A. 11.—Not absolutely; only they are more easily learned when young.

A. 12.—No; it has not required any such.

A. 13.—We employ no mill apprentices.

A. 15.—All our children are with their parents or natural or legal guardians.

A. 16.—We have no children requiring at home any superintendence, having no orphans.

A. 17.—The hours of work are twelve hours for all ages, exclusive of the hours of meals.

A. 19.



Fifeshire.

James Peter.

A. 19.—The people, when making up a half holyday, work from a quarter to half an hour, or at the discretion and conveniency of the people themselves.

A. 20.—The number of days the mill has gone the last year is 310 days.

A. 21.—Take 310 days, and multiply by 12, the work hours will give 3,720 working hours.

A. 22.—All the different parts of the work are carried on at the same time.

A. 24.—We have only one set.

A. 25.—When making up a holiday.

A. 26.—Quite avoidable, if the people choose to forego their holiday, or submit to a reduction of wages for the time.

A. 27.—For about seven years previous to 31st October 1831 the hours of work were increased from twelve to thirteen hours, at the request of the people, for the additional wages.

A. 28.—Having made no reduction in our wages when we reduced the working hours, the cost of producing was increased one twelfth.

A. 29.—The inducement I suppose must be profit, but never having had night-work at Kirkland, cannot say if it is profitable or not.

A. 30.—The limitation of the hours of work increase the cost of production in proportion to the extent of the limitation. The cost of production is also increased by the sunk capital laid idle by the limitation.

A. 31.—In the country relays are impossible where there are no more inhabitants than the works can employ; besides, it would be impolitic, as encouraging the increase of a pauper population.

A. 33.—No night-work at Kirkland.

A. 34.—One set of hands are perfectly adequate for all the work required of them.

A. 35.—No night-work.

A. 37.—As the present hours of work, which are twelve, exclusive of meals, are barely adequate to remunerate the spinner, a reduction of the hours, without a corresponding reduction of wages, and an additional price to make good the loss on sunk capital, would be very ruinous to the spinner.

A. 38.—The temperature depends on the state of the weather, as no artificial heat is used.

A. 39.—Our manufacture requires no degree of heat.

A. 41.—Never worked in the night-time.

A. 46.—None.

A. 47.—No process necessary to be continued.

A. 48.—No process to require any such.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Opening the upper frame of the window when required.

A. 52.—No night-work.

A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast, and three quarters of an hour to dinner.

A. 54.—All leave the works at meal-times.

A. 56.—Meals not taken in the manufactory.

A. 57.—By imposing small fines, or dismissal.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments.

A. 59.—Parents may inflict, but no other.

A. 60.—Not with my knowledge.

A. 62.—I have strictly prohibited them.

A. 63.—No corporal punishments allowed; of course, written instructions not considered necessary.

A. 64.—There was never an instance, to my knowledge, of any such proceedings.

A. 65.—Part live in the houses of their employers, and part in the neighbouring villages. The houses of their employers are from time to time whitewashed by the orders of their employers, who pay the expence of such washing and cleaning.

A. 66.—Those employed from childhood, and brought up at the works and neighbourhood, have been found greatly more skilful and steady than those taken into employment at later periods of life.

A. 67.—The state of the health of the people is generally good; during the last ten years it may be said to have improved rather than deteriorated.

A. 68.—The people go to such operations as require them.

A. 69.—Not subject to any act.

A. 79.—Yes; let us alone; any interference betwixt master and servant will be attended with injurious consequences to both. A restriction of hours of work must be attended either with a reduction of the servant's wages or the master's profits, and neither can afford it.

JAMES PETER.



Forfarshire.

No. 48.

George Cummins.

## FORFARSHIRE.

ANSWERS of GEORGE CUMMINS, Partner of Andrew Duncan and Son, Inchmill.

- A. 1.—Town of Arbroath, parish of St. Vigean's, and county of Forfar.
- A. 2.—Spinning of flax, and flax-tow yarns; also the mill-washing and bleaching (chemically) of yarns.
- A. 3.—The principal buildings of Inchmill were erected at three different periods. The main building was erected in 1810, at which time it was chiefly used as a flour-mill, there being then and for some years afterwards only eight spinning-frames therein. In the year 1813 it was occupied entirely as a flax and tow-spinning mill. In 1822 a large addition was made thereto; and again, in 1832, considerable enlargements and alterations were made. The bleaching-work was erected in 1824.
- A. 4.—Steam; viz., three engines of forty-six horse power.
- A. 5.—There is no specific provision for the ventilation of the mill, except the opening of the windows, which are large and numerous.
- A. 7.—The principal foreman, as well as the foremen of the different flats or apartments, have particular instructions to see that a sufficient supply of fresh air is at all times admitted, and the masters occasionally look to this themselves; but the persons employed not unfrequently regulate the ventilation themselves.
- A. 8.—Such parts of the machinery as are considered dangerous, and can conveniently be done, are fenced off.
- A. 9.—On entering the mill, most of the hands, except the boys and men, change their clothes, which are put into presses erected for that purpose, and their working clothes are laid aside when they go to meals or retire for the evening. There are water-closets in the principal apartments, which were much improved during last year. This work being nearly surrounded by running water, and a chemical bleaching-work immediately adjoining it, ample means are always at hand for washing, &c.
- A. 10.—No child under ten years of age is knowingly employed at this work; they are preferred at eleven or twelve. None of them, it is believed, have previously been employed at any other trade.
- A. 11.—The employment of children under twelve years of age in this work is not indispensable; but to form a good spinner, it is desirable that the individual should begin young, say from twelve to fourteen.
- A. 12.—The improvements in machinery have reduced the proportion of children employed. The machines are of a finer description, and grown-up persons are preferred to take charge of them when they can be got.
- A. 13.—One only in the turning department, or mechanics (millwrights) shop.
- A. 14.—No parish apprentices here.
- A. 15.—A few of the children that we employ are orphans, but none of the hands at this work are lodged and maintained by us. The parents, &c. of the children have no occasion to visit them, as they are always at home at meal-times, and all night.
- A. 16.—Orphans are, for the most part, we believe, under charge of a relation.
- A. 17 & 18.—The appointed working hours at this mill are twelve per day; but to allow the hands several holidays throughout the year they voluntarily go half an hour per day longer, except on Saturdays, and this applies to all the persons employed, whether above or under twenty-one years of age. Occasionally also, in order that they may be paid their wages when the mill is stopped from breakages, they agree to work for a few days half an hour or so longer.
- A. 19.—Fourteen hours, but that only for a day or two, and at the express wish of the hands themselves, who, in making up lost time, or to get an extra holiday, sometimes prefer going two or three days for an hour and a half longer than six or nine days for half an hour.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and sixty-two hours and fifteen minutes.
- A. 22.—All the parts of this work are carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Monday, twelve hours thirteen minutes; Tuesday, twelve hours twenty-eight minutes; Wednesday, twelve hours twenty-two minutes; Thursday, eleven hours twenty-eight minutes; Friday, twelve hours twenty-one minutes; Saturday, eleven hours twelve minutes; average per week, seventy-two hours and four minutes.
- A. 24.—Fourteen hours, but that only for a short time, twelve hours and a half being the regular hours, as mentioned in A. 17.
- A. 25.—In September last the mill went fourteen hours daily for two days, and eight days thirteen hours and a half to make up for a week lost, in consequence of the fly-wheel shaft of one of the engines breaking. In the month of March last, in consequence of the breakage of part of the machinery, which stopped the greater portion of the work nearly a week, the mill for some days was kept going thirteen hours and a half each day (except Saturday), by which means the hands were paid full wages.
- A. 26.—The hands could not be paid any wages during stoppages caused from the breakage of the machinery, if a portion, at least, of the lost time were not allowed to be made up.

A. 27.



Forfarshire.

*George Cummins.*

A. 27.—This work has never been kept going a greater number of hours daily than at present, except occasionally for a short space to make up time, as already mentioned; but that a diminution of the hours of working would enhance the cost of production is just as obvious and undeniable as any proposition can be.

A. 28.—In the spinning of flax the profit or loss is determined in a great measure, almost entirely indeed, by the number of spindles of yarn that can be thrown off.

A. 30.—The charge for spinning is so much per spindle, and as the interest on the capital laid out and a considerable portion of the current expences would be the same if eight hundred spindles were produced daily as for one thousand, it is plain that it must be an object with the mill-spinners to increase the quantity as much as possible. It is this which tempts many of the proprietors and occupiers of mills (particularly in the country) to go very long hours, and sometimes all night; and we have great doubts whether any legislative enactment would entirely suppress the practice in remote localities.

A. 31.—The great objection to having relays or fresh sets of children is, that any amount of wages could not in that case be paid to each, that would suffice to maintain them. They would therefore be little else than paupers, and, from the want of encouragement, there would be no inducement to acquire expertness in the performance of their work, nor to attend to it in a satisfactory manner.

A. 32.—The system of relays has never been tried at this work.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—No night set of hands being employed at this work it does not appear that any answer to these queries is requisite.

A. 37.—Referring to the observations contained in A. 27. and A. 30, it is only necessary here to add, that besides reducing the quantity of yarn spun, the effect of a reduction of the working hours would unquestionably be to lower the wages of all the persons employed in and about a mill. The spinners and reelers are paid at a certain rate for every dozen spindles produced, and nobody can pretend to say that as many spindles would be spun in ten hours as twelve. The wages of the children who are employed in the preparation departments would of course suffer a corresponding diminution, and till more mills and machinery could be made about a sixth part (supposing the reduction of working hours to be from ten to twelve) of all the hecklers, weavers, dressers, warpers, winders, bleachers, &c. would be thrown out of employment for want of yarn. But as the erection of new mills, and the putting up of more machinery to supply the deficiency that would thus be created, could only be accomplished by the great capitalists, the great body of the smaller proprietors of mills would be severely and irremediably injured by such an alteration in the hours as that recently contemplated; nor is the rate of profit such as to induce even the most extensive millowners to invest more capital in the trade, and in the case referred to it would be an investment without the shadow of a return, being a mere matter of necessity to supply a portion of that property withdrawn from them.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—As no artificial heat is either employed or required in this work, it does not appear necessary to reply to these queries, as the temperature varies with the seasons and according to the state of the external atmosphere.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No night-work at this mill, with the exception of occasional jobs required to be done when the mill is standing, and then the millwrights alone are employed. The foreman and millwrights are also employed part of the night once a quarter in cleaning the boilers.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 53.—All the hands employed at this work are allowed half an hour to breakfast and half an hour to dinner at least.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—The persons employed at this work are all at liberty to leave the mill at meal-times, but occasionally two or three voluntarily remain in or about the work, and have their meals brought to them.

A. 57.—The children are told that if they do not attend to their work they will be dismissed.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Corporal punishments are not inflicted on any persons belonging to this work. There are no written instructions to that effect, but the principal foreman and overseers are expressly enjoined not to strike any of the hands, nor maltreat them in any way whatever.

A. 64.—No such complaints have ever been made.

A. 65.—The principal foreman only, and two or three more of the people employed at the work, live in a house adjoining thereto (but without the gate), belonging to the proprietor; but none of the hands live within the gate.

A. 66.—In spinning there can be no doubt whatever that an individual who has begun between the age of ten to fifteen will become a much more expert hand than one who commences at a later period of life. In the other departments of the work the necessity of a very early beginning is not so essential. With regard to the difference in the general character of those who have been employed from infancy, as compared with those who have been taken into employment at later periods, it is almost impossible to form a correct opinion. On the whole, we should think there is not much difference between them, or, if there be that it is in favour of those who have entered the mill in early life, they who resort to this occupation when grown up being less likely to relish the employment than those who have been inured to it from infancy, and consequently there is a greater chance of their being unsteady, the more especially as it may be taken for granted that such individuals have previously tried some other occupation, and been dissatisfied therewith.



Forfarshire.

George Cummins.

A. 67.—So far as it has come under our observation, we should certainly say that the health of the people employed at this work has not deteriorated during the last ten years, but medical gentlemen of some standing in the town would be better able to speak to this fact. No separate account being kept of the mortality of persons employed in mills in Arbroath, it would be a difficult matter to ascertain the number of deaths among such individuals, as compared with the other inhabitants, but it may be fairly inferred that the health of the people employed at this work has undergone a change for the better from the circumstance, that in 1819, when typhus fever prevailed in the town, it was almost impossible to carry on the mill in consequence of the numerous cases amongst the hands, while scarcely a single case has occurred within the last ten years that we recollect of, though typhus has frequently visited the town within that period, and last year, when cholera prevailed, no case occurred amongst the people employed at this work, nor, we believe, at any of the other mills. The cause of this improvement in the health of the people is not so easily accounted for. It may proceed in part from the substitution of gas for oil lamps, and the general improvements which have taken place of late years in spinning-mills.

A. 68.—No such selection of persons nor change of employment in flax-spinning being requisite, of course none is made.

A. 69.—This mill not being subject to the present Act, no answer is necessary to the subsequent queries to seventy-seven inclusive.

A. 78.—It is not our opinion that any legislative enactment whatever for regulating the hours of labour in mills and factories would ever be effectual, more especially in the country, where, from the want of a local magistracy and other causes, the law would soon become a dead letter; and in towns, though at first it might be generally acted up to, it would soon be evaded by many, and in the course of a few years would be in a great measure imperative. With regard to the treatment of children also, it is extremely doubtful how far any legislative provisions would be efficacious in improving their condition. Compulsory humanity is at best of ambiguous utility. It appears to us, indeed, that the only effectual way of meliorating the condition of the children of the labouring classes in manufacturing districts is to improve the condition of their parents; and it is quite evident that an abridgment of the hours of labour, unaccompanied by some other tangible advantages, would not effect this desirable object. How it may be effected is a question the reply to which would lead to a train of observations foreign to the subject of the present inquiry. There is one thing, however, which we would strongly recommend (if a law should be found indispensable), that the age at which children shall be admissible into spinning-mills should be not under eleven years. Our reason for suggesting this is, that at that age children would not only be abler to undergo the fatigue, but before entering a mill at all they would have ample time for acquiring a plain education. For some years we employed a teacher to instruct the children belonging to the mill in reading, writing, and simple arithmetic; but the attendance became so inefficient, in consequence of the school being at some distance from the mill, that it was discontinued. We have engaged another teacher however, and we are about to convert an apartment within the gate into a school-room, which we trust will be more successful; but it is unreasonable to expect that children who have been confined for twelve or even ten hours will enter a school very cheerfully. We repeat, therefore, that the children should be grounded in the elementary branches of education before they are allowed to enter a mill, and to accomplish this the legislation would do well to provide the means for some general plan of national education. With regard to penalties, it must be obvious to the most indifferent observer that many of those contained in Lord Ashley's Bill are nothing else than direct invitations to the hands to mutilate themselves in order to obtain money. Besides, it is utterly impossible, from the very nature of spinning by machinery, so to fence in every part that might be called dangerous as to prevent occasional accidents. Moreover, the effect of all such penal clauses would unquestionably be the utter destruction of every sympathetic feeling between the employed and their employers. Let a person properly qualified be appointed to say what parts of the machinery ought to be fenced in, and let any accident arising from a non-compliance with his injunctions be visited by a pecuniary fine, to be applied towards raising a fund for the maintenance of the sick, and those who may be accidentally disabled in the performance of their ordinary work.

A. 79.—Availing ourselves of the permission herein allowed, we beg leave respectfully to state, that although in the answers to the foregoing queries regarding the hours of labour in this mill we have represented the working time of all and sundry to be twelve hours and a half per day, yet, in point of fact, many of the hands do not work twelve hours. Most of the reelers go to their meals from forty to fifteen minutes before the mill is stopped at breakfast and dinner time; the spreaders in like manner go away before the prescribed hours, and are, besides, allowed from thirty to forty-five minutes at noon, and as long in the afternoon, for recreation. The shifters also are not prevented from going away before the ordinary time after their frames are shifted, and the boys who are employed in the carding department are always at liberty from ten to fifteen minutes before the engines are stopped; the tow-feeders and shakers have also occasional intervals of relaxation during the day; so also in the evenings, although half past seven is the appointed time for remaining in the mill, many of the persons employed leave it from thirty to fifteen minutes sooner; in short, the gate is always open during the working hours, and if any of the hands require to go out they are not prevented. We think it proper also to state that the firemen or engine-men are obliged to be at the work about half an hour before the mill starts in the morning. All the individuals employed at this work are at liberty to quit it on giving four weeks notice;



notice; and in the event of their obtaining a situation which is to improve their condition in life, not the slightest obstacle is interposed to their immediate discharge from the employment, provided they do not go to another mill, in which case one month's previous intimation is required. There has been no wish, in answering these queries, or in preparing the accompanying list, to disguise facts in the slightest degree. It is not contended that it is desirable to work very young persons twelve or twelve hours and a half per day, but, from the rapidly increasing population in the manufacturing districts, the reduced rates of profit on all the great branches of national industry, owing to the long period in which peace has reigned throughout the world, enabling our neighbours on the continent as well as the Americans to compete with us in many of our staple manufactures, owing also to many disadvantages under which this country labours as compared with our rivals\*, it is a matter for very grave consideration how far any material reduction in the hours of working would be expedient; it may also be justly questioned how far the interference of the legislature between master and servant is consistent with sound policy. The limitation of the age at which children should be admitted into mills, elsewhere stated, would certainly be an improvement, and any other rational modification of the existing system we should be ready to adopt; but, considering that the average amount of working hours in the flax-spinning mills in this quarter at least does not exceed seventy-two per week, that no artificial heat is required for carrying on any of the processes therein, that there is no night-work, and that in this part of the country wet-spinning is never practised, it is humbly submitted, that in any report which may be drawn up regarding flax-mills these facts should not be lost sight of.

With regard to the general health of the people employed, we cannot vouch for complete accuracy in the accompanying list, though considerable pains have been bestowed upon it. But, all things considered, we should certainly say, that so far as our observation has gone the persons employed in flax-mills as now conducted will be found on an average to be almost if not altogether as healthy as any given number of individuals taken promiscuously from any trade or employment carried on within doors.

13th May 1833.

GEORGE CUMMINS.

Forfarshire.

George Cummins.

ANSWERS of R. GORDON, Resident Partner of Aberdeen, Gordon, & Co., Burnside Spinning-mills, Arbroath; Edward Caird, Manager.

No. 49.

R. Gordon  
and  
Edward Caird.

- A. 1.—Two spinning-mills, called Burnside Mills, parish of Arbroath, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—One of our mills was erected in 1810, and purchased by us in 1814; the other was erected by us in 1822.  
 A. 4.—By three steam engines of twenty-four, sixteen, and twelve horse power.  
 A. 5.—The windows in the manufactory are amply sufficient for ventilation.  
 A. 7.—Regulated generally by the persons employed, subject to the control of the foreman, whose duty it is to attend to the proper ventilation of the rooms.  
 A. 8.—They are, as far as is practicable.  
 A. 9.—The different rooms in the manufactory are kept clean and well aired; the spinners, spreaders, &c., have all either boxes or stools to sit upon. In all the departments there is provision in these boxes, &c. for keeping clean any articles of wearing apparel the workers may change on leaving or entering the work. When they thus change part of their clothes, either the nature of their work allows them to do so, while attending to it, or, if not, the machines are stopped to allow them to do so. A supply of water is kept in each room of the largest mill, where all have an opportunity of washing their hands at any time.  
 A. 10.—Ten years; we are not aware of any of them having been employed at any other trade previous.  
 A. 11.—It does not; we would prefer the age of entry at twelve years, but the parents of many of them find it necessary to send them to work at an earlier age.  
 A. 12.—A less proportion, and the recent alterations and improvements have made the labour of waiting on the machines considerably lighter.  
 A. 13.—No, with the exception of two as millwrights.  
 A. 14.—Never had any from parishes.  
 A. 15.—All the children employed are lodged and maintained, whether orphans or otherwise, by their parents, relatives, or guardians.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven, which, with six holidays, makes three hundred and thirteen, the number of working days in the year from May 1832 to May 1833.

\* A question having been put to the writer of these remarks by Mr. Stuart, one of the Factory Commissioners, in regard to the data upon which the opinion was formed that the manufacturers of this country laboured under disadvantages as compared with those on the continent, he stated, that this information was not derived from personal observation; but that he conceived individuals who lived in a country where the raw material grew, who were not oppressed by excessive taxation and a grievous corn law, and who could obtain labour cheap, might naturally be expected to produce certain descriptions of manufactured goods, and amongst the rest, linens at a much cheaper rate than could be done in this country; and that, with regard to America, his information was derived from a pamphlet published by Mr. Kirkman Finlay.



Forfarshire.

R. Gordon  
and  
Edward Caird.

A. 21.—One mill three thousand seven hundred and fifty, the other three thousand seven hundred and forty-five, in the year as above.

A. 22.—No difference in working the several departments, except that which is referred to in answers to queries No. 17 & 18.

A. 23.—Monday, twelve hours twenty-two minutes and a half; Tuesday, twelve hours twenty-two minutes and a half; Wednesday, twelve hours sixteen minutes and three quarters; Thursday, eleven hours and fifteen minutes; Friday, twelve hours and twenty-two minutes; Saturday, eleven hours eighteen minutes and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When time is lost by holidays, or any necessary stoppages, it is made up by working one half hour per day for five days in the week.

A. 26.—Any extra work beyond the regular hours might be avoided by the workpeople either giving up their holidays, or submitting to a relative deduction of wages, but they prefer making up the time; so that our hours of working are and have been uniformly twelve hours per day on an average, with the exception of Christmas-day, which is excluded from this average, as it is not made up, nor any deduction made from the wages on that account.

A. 27.—We never at any former period worked our manufactory a greater number of hours than at present.

A. 29.—The inducement to work extra hours must proceed from the obvious principle of making the capital employed produce the greatest returns.

A. 30.—The cost of production arises from wages paid to workpeople, rent or interest of capital, deterioration of machinery, expense of power, and other furnishings. Now, as the quantity produced is in exact proportion to the hours of work, the increase of cost of production will rise in a corresponding ratio to the limitation of the hours of work. If our hours were reduced from twelve to ten, the increase in the cost of production would thus be sixteen and a half per cent., unless a corresponding decrease of wages were to take place. As we have generally found that the article of wages amounts to about one half of the cost of production, and as the other articles in it would scarcely be affected by the difference of these two hours, the reduction of wages, in order to make the cost of production the same as at present, would require to be to the extent of thirty-three per cent., which we would be sorry to see, as the wages are at present no more than sufficient to maintain the workers comfortably.

A. 31.—We make no deviation from the ordinary hours.

A. 33.—We consider the system of night-work most pernicious to the comfort and morals of the workpeople, and have never carried on any process of our manufacturing during night. Occasionally a few of our millwrights are employed in repairing, when necessary, the engines and great gearing, which can only be done when the work is standing.

A. 37.—The effects of such a reduction of working hours as is contemplated would, in our opinion, greatly decrease the value of capital employed in manufactories; would reduce the wages of every class of workpeople who are either employed in the manufactory or dependent on the produce of yarn; would create a scarcity of work for flax-dressers, and especially for weavers; it would also tend to destroy that feeling which induces the manufacturer to carry on his work at a loss to himself in times of stagnation of trade, in the hope of being remunerated when an improvement should take place, the chance of which would be so materially altered by such a reduction of hours.

A. 38.—As the manufactory is not heated artificially, the usual temperature is in common with the atmosphere, except in winter, when the gas light tends to raise the temperature a little. The lowest possible temperature would not affect any process in our works.

A. 39.—No heat is required in the process of manufacturing linen yarns.

A. 41.—None at all, and never were.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By coal gas.

A. 51.—By the windows, same as by day.

A. 53.—Breakfast, nine o'clock to half past nine in the morning; dinner, two o'clock to half past two in the afternoon.

A. 54.—All do not leave the work at meal-times; five or six men and boys are employed in oiling and cleaning the engines and great gearing, which can only be done when standing; these persons are allowed to go to their meals either before or after the others, as best suits themselves. Some of the workpeople prefer having their meals sent to them, but this is entirely to suit their own convenience.

A. 57.—We find our servants generally very willing to work, and therefore obedience is not coercive. The harshest measures resorted to (if such deserves the name) is dismissal.

A. 58.—Corporal punishment is very seldom resorted to; where refractory boys need correction for gross carelessness or insolent language they receive correction in such moderation from the foremen (who are almost all parents) as they would in like circumstances inflict on their own children; any more than this is strictly forbidden.

A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made to, nor have any proceedings before magistrates ever taken place against us or any of our foremen.

A. 65.—They all live either in their own houses or those of their parents or guardians, and are not subject to our control beyond working hours. Provision is made for the education of all who choose to attend. A schoolmaster is employed by us during five evenings in the week to teach them reading, writing, and arithmetic at no expence to the workpeople.



workpeople. Their attendance at school is matter of choice on their part, or between that of the young persons and their parents.

A. 66.—We have never remarked any particular difference in point of skill between those employed early in life and at a later period, except in the case of those attending spinning-frames, who are always trained to it early, say from ten to fifteen years. For any other process skill depends on capacity and attentive habits of industry more than upon any particular age of entry.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any material change in the general state of the health of our workpeople during the last ten years. They are generally healthy, and the fact that this is the case at present we think may be sufficiently adduced from the annexed list. We have reason to believe their health has been improved since the introduction of gas light (instead of oil) and other improvements, which are obviously conducive to this end.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—No particular act refers to flax-spinning.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—A scale of penalties for accidents such as contemplated in the Bill now before the House of Commons we would object to in the strongest terms. In fact, any law on the subject which would have the effect of impressing the workpeople with the idea that their masters alone were responsible for any accidents which might befall them, and removing that salutary dread of danger with which they are inspired, would infallibly increase the number of casualties, which at present is very small, while it might lessen that degree of sympathy which the masters at present feel and exercise when any unfortunate accident occurs. At all events, if any rule is to be laid down, government ought to appoint an inspector, whose duty it shall be to examine the mills of a district, and if his instructions are not attended to, there may be some justice in making the owners responsible; but nothing could be more unjust than to leave them at the mercy of justices of the peace, or others, who would have to decide under excited feelings on a subject regarding which no two persons would exactly agree. In fact, the manner of guarding the machinery is not the same in any two works. The amount of penalty is not of so much importance to the mill proprietor as the justice of the principle upon which it is imposed, and the fairness of the tribunal to which he is rendered amenable.

A. 79.—Being convinced that the people employed in the mills in this neighbourhood are fully as well fed, clothed, and educated, and as contented as the same class of people not so employed, and never having received any complaint, or had any subject of dispute with our servants, we cannot allow the necessity for legislative interference. If, however, an act must be passed, we would strongly advise that it should consist of few provisions, and be for a limited period. With regard to time, as we have been in the practice of working only twelve hours per day, our opinion as to the effect of shortening it may be seen from our answers to queries Nos. 30 & 37. Whatever enactment is made professedly for the benefit of one class should apply to all, for these reasons, that in large towns, where the population often outstrips the demand for servants, all under the prescribed age, say eighteen, would be excluded, with the exception of a few learners, to the injury of the parents and children themselves, who might well complain that while those who had just outreached the prescribed age would be allowed to provide for their own support, those under that age, although perhaps only a few months, would be compelled to live in idleness and dependance, or if they should be employed it would necessarily be at a lower rate of wages; and whatever time for work shall be fixed upon, that it should be a certain number of hours per week, to be performed between certain hours each day, suppose between six in the morning and eight in the evening, leaving all minor arrangements to the parties interested, and putting an end to night-work under all circumstances. To improve the condition of the parents would, in our opinion, be the best means of ameliorating that of their children.

13th May 1833.

R. GORDON.  
EDWARD CAIRD,

Forfarshire.

R. Gordon  
and  
Edward Caird,

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. KENNY jun. and SON, Arbroath.

No. 50.

W. Kenny jun.  
and Son.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Vigean's, township of Arbroath, and county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow into yarns.

A. 3.—The work was erected in 1825 for the special purpose of spinning, and we entered in 1827.

A. 4.—Steam, ten horse power.

A. 5.—We have no specific provision for the ventilation of our work except the opening of windows.

A. 6.—Entirely on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation or opening of windows is quite at the discretion of the workpeople, or by any of them as they feel inclined.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are all covered up as far as possible.

A. 9.—We have no particular accommodation for the convenience of the workers for washing or changing their clothes; they have seats, that they may not always have to stand.

A. 10.—We have a few children as low as eight or nine years of age, but are unwilling to take them so young, as we can always get them older; but frequently the parents use every

(APP.—A. 1.)

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means



Forfarshire.

*W. Kenny jun.  
and Son.*

means possible to get them employed even at that age, and some families would really have ill getting on were they denied work. None of them have been at any other trade.

A. 11.—Our work does not require children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Since we entered with the work we have always employed the same number of children, but alterations made previous to that time enabled spinners to do with a less number.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 14.—We never receive any parish apprentices.

A. 15.—We have no children lodged or maintained by us; if any, they are orphans; they are sent by their friends but never visited by them at the work, as they have an opportunity of seeing them two or three times every day when they go home to meals.

A. 16.—While at work they have none, but we never take any charge of them after work-hours.

A. 17.—Our hours for all are twelve and a half, with the exception of spreaders, &c., who are eleven hours in consequence of having so much walking; but in going twelve hours and a half we consider this only equal to twelve, as of all the holidays which we have throughout the year we never make up any time, but pay the full wages as if no holiday had occurred, and this is preferred by the workers to making up time for such things.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half, and this making up time, but it will not occur three times in a year.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and sixty-one hours.

A. 22.—Our work was never carried on at different times, that is, different parts of it.

A. 23.—We go the first five days of the week twelve hours and a half each, and Saturday twelve hours, but this still allows for the holidays half an hour each day except Saturday. Were we to calculate the average, adding the holidays, it would be twelve hours and eight minutes.

A. 24.—The greatest number of hours that the same number was ever worked was thirteen hours and a half during any one day.

A. 25.—When we have at any time exceeded the regular hours of work it has been to make up time lost by the breakage of machinery, or sometimes the workers ask it as a favour that they might make up some time in order that they may get away sooner on some day to come, for example; were a half holiday at hand, and they wishing to have the whole day, then they would ask liberty to make up the half day.

A. 26.—We cannot get this avoided, as we cannot calculate on the machinery always keeping right, and we do not think the workpeople would like to be tied down, so that every day should stand for itself.

A. 27.—We never have.

A. 28.—We never worked longer than we do at present, therefore cannot speak from experience.

A. 29.—We do not consider that there is any inducement at all for the spinner to continue his work during the night, even though he had a change of hands, as we consider that in the end it would not pay him, as he requires to provide food for those employed during the night with expences of light, but more especially from the work being so very indifferently performed.

A. 30.—Were the hours of work limited to ten, which is the present proposal, the cost of production would be considerably increased, as the expences could not be lessened in proportion. We could not use much less coals or any less oil, as the machinery requires to be oiled every time it is started; the interest of capital would still be the same, all of which would cause it to fall doubly, and the wages, which may be regarded as the moveable part of the property, making the cost of production increased nearly thirty per cent.

A. 31.—No objection whatever when there are extra hours; but as to employing grown-up people during the ordinary hours, very often the nature of the work required will not afford wages to such.

A. 32.—We never work extra hours.

A. 33.—We never work night-work.

A. 34.—As we only work during the day, we never require a change of hands; and were we to employ two sets of hands for ordinary hours, we could not give them more than half the present wages.

A. 35.—No night-work.

A. 37.—As to the probable effects of a great reduction of the working hours, our opinion is, that for some time it would have a good effect, as it would diminish the quantity of yarns produced, which would tend to raise its price, thereby giving the hands the same or perhaps more wages for the short hours; but it would tend to bring such a lot of machinery into use, that when a stagnation of trade took place, it would fall with a redoubled force on the workpeople; we may add, that it will bring the water-mills to a complete stand.

A. 38.—The temperature of our work depends entirely on the state of the weather, as no artificial heat is used.

A. 39.—Any temperature answers our purpose.

A. 40.—We generally employ about forty to forty-five.

A. 41.—We have never worked during the night at all, except in repairing the machinery, when those only were employed who were competent to do so.

A. 42.



- A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No night-work.  
 A. 46.—None of them are indispensably continuous during twenty-four hours.  
 A. 47.—This depends a good deal on the quality of the machinery employed, as the most improved machinery will produce a given quantity in less time than that made some time ago.  
 A. 48.—Persons of all ages may be employed in such processes, unless after they get too old. Still a few very old people may be employed at certain parts of the work.  
 A. 49.—Only that it may be able to afford wages to those employed, and other expences.  
 A. 50.—By gas light.  
 A. 51.—The same as during the day.  
 A. 52.—As we never worked night-work we cannot say, but think it must have a very bad effect.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour is the usual time allowed for each meal.  
 A. 54.—All may leave the work at meal-times if they choose, though they do not all go.  
 A. 55.—If they do not go it is for their own convenience, or it may be that they stop to clean.  
 A. 56.—In our opinion, were the time for meals lengthened, and the people had to stay longer at night for such time given them, they would not thank us for it, as any time given, in order to have their approbation, must be taken off at night.  
 A. 57.—When they do not obey they are dismissed from the work.  
 A. 58.—It may possibly occur, but not with our knowledge.  
 A. 59, 60, & 61.—If it ever takes place it is on the boys, but so seldom that it can scarcely be said to be inflicted at all, and when done it is by no means with any kind of severity; but our orders are always to abstain from it, and we must say that we have not seen a single instance of its infliction, or heard of it, for more than two years.  
 A. 62.—Our orders are always to dismiss, rather than have recourse to any such thing.  
 A. 63.—Our instructions are always to deal with them very leniently.  
 A. 64.—No complaints were ever made.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live in their own houses, and we exercise no control over them after working hours.  
 A. 66.—Those who are employed from infancy are much more expert at their work than those taken in at later periods; those we now have have all been taught from their youth. We cannot say any thing as to their general character.  
 A. 67.—We know no difference in the health of the people employed by us during the last six years, which was the time of our entry.  
 A. 68.—No. Those who are employed at the worst parts of the work have much more time to themselves, being allowed to go out frequently during the day.  
 A. 69.—We know of no act regulating the flax-spinning trade.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—We cannot say any thing of the neighbouring mills, as we do not know of any regulation in regard to hours.  
 A. 74.—Never heard of such a thing.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason to think so.  
 A. 78.—Let the legislature settle the number of hours to be worked and the age of the children to be employed, and leave the masters and servants to agree about all other circumstances, and this will be far better than all the penalties anent the matter, as in this quarter the masters are very anxious to have every servant under them humanely treated.  
 A. 79.—No.

11th May 1833.

W. KENNY jun.

Forfarshire.

W. Kenny jun.  
and Son.

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL RENNY junior, Arbroath.

No. 51.

S. Renny junior.

- A. 1.—Arbroath, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1807 for its present purpose. I entered to the property in 1826.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engines of ten horse power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—A sufficient number of windows for ventilation.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the overseer and workers.  
 A. 8.—All the parts that are considered to be dangerous.  
 A. 9.—The arrangement for health and convenience are presses for the garments of those in the preparing-room and reeling-rooms; and for those in the spinning-room there is a part to each allotted in the waste boxes, under their own control, being the most convenient for this class of girls. There are stools and boxes to sit on, and are used by the workers when they wish. These conveniences and arrangements they had when I entered into possession of the mill in 1826.  
 A. 10.—Ten years of age, and not previously employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—It does not require children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—Less proportion.  
 A. 13.—An apprentice in mechanics shop.  
 A. 14.—I have never employed children from the parish.  
 A. 15 & 16.—Two of the children whom I employ are orphans, under the charge of the people with whom they reside, who visit them occasionally at the work.

(APP.—A. 1.)

K 4

A. 17.



Forfarshire.

*S. Renny junior.*

A. 17 & 18.—Employed twelve hours and three quarters, and eleven hours on Saturdays. No difference made as to ages. The fireman about half an hour longer.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and three quarters.

A. 20.—Carried on three hundred and eight days—say three hundred and eight days.

A. 22.—All carried on at same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and forty-six minutes on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday; twelve hours and forty minutes on Wednesday; eleven hours and forty-four minutes on Thursday; ten hours and twenty-four minutes on Saturday.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and three quarters.

A. 25.—The usual time, as stated, is twelve hours and three quarters. The difference of one hour more was to make up for any day, or part of a day, arranged with the workers; also for some small necessary repairs to the machinery.

A. 26.—This could be avoided by a deduction from the wages, but have made up lost time, it being the practice of the trade.

A. 27.—I have, in the year 1828, after making alterations in the machinery, which forced the whole to stand for three weeks, during which time the workers received full wages. About three days only of this time was made up by working three quarters to an hour longer each day.

A. 28 to 37.—Never having exceeded the ordinary hours of work, excepting as stated, I am not prepared to give an opinion, as answered to these queries.

A. 38.—No artificial heat used.

A. 39 & 40.—No heat used in the process of spinning linen yarns.

A. 41.—None.

A. 50.—No night-work, but gas used after dark till mill stops.

A. 51.—By the windows.

A. 53 to 56.—For breakfast from nine to half an hour after nine, for dinner from two to half an hour after two; a few of the workers leave half an hour earlier, to return in order to clean and oil the machinery; on Saturdays the spinners do not go home to breakfast (for the purpose of extra cleaning), but cause it be brought to them; at other times several of the workers do not go home at meal-times, but remain for their own convenience only.

A. 57 to 63.—When obedience is refused they are by me ordered to be dismissed from the work; corporal punishments are not nor have been inflicted on any, excepting on a few of the boys, and this by the overlooker himself, to save the boys from dismissal, which has often had the desired effect; when done it was in a very lenient manner, and the punishment by the overlooker given in same manner as boys receive punishment at schools.

A. 64.—None, nor at any time whatever.

A. 65.—Do not live in the houses of their employers; have no control or superintendence over them but when at their work.

A. 66.—Cannot point out any difference.

A. 67.—Not having been ten years in the trade, I cannot answer this question, but since 1826 I know of no difference.

A. 68.—No difference made.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any act which refers to flax-spinning.

A. 70, 71, 72 & 77.—No.

A. 78 & 79.—If the legislature settled the working hours and age of admission, all other arrangements would be best settled betwixt master and servant.

13th May 1833.

SAMUEL RENNY JUN.

No. 52.

Charles Smart  
and  
John Lumgaw.

ANSWERS of CHARLES SMART and JOHN LUMGAW jun., of Union-street Mill, Arbroath.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Vigean, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow yarns.

A. 3.—The flax-spinning machinery was erected in 1824, and the tow in 1831.

A. 4.—A steam-engine of six horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—The mill is ventilated by the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The windows are opened daily, or at any time on the requisition of the work-people.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople have for a number of years been provided with a press, and boxes for holding clothes, some of which most of them regularly change on leaving and returning to the manufactory.

A. 10.—The age of the youngest at present in our employment is above ten years. Was not previously employed in any other trade.

A. 11.—There are some kinds of work which children under twelve years of age are quite as capable of performing as older persons, and the inducement to employ such is the low rate of wages at which they can be procured.

A. 12.—A less proportion.

A. 13.—In training spinners we do not engage them for more than a few months.

A. 14.—We have no apprentices from parishes.

A. 15.



A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any workpeople, and do not consider ourselves as having any control over them except during working-hours.

A. 17 & 18.—With the exception of spreaders and feeders, who work at an average an hour less each day, and of the reellers, who have their time in some measure at their own command, the regular hours for all ages are twelve hours and a half for the first four days in the week, thirteen hours for the fifth, and eleven hours for Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, with the exception specified in A. 36.

A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen working-days, from which deduct about seven holidays, leaves three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—Three hundred and thirteen days, at an average of twelve hours each, give three thousand seven hundred and fifty-six hours.

A. 22.—With the exceptions specified in A. 17 & 18, all departments are carried on at the same times.

A. 23.—Twelve hours is the average on the whole year, the additional two hours each week being required to compensate the holidays, on account of which no deduction is made from wages.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—When any accident occurs to the machinery, or on occasion of any extra holiday, the lost time is sometimes made up at the rate of half an hour each day.

A. 26.—The extra hours work could be avoided, provided the hands were willing to submit to a proportionate deduction from their wages when any stoppage takes place.

A. 27 & 28.—We have never worked the manufactory for a greater number of hours daily than at present.

A. 29.—Where the hands are paid by weekly wages, they require to be paid in full, even when the mill is standing through accidents to the machinery.

A. 31 & 32.—The extra time required by us on any occasion is so little that we consider a fresh set of hands altogether unnecessary.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 36.—The only times at which night-work is required is when any accident has occurred to the machinery, or when repairs have to be made, which, if not done during the night, would cause the work to stand during the day. If night-work in the repair of machinery were prohibited, it might frequently happen that a whole day's work would be lost, the wages being either deducted from the workpeople, or paid by the employer, occasioning a total loss to one or other of the parties during the period the machinery stands. In these repairs, only the mechanics, assisted by the foremen, are necessarily employed, and in such cases as much time is allowed for sleep during the day as compensates for the extra night-work.

A. 37.—It is not probable, from the present rate of wages, that any reduction would willingly be submitted to by the workpeople, even although the hours of labour were considerably shortened. The masters would in many instances, though at considerable cost, increase the speed of the machinery, and thus render the labour of the workpeople more continuous than at present. If the reduction of hours were to make any considerable increase in the cost of production, it seems doubtful whether, from the competition of linen factories abroad and cotton manufactures at home, the flax-spinning establishments could continue to be carried on with advantage.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—Nothing more than the ordinary temperature of the atmosphere is required. A high temperature would be a disadvantage in flax-spinning.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 53.—Spreaders, two intervals of an hour each; feeders, usually the same; reellers are not restricted, provided they keep forward their work; all other hands two intervals of half an hour each.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—On Saturdays and sometimes on Wednesdays the spinners remain during the breakfast hour to clean their spindles. If this were prohibited, either the frames would require to stand during working-hours, or the hands to continue in the mill after the machinery has stopped.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, & 63.—When we find the hands continue to be disobedient, our practice is to dismiss them from the work, and never to inflict corporal punishments to enforce obedience.

A. 64.—No.

A. 66.—Cannot refer to the list for confirmation of any opinion on this subject.

A. 67.—Having kept no returns of absent time in consequence of sickness, we are without the means of forming a correct opinion.

A. 68.—No selection is required on account of the injurious effects of particular processes.

A. 69.—We are not aware of any Act to which our mill is subject.

A. 79.—We would have no objection to shorten the hours of labour if the workpeople wished it and would submit to a proportionate deduction of wages, which we do not think they are in general inclined to do. We do not think that by the older hands any legislative enactment for shortening the hours is in general wished for, and are not aware of the length of time the children are wrought being usually complained of by the parents. Cannot see how the treatment of children so much complained of in some factories is to be materially improved by a Bill merely for regulating the hours of labour.

Forfarshire.

Charles Smart  
and  
Charles Lumgaw.

CHARLES SMART.  
JOHN LUMGAW jun.



Forfarshire.

No. 53.

H. Smith.

## ANSWERS of H. SMITH for JOHN W. MORTON.

A. 1.—Brothock Mill, in the parish and town of Arbroath, and Pool Mill, parish of St. Vigean's, county of Forfar, distant from each other about one quarter of a mile.

A. 2.—Flax and flax-tow spinning.

A. 3.—Brothock Mill erected in 1805, and Pool Mill in 1825; both have only been in the possession of the present proprietors since 1828, and have since their erection been employed solely spinning flax and tow.

A. 4.—Steam-engines of eighteen and six horses power.

A. 5.—No specific provision.

A. 6.—Windows the only means used for ventilation.

A. 7.—By the overseer of each room.

A. 8.—All machinery is less or more dangerous; what is considered most dangerous is fenced off in the usual manner. Few accidents have hapened, and none very serious.

A. 9.—In the Brothock Mill there are closets, and in the Pool Mill a press, where some keep their change of clothes; others have bags of their own, and keep them where most convenient for themselves. The same practice has existed, to the best of my knowledge, since the present proprietors took possession.

A. 10.—Seldom or never below ten. I am not aware of any of the children having been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—No; they are always preferred above twelve; and were it not for the importunity of their parents, and the occasional scarcity of children farther advanced, children under twelve would not be employed. (This scarcity occasioned by the erection of new mills.)

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery require fewer hands, whatever their age may be, and their work is rendered lighter from the more perfect operations of the machinery.

A. 13.—No; a few of the children are employed under an understanding with their parents that they shall remain twelve, eighteen months, or two years, as a compensation for the trouble and expence of teaching them their work. All the other servants can quit on a month's notice.

A. 15.—All the servants employed lodge with their parents or friends, or board where they think proper, unless when they have houses of their own.

A. 16.—They are under the superintendence of overseers or foremen.

A. 17.—First four days of the week, twelve hours and three quarters; fifth day, twelve and a half; and Saturday, eleven hours; this arrangement being most agreeable to the servants.

A. 18.—Same as the above, without any distinction.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—Brothock Mill three hundred and five; Pool Mill two hundred and ninety-four. Pool Mill stopped betwixt two and three weeks in July 1832, repairing engine. Servants paid half wages (with the exception of the men who were employed about the repairs) during that time, with liberty to employ themselves in any way they thought proper.

A. 21.—Brothock Mill three thousand six hundred and eighty-four; Pool Mill three thousand five hundred and eighty-eight.

A. 22.—All the machinery is worked the same time.

A. 23.—Brothock Mill, Monday, twelve hours thirty-eight minutes; Tuesday, twelve hours twenty-one minutes; Wednesday, eleven hours fifty-seven minutes; Thursday, eleven hours ten minutes; Friday, eleven hours forty-four minutes; Saturday, ten hours forty-six minutes. Pool Mill, Monday, twelve hours seventeen minutes; Tuesday, twelve hours six minutes; Wednesday, twelve hours three minutes; Thursday, eleven hours nine minutes; Friday, eleven hours thirty minutes; Saturday, ten hours four minutes.

A. 24.—Thirteen.

A. 25.—To make up for holidays, markets, and stoppage from accidents to the machinery, two hours and a half extra are worked every week, distributed through the week as mentioned in A. 17. The holidays and markets alone in 1832 amount to about eight days, of twelve hours each.

A. 26.—Quite avoidable by depriving the servants of holidays and markets.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Either to increase his profit in good trade, or to reduce the expence of production in bad.

A. 30.—With flax-spinning machinery (under regular management) the additional cost of production will be increased in proportion to the reduced hours of work.

A. 31.—Relays of children from nine to twelve years of age might be very successfully employed in towns or populous places; beyond the age of twelve I am afraid the wages that could be afforded for the limited time of work would be no inducement to people of that class to accept of such employment: with country mills I should consider it impracticable.

A. 32.—Not having worked longer than the time before specified, I did not consider a change of hands necessary.

A. 33.—Never employed any hands under night, unless mechanics in repairing machinery, a usual and necessary practice.

A. 37.—Any reduction of the working-hours must be followed by a corresponding reduction of the return for capital employed and of the wages of the servants. Suppose a mill to produce three hundred spindles per day, of twelve hours work, leaving a certain profit, if the



the hours of work were reduced to ten, the quantity produced will be one sixth less, or two hundred and fifty spindles, and the profit one sixth less also. I admit that the building of new mills to supply the deficiency of yarn caused by the reduction of the present working-hours may cause an increased demand for labour, and keep up for some time the rate of wages, just as the scarcity of yarn from the same cause may for a time yield a higher profit to the spinner, but both at no distant period will fall back to a worse state than at present.

A. 38.—No artificial heat is required or used.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Same as through the day, by the windows.

A. 52.—No night-work, unless, as stated before, by mechanics repairing the machinery in case of accidents, or to prevent stoppage. I am not aware of any bad effects. They rest the following day.

A. 53.—Mechanics are allowed an hour to meals; all the other servants half an hour.

A. 54.—All may leave at meal-times; some prefer to remain and have their meat sent to them; but it is quite optional; the fireman and a few others go half or three fourths of an hour sooner to meals, so as to be back to clean the machinery while standing.

A. 56.—I know no necessity for any of the servants taking their meals at the work; a few may have a distance to go, and prefer it on that account; but the mills being central, and the town small, none live very far from their work.

A. 57.—Fining or dismissal.

A. 58.—Very seldom.

A. 59.—By foremen.

A. 60.—Yes, but never severe.

A. 61.—Neither.

A. 62.—I have always discouraged corporal punishment.

A. 63.—As I have stated before, I have recommended to the overseers to fine or dismiss refractory servants, and not have recourse to any other punishment; I considered no farther instructions necessary, as none of the servants would remain to be treated with harshness.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—No accommodation is afforded by the proprietors for lodging any of their servants.

A. 66.—I never remarked any great difference; some will acquire a proficiency at their work in all departments in less time than others of the same age will, and that occurs at all ages; it is generally considered, however, that those who begin young become the best spinners. I do not think their general character or health is affected by the age at which they are employed.

A. 67.—I know no difference of the general health of those employed; I consider them as healthy as other people; at same time I am convinced that every improvement in machinery has improved, and will continue to improve, the condition of those employed. The introduction of gas-lights in place of lamps is also a great improvement in their cleanliness and comfort.

A. 68.—No.

A. 77.—No, nor have they the smallest cause if they state nothing but the truth.

A. 78.—I think the Bill should apply to children below a certain age only, say twelve, limiting their work to six hours per day. In that case a change of young hands could easily be obtained; it would bring them up to habits of industry, and be beneficial to their parents, without hurting their health or preventing their education. All servants above that age should be allowed to dispose of their time and services as they or their parents think proper. If servants above that age are to be controlled by an Act of Parliament, it should include all ages, otherwise there may be advantage taken by some spinners over others by employing a set of hands above the age, and working extra hours. This is not the worst effect of the distinction. When bad trade occurs, and every means than can be obtained resorted to for cheap production, every mill that can get hands above the limited age will employ them, to the exclusion of a number of the most useful class of hands from twelve to twenty-one years of age, on purpose that they may be enabled to carry on their works by working extra time, and thereby lessening the cost of spinning. Many mills spin for hire, particularly in this town and neighbourhood. If the trade become again as depressed as it was very lately, and the price of hire-spinning fall back to three-pence (and in some cases to two-pence halfpenny), and the working-hours are reduced below twelve per day, I should consider the stopping of a great many works perfectly unavoidable, and consequently in this small town hundreds would be thrown out of employment, or compelled to work at such low wages as would not afford a subsistence.

H. SMITH.

#### ANSWERS of DAVID DOVE, Master, Brechin.

A. 1.—Parish of Brechin and county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Part of the present building was erected in 1786 for scutching flax, and converted to its present purpose in 1800; and an addition was added in 1806.

A. 4.—Driven by water-power, of about ten-horse, and occasionally a steam-engine, which has not been required or in use for three years past.

(APP.—A. 1.)

L 2

A. 5.

Forfarshire.

W. Smith.

No. 54.

David Dove.



Forfarshire.

David Dove.

A. 5.—The mill is ventilated by drawing down the window-sashes from the top.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated at the discretion of the workers, as they find it for their own convenience or comfort.

A. 8.—All parts of the machinery considered dangerous are fenced off as far as can be done without interrupting the working of the same.

A. 9.—No arrangements for changing clothes or washing in the mill, the people having sufficient accommodation for that purpose in the lodging-house, which is close at hand.

A. 10.—The lowest age employed at present is eleven. I have occasionally had them at nine years of age, which I consider too young. None at the above ages have been at any other trade previously.

A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age are by no means necessary.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not rendered necessary a greater number of children under twelve years of age, but have lessened the labour greatly of those employed.

A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices. The hands are generally at liberty to leave the work on giving one month's previous notice.

A. 15.—I have no orphan children in my employ; about one third are the children of parents who have houses from me, and have them under their own charge; the rest are within reach of their parents or guardians, and visit them every week.

A. 17.—Twelve hours daily for all ages.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—The total number of working days for one year previous to 4th May current was 306½ days.

A. 21.—The total number of hours for the same period was 3,693.

A. 22.—The work is not carried on in different portions at different times of the same day, but the different processes are carried on at once.

A. 23.—The average of each day of the week for a year previous to 4th May current was eleven hours fifty minutes.

A. 25.—The regular hours of work were exceeded in making up time for fairs and other amusements, at the request of the workers.

A. 26.—Any excess beyond the regular hours of work may be avoided by the workers allowing a deduction from their wages for the time lost, but they prefer making it up, except in the case of mechanics repairing any breakage in the machinery.

A. 27.—The mill was once worked thirteen hours a day, but it was given up more than seven years ago. I considered this too long for children.

A. 28.—As the foregoing article refers to a period seven years back, I cannot now state the exact difference in the cost of production.

A. 29.—The inducement to manufacturers to work extra hours must be with a view to a greater profit in a given time. This is often done when not called for by a demand for goods, and continued by many when the market is glutted with goods. As I have no night-work I cannot speak to that point.

A. 30.—There cannot be a doubt that a diminution in the hours of work will increase the cost of production in proportion, unless there is a corresponding reduction in wages, which I do not think the workers can at present well spare. There are other items besides the price of labour, that cannot be reduced.

A. 31.—Relays of hands are totally out of the question in many situations, and where the population would allow of an additional number, they could not exist without getting something like a full day's wages for each day; besides, in establishments distant from towns, lodging and accommodation must be furnished for the hands; this would require the erection of double the accommodation.

A. 33.—I have no night-work.

A. 37.—The present accredited working-hours may be reduced one hour a day, to eleven hours each day, without much detriment to either party. If reduced beyond that, a considerable reduction of wages must take place, which would diminish the comforts of the working-people, already sufficiently spare by the present rate of wages; this reduction would also have the effect of driving away a number of hands from the factories altogether to seek other employment.

A. 38.—The nature of my work requires no particular temperature, the hands opening or shutting the windows as it suits themselves.

A. 46.—None.

A. 47.—No part of the process necessary beyond the regular working-hours of the day-time.

A. 50.—The works are lighted in the evening by lamp-light.

A. 51.—Ventilated in the evening by drawing down the tops of the windows.

A. 53.—All classes are allowed half an hour to their meals by their own choice, to shorten the time at night.

A. 54.—All leave the work to meals, except two boys, who go to meals half an hour earlier, and return when the mill stops to sweep about parts of the machinery, which would be inconvenient while the same was working.

A. 55.—This is answered by the first part of the foregoing, except that the hands are allowed to leave the mill that they may take their meals in their lodging-houses with more comfort.

A. 57.—They are threatened to be turned away, with the loss of their week's wages, if they are disobedient to the overseers, and do not do their duty.

A. 58.



A. 58.—Corporal punishments are prohibited, except that the children are told that when they use opprobrious names or other extreme insolence they will not be protected.

A. 59, 60, & 61.—Corporal punishments are forbidden, except in the foregoing allusion.

A. 62.—If any complaint is made, the overseers are particularly warned not to use corporal punishments, except in cases of extreme insolence.

A. 64.—None whatever.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in the houses of their employer, who does not interfere with heads of families in the regulation of their children, except in admonishing them to keep them orderly on Sabbath. A lodging-house for the boys and a different one for the girls is frequently visited, to see that their beds and other things are in proper order. I have frequently attempted a system of teaching after working hours; it did not succeed well, owing to bad attendance.

A. 66.—I cannot distinguish any sensible difference between the capability of those employed early and those employed later in life on their general behaviour.

A. 67.—I cannot perceive any perceptible difference during the last ten years.

A. 68.—I do not change the hands in the different kinds of work, as it would take a long training to make them equally fit for all kinds of work.

A. 69.—I am not aware of the nature of any particular act for regulating factories.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—I have never had any complaint brought against me, nor been before any magistrate, for infringing any act relating to factories, during the space of thirty years.

A. 73.—I am not particularly acquainted with the internal arrangements of the neighbouring mills.

A. 77.—I have no reason to think the workpeople would not give evidence before a magistrate without fear or dread of their masters.

A. 78.—As I do not know the nature of the existing Act relating to factories, and have now no time to possess myself of it, I cannot speak to this article.

A. 79.—I would humbly suggest to the Committee that the working hours of factories be not reduced below eleven hours a day and nine hours on Saturday, for the reasons mentioned in my answer to article 37, allowing three quarters of an hour to each meal, and the works to be stopped at meals. Allowing an hour to each meal would cause the workers continue half an hour longer at night. I look upon the extension of the time at night as most injurious to health, particularly when the lights are in use in winter.

I would also beg leave to state that mechanics be allowed to work beyond the regular hours in repairing breakage of machinery, &c., and also allowance for making up lost time occasioned by the irregular supply of water, breakage of machinery, or other causes not exceeding one hour each day for five days in the week.

Another objection to extra working hours is,—it can be done where the population is condensed, and hands more numerous than necessary, but not where the population is thin, which is now the case in country districts, by the cottages being swept off to throw the land into large farms. Those situated in the latter case, and who are not inclined to work extra hours, have a disadvantage compared with those who work thirteen, thirteen and a half, or even fourteen hours a day, to the extent of four or five per cent. on the wages they pay to their workers. The equalization of the hours of labour would put all on an equal footing, and be conducive to health.

Respecting the penal clauses annexed to the proposed bill (say heavy penalties for accidents to people employed when taking all the care they can to prevent them), I think few will be disposed to submit to them; they will rather stop their factories. I would suggest in place of those that the sheriff of the county or any local magistrate be empowered to appoint competent persons to inspect the different factories, and see that the machinery is properly fenced off and boxed in, and, if not, order such alterations as are necessary for the safety of the workpeople.

Arrotts Mill, 15th May 1833.

DAVID DOVE.

Forfarshire.

David Dove.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS GRAY, Brechin.

A. 1.—Brechin, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Entered by me in 1831, since which the works have been increased three fourths.

A. 4.—Water; irregular.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—Discretion of all.

A. 8.—In progress.

A. 9.—Since the commencement hot water, &c. has always been prepared at the diet and evening hours.

A. 10.—Would not wish under twelve years.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—Less.

(APP.—A. 1.)

L 3

A. 13.

No. 55.

Thomas Gray.



Forfarshire.

Thomas Gray.

- A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen.  
 A. 18.—No difference.  
 A. 20.—Six days each week.  
 A. 21.—Twelve, twelve and a half, and thirteen hours.  
 A. 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Twelve and a half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen.  
 A. 25.—Never.  
 A. 26.—I consider twelve hours necessary for five days per week, and ten on Saturday.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—In proportion.  
 A. 29.—By adults.  
 A. 30.—Very considerable.  
 A. 31.—None.  
 A. 32.—Has not been found necessary.  
 A. 33.—Not as yet.  
 A. 37.—Wages must become lower, which will cause great and general dissatisfaction.  
 A. 38.—No fire or flues.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 53.—Half hour.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 57.—Fine.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Yes. Clean linen every four weeks.  
 A. 73.—Do not interfere with neighbours.  
 A. 77.—No.

14th May 1833.

THOMAS GRAY.

No. 56.

W. G. Baxter.

ANSWERS of W. G. BAXTER, Managing Partner of Baxter, Brothers, and Company, Dundee.

- A. 1.—Dundee in the county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Preparing and spinning of flax and tow.  
 A. 3.—The erection of our first mill was completed about the middle of 1821, that of the other about the middle of 1826, and both mills commenced spinning at their respective dates of erection.  
 A. 4.—Steam power alone is employed, of sixty horse power.  
 A. 5.—We have no distinct or specific provision for the ventilation of our works.  
 A. 6.—The provision for ventilation in our works depends alone on the opening of the windows, which however are large and numerous.  
 A. 7.—The hands have the regulation of the opening and shutting of the windows at their own disposal. From the nature of the work carried on, a free communication with the external air is rather advantageous than otherwise.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have no particular arrangements such as are pointed at in this query, with the exception of water-closets in each flat, through which a regular supply of water is constantly running. Generally speaking, however, the females employed change their clothes on entering and leaving the works; and although no particular arrangements have been made for that purpose, there are places which have always been used by them for depositing the clothes which are changed.  
 A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest age at which children have been employed at our works. Should any have been employed below that age, it is owing to the misrepresentation of the parents. So far as we know, none of the children have been previously at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age; on the contrary, we consider that it would be for our advantage that none under that age were employed, and it is only at the urgent solicitation of their parents that children of a more tender age are ever taken in.  
 A. 12.—No recent alterations in machinery have rendered it necessary to employ a greater or less proportion of persons under twelve years of age, but recent improvements have enabled us to carry on with a less number of hands than formerly.  
 A. 13.—No apprentices are employed at our mills.  
 A. 15.—We lodge and maintain none of our hands.  
 A. 17.—All the hands at our mills are employed an equal length of time; say thirteen hours five days in the week, and eleven hours and a half on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—The greatest number of hours during which our works have been kept on in one day during last year is thirteen and three quarters.  
 A. 20.—Our work during last year was carried on during 308 days.

A. 21.



Forfarshire.

*W. G. Baxter.*

A. 21.—The total number of hours which our works were carried on during last year was 3,990 hours.

A. 22.—The whole of our works are carried on at the same time, and only during the hours above specified.

A. 23.—The average of the hours of work of each day of the week during the last year is twelve hours and fifty-five minutes nearly.

A. 25.—Making up, at the request of the hands, for two additional holidays.

A. 26.—This, or any excess, is easily avoidable; and we consider that it would be for the advantage of the manufacturer that no excess beyond the regular hours should ever take place.

A. 27.—Yes; in 1822 and 1823 we worked fourteen hours a day, from that time until lately thirteen hours and a quarter five days a week, and eleven hours and a half on Saturday.

A. 28.—Since the period at which, as above stated, we worked longer hours, the cost of production has decidedly decreased; but so far from this decrease arising or being in any way affected by the diminution of the hours of working, we consider that a reduction of the time of working would have a most decided tendency to increase the cost of production. This will appear very clear from the simple fact, that in the event of the time being lessened a proportional decrease must take place in the amount of production, so that the manufacturer, with the same amount of capital invested in the trade, is receiving a return diminished in a like ratio; in other words, the diminished production is effected at the same expence as was formerly employed in producing the original quantity. The cause of the present reduced cost of production arises solely from the great improvements which have taken place in machinery since the period above referred to, when it may be said flax-spinning was yet in its infancy.

A. 29.—We consider that a manufacturer has no inducement to work either during the night or extra hours.

A. 31.—The objection to employing relays or fresh sets of children where extra hours are required is contained in Answer No. 29, where it is stated that we consider that it is not for the advantage of the manufacturer to work extra hours, and the small wages that we could afford to pay them would not procure them the necessaries of life.

A. 32.—The system of working by relays or fresh sets of children has not been tried, and the reason why it has not is contained in the previous answer.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands.

A. 35.—We have never worked during the night.

A. 36.—Never having worked during the night, we can give no answer to this question.

A. 37.—In Answer No. 28. we have already stated that a limitation in the hours of working will decidedly have the effect of increasing the cost of production in a proportional degree. In foreign markets a keen competition is at present carrying on betwixt us and the continental manufacturer, so that any increase in the cost of our manufactures would give a most decided and dangerous advantage to the foreigner, tending ultimately to exclude us altogether from foreign markets.

A. 38.—The temperature of a flax-spinning mill where the ventilation by the windows is properly attended to is rather lower in summer and higher in winter than the surrounding atmosphere. For the purposes of the work carried on, the cooler we can keep the mills the better.

A. 41.—None of the works have ever been going at night.

A. 50.—During the winter season it is necessary for the purpose of working our regular hours to have our works lighted, which is done by gas.

A. 51.—We have no night-work.

A. 53.—The time allowed for meals at our works are the same for all classes of persons, being for breakfast half an hour, and for dinner the same.

A. 54.—All the people employed at our works leave them at meal-times if they choose.

A. 55.—They seldom remain in the works, but if they do it is always for their own convenience.

A. 56.—As they only remain for their own convenience, any alteration would have no effect.

A. 57.—The hands are made aware of what they are expected to do, and how they are to conduct themselves. Any contravention is punished by a small fine; should this not have the desired effect, they are then dismissed.

A. 58.—Corporal punishment is never inflicted in our works.

A. 62.—Our express orders are that no corporal punishment shall be inflicted.

A. 63.—Our instructions to all overseers on entering our service are that no corporal punishments shall be inflicted; and that if a small fine, not exceeding 3*d.* in one week, has no effect, that the defaulter shall then be dismissed.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—All our workpeople live in their own houses, and we have no control over them after working hours. We have an evening school kept up at a considerable expence, where they are learned to read and write without any charge.

A. 66.—As to skill, they never make expert hands if taken in much above twelve years of age. As to their general character, we experience no difference.

A. 67.—During the last ten years the increased attention which is paid to the cleanliness of the mills and the diminution of labour by the improvements in machinery has a tendency



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to improve the condition of the workpeople; but as to any improvement or deterioration in their health, it is impossible for us to speak with any degree of certainty.

A. 68.—We do not consider that any part of our works is particularly injurious, and consequently we have no occasion to make any change or selection.

A. 69.—No.

W. G. BAXTER.

No. 57.

William Boyack.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM BOYACK, Dundee.

- A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—One mill in 1819; one mill in 1824; one mill in 1828; one mill in 1830.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5.—Hung windows.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker or workers, for general comfort.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Water-closets regularly supplied with water; also a supply of water in every department for drinking, and a well at every work, from which they are supplied with pure spring water, to which all have access.  
 A. 15.—Lodge or maintain none.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half, except on small work, one quarter of an hour longer.  
 A. 18.—No difference of time with regard to age.  
 A. 19.—Fifteen hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.  
 A. 22.—All the same time.  
 A. 25.—When the steam-engine or great machinery require repair, or the workpeople a holiday.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable.  
 A. 27 & 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—Higher wages to his servants, and greater profit to himself.  
 A. 30.—Yes; cannot say to what extent.  
 A. 31.—No particular objection.  
 A. 32.—Has never been tried, except to work the whole night.  
 A. 33.—In one mill, about ten years ago, night-hands wrought two hours and a half less than those employed during the day; also in 1827 for a few weeks, in consequence of the flax-dressers making an outstand for a rise of wages.  
 A. 35.—They changed seldom.  
 A. 36.—Less goods manufactured.  
 A. 37.—A greater expence on production.  
 A. 38.—No increased temperature of the air in the rooms is necessary.  
 A. 40.—About three hundred altogether in the process of flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 41, 42, & 43.—None.  
 A. 44.—The number varies according to the extent of the work.  
 A. 45.—From eight P.M. till five A.M.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 47.—No fixed time.  
 A. 49.—Not indispensable.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as during the day.  
 A. 52.—Not aware of any change on the habits of the people.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for each meal, betwixt nine and ten and two and three o'clock.  
 A. 54.—All have liberty to do so except the engine-man, although a considerable number do not.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—The same effect as into it.  
 A. 57.—Admonishment or dismissal.  
 A. 58.—Not with my knowledge.  
 A. 62.—Strictly forbidden.  
 A. 64.—One case against a foreman, who was declared by the judge "not guilty."  
 A. 65.—Live in their own or lodging houses.  
 A. 66.—Those from infancy are superior in skill and equal in character.  
 A. 67.—They are rather improved, as the mills are now more clean and airy than they were ten years ago.  
 A. 68.—No change is made; none of the processes are considered injurious.  
 A. 69.—No act.  
 A. 77.—I have no reason to believe that they are afraid.  
 A. 78.—No law.  
 A. 79.—I have only farther to observe, that all the people employed by me who choose to attend school are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, free of any expence.

WILLIAM BAYACK.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. BROWN and ALLAN, Seabraes, Dundee.

Forfarshire.

No. 58.

*Brown & Allan.*

- A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning.  
 A. 3.—In 1829, wholly.  
 A. 4.—Steam, seven and a half horse power.  
 A. 5.—Windows hung.  
 A. 6.—Windows let down, and friction of machinery.  
 A. 7.—As the workers find it suitable for themselves.  
 A. 8.—No places of danger where persons are employed.  
 A. 9.—Water-closets and presses for clothes from commencement.  
 A. 11 & 12.—No.  
 A. 13 & 14.—None.  
 A. 16.—No.  
 A. 17.—See list. Thirteen hours.  
 A. 18.—No difference.  
 A. 19.—See list. Fourteen, occasionally making up lost time.  
 A. 22.—All at same time.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours in making up lost time, at the workers request, to save wages.  
 A. 25.—When any stoppage took place from machinery going wrong, or a holiday.  
 A. 26.—Not without reduction of wages.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Never altered the hours.  
 A. 29.—Quantity of production.  
 A. 31.—Never tried.  
 A. 33.—Night-hands two hours less, when tried; very short time.  
 A. 34.—One set only; night-work would not pay.  
 A. 35.—See 34th. Work only by day.  
 A. 36.—Less quantity produced.  
 A. 37.—Less profit both to masters and workers.  
 A. 38.—Does not require any regulation.  
 A. 40.—See list for employ of hands.  
 A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 48.—List of names is referred to.  
 A. 49.—None; does not apply to our establishment.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—No night-work.  
 A. 52.—Have had no experience.  
 A. 53.—One hour to all.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 56.—Never had any any alteration.  
 A. 57.—Dismission for obstinate disobedience.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 59.—By none.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Never.  
 A. 62.—Yes, from the beginning.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—They live in hired houses with their parents, or in lodgings about town.  
 A. 66.—No difference of moral character.  
 A. 67.—Have only been since 1829, and have no experience.  
 A. 68.—No injurious effect from process that we are aware of.  
 A. 69.—Flax-spinning has no Act.  
 A. 70 & 71.—Never.  
 A. 72.—None.  
 A. 77 & 79.—No.

BROWN and ALLAN.

## ANSWERS of JOHN SMITH, Manager, for Andrew Brown, Dundee.

No. 59.

*John Smith.*

- A. 1.—Parish of Dundee, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning.  
 A. 3.—The whole mill built at one time, 1805, and employed at and since that time for flax-spinning.  
 A. 4.—Steam solely; engine of thirty-two horse power.  
 A. 5.—No distinct provision for ventilation.  
 A. 6.—The provision depending entirely on the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is always regulated by the overseer of each department, who has particular orders to that effect.

(APP.—A. 1.)

M

A. 8.



Forfarshire.

John Smith.

A. 8.—All the parts of the machinery which are considered dangerous are fenced off or inclosed.

A. 9.—There are no particular arrangements; each department has two water-closets constantly supplied with fresh water, drinking-pans supplied three or four times every day with spring water, likewise a supply of water that those who incline can take advantage of washing; the hands change their clothes at entering, and again before leaving the work.

A. 10.—None below nine years, and very few at that age; are not fit for any other employment before that age.

A. 11.—The work they have to learn being very light, from ten to twelve is a very proper time to begin.

A. 12.—Very little difference.

A. 13.—No apprentices.

A. 15.—Not aware of any orphans in the work.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and three quarters, and eleven and a half on Saturday.

A. 18.—Same number of hours.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours and three quarters.

A. 20.—The mill was standing eight months previous to the 27th July 1832; from that date to the 2d May 1833, a period of forty weeks, the mill has gone two hundred and thirty-four days.

A. 21.—During the same period of forty weeks, total number of hours two thousand nine hundred and forty-six.

A. 22.—All carried on during the same time.

A. 23.—And during the same period average hours of each day of the week is seventy-three hours thirty-nine minutes.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours and three quarters.

A. 25.—With few exceptions, always at the request of the workpeople.

A. 26.—Avoidable, being generally requested.

A. 27.—The hours per day previous to 1826 were fully an hour longer for some years; before that the same as at present.

A. 29.—Do not work during the night.

A. 30.—Should think an increase of cost.

A. 31.—None whatever.

A. 32.—Never had occasion for a change of hands.

A. 33.—No night set of hands needed.

A. 34.—The nature of the work requires but one set of hands.

A. 36.—None.

A. 37.—The working hours have been the same for years back; could not say what effects a reduction might have.

A. 38.—The temperature varies from forty to sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit, but a much lower temperature suits the nature of the work better; a high temperature is very much against the working of flax; cannot be too cool.

A. 39.—Always keep as low a temperature as possible.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—Windows and doors.

A. 52.—Have no night-work, therefore cannot give an answer.

A. 53.—Thirty minutes to breakfast, and thirty minutes to dinner.

A. 54.—Perhaps about two thirds may leave the work.

A. 55.—Not requested to remain; solely for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Nothing, I should think, but inconvenience to those who choose to remain.

A. 57.—Nothing but the overseer moving constantly about amongst them, and by injunction and dismissal.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments not allowed.

A. 63.—Any new overseer taken in is always instructed to that effect.

A. 65.—Do not live in houses belonging to the employer.

A. 66.—Those taken in young make the most expert hands.

A. 67.—Cannot state any difference.

A. 69.—Do not know of any Act.

JOHN SMITH, Manager.

No. 60.

J. &amp; W. Brown.

## ANSWERS of JAMES and WILLIAM BROWN, Dundee.

A. 1.—Parish of Dundee, county of Forfar, Scotland.

A. 2.—Flax-spinning.

A. 3.—One work erected about 1792; turned into a spinning-mill in 1800. Another erected in 1825, and a third in 1828.

A. 4.—Steam power solely; about sixty-one horses.

A. 5.—None other than doors and windows.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows chiefly.

A. 7.



Forfarshire.

J. &amp; W. Brown.

A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all. Each three or four persons have two windows, which they open and shut as they find agreeable.

A. 8.—All parts that are considered in the least dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—Each room has a water-closet in a private corner, supplied with water regularly by the steam-engine. No apartment is kept, nor wished for, for changing clothes in. Fresh water is supplied once or twice a day for drinking. Presses or boxes with lids are afforded for containing articles brought in; and seats are supplied to almost all the persons employed. All these have been enjoyed by them less or more for many years.

A. 10.—Perhaps one or two in a hundred have been employed at eight years of age; but, generally speaking, very few under ten, as such are not suitable for the work. Some of the grown-up persons have been at other trades before commencing spinning.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require children under twelve years of age.

A. 15.—We know of no orphans; but if there be any, if young, they are under the superintendence of the kirk session.

A. 17.—Twelve and a half for five days a week, and eleven and a half on Saturday. Those on piece-work make their hours to suit themselves without compulsion.

A. 18.—Twelve and a half for five days, and eleven and a half on Saturday. No difference, excepting those employed in preparing-rooms. Get off thirty to sixty minutes a day earlier occasionally.

A. 19.—Twelve and a half; two days thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight the highest number; part of the works some days less.

A. 21.—Not exactly known, but at the highest not exceeding 3,840. Part of the works not 3,800.

A. 22.—All carried on at one time each day, and all the year round.

A. 23.—Somewhat under twelve hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half; two days thirteen hours and a half each.

A. 25.—Never exceeded, except as above, when done at the request of the workers, to make up for play-time.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.—Previous to 1826 the working time was one hour a day longer for some years, before which it was as at present.

A. 28.—Doubtful regarding this.

A. 29.—Profit is the inducement to prolonging working time.

A. 30.—The working time of flax-mills not being under limitation, no answer can be given to this question.

A. 31.—We know of none, excepting the lowness of the wages that could be afforded.

A. 32.—Not tried in our case for ten years back. Previous to that two sets of hands employed, working night and day, which answered very well both for employer and worker.

A. 33.—Night set commenced at seven or eight o'clock every night, and continued ten hours without intermission; day-set as usual.

A. 34.—Merely in the way of pushing business; at least that was the case ten years ago, when night-work was carried on.

A. 35.—Uniformly during night at the period when night-work was carried on.

A. 36.—Nothing important.

A. 37.—A slight rise in the expence of production.

A. 38.—Varies from 40° to 66° Fahrenheit. May be conducted under freezing point.

A. 39.—If above 55°, hurtful.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Windows at top and bottom.

A. 53.—Thirty minutes for breakfast and thirty for dinner.

A. 54.—About three fourths leave; the others remain in voluntarily, preferring such.

A. 55.—Solely for the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—Inconvenience to those who choose to remain in.

A. 57.—An overseer is employed in each room, who keeps constantly moving about, and who never requires to use any other means than injunction.

A. 61 and 62.—Any ever inflicted were so trifling as not to merit notice. For years past they have been totally forbidden.

A. 63.—No punishment is allowed to be inflicted except dismissal.

A. 65.—None in the houses of their employers.

A. 66.—In general they are more expert workers when commenced under fifteen years of age than later.

A. 67.—No change observable; but a change for the worse would speedily come about were care not taken to ventilate the rooms, especially during the burning of gas.

Dundee, 7th May 1833.

JAMES and WILLIAM BROWN.



Forfarshire.

No. 61.

John Brown.

## ANSWERS of JOHN BROWN, Dundee.

- A. 1.—Parish of Dundee, county of Forfar.
- A. 2.—Flax-spinning.
- A. 3.—Erected in 1825 and 1826.
- A. 4.—Wrought by steam-engines.
- A. 5.—No provision for ventilation, except by means of windows.
- A. 6.—Depends on the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—The overseers of the different rooms sometimes direct the windows to be opened; but if the workpeople find them disagreeable, they shut them again.
- A. 8.—All the places where there is danger, and which it is possible to fence off, are fenced off.
- A. 9.—There are water-cocks and pitchers and water-closets in each room, and the workpeople are in the habit of washing themselves in the evening, and they shift their clothes every time they commence work and leave off. This, however, is altogether voluntary on their part, there being no regulations to that effect, and those habits have existed since the mill was erected.
- A. 10.—We make no inquiries as to age, but judge from the appearance of the child if they be fit for learning the employment. It happens that there are none in the mill under ten years of age.
- A. 11.—There is no department of the work in which children under twelve years of age are preferable to those above that age.
- A. 12.—They have not.
- A. 13.—None.
- A. 15 & 16.—No children lodged and maintained at this work.
- A. 17.—The average duration of working time at this mill is twelve hours and a half per day.
- A. 18.—The working hours are the same for all ages, except the engine firemen and mechanics.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours and thirty-five minutes is the longest time the workpeople have been employed in any one day during the last year.
- A. 20.—The total number of days on which the manufacture was carried on in 1832 was three hundred and seven.
- A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and fifty-one hours.
- A. 22.—All the departments of the work have been carried on for the same space of time, except that sometimes the tow-preparing has been continued for half an hour longer per day. No account of this has been kept, but it has not exceeded ten times during the year.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and three quarters for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and eleven hours and a half for Saturday.
- A. 24.—There has never been more than one set of children employed, and these have been employed all the working hours stated above.
- A. 25.—The usual working hours have been exceeded in making up time for extra holidays, and a very little for stoppages for repairs.
- A. 26.—It is possible to avoid any excess of working time, but that is caused in general by the workpeople themselves taking extra holidays.
- A. 27.—The mill was set to work in 1826, and the working time has always been the same.
- A. 28.—No experience.
- A. 29.—I think that their inducement for working long hours is the consequent addition to the profits.
- A. 30.—The hours of work having been always the same at my work, I am unable to give a decided answer to that question.
- A. 31.—If two sets of children were employed, and only one set of grown-up people, the working hours of the children would be so short that sufficient wages could not be afforded them.
- A. 32.—I have not heard of that system having been tried in Dundee, and I do not think it would be successful, for the reason stated in the answer to the last question.
- A. 33.—I have not employed a night-set of hands.
- A. 34.—I do not work more than one set of hands, and it would be a flourishing state of trade indeed that would induce me to do so.
- A. 36.—As I conceive night-work to be a mill kept working all night, and as this is not practised by me, any prohibition of it would have no effect on me.
- A. 37.—In my opinion, a reduction in the working time of those employed in flax-spinning would have a beneficial effect on their health, adults as well as children; indeed I think the confinement is more hurtful to the former than to the latter. As to the effects of such a measure on the mercantile profits, I do not think they would be considerable if the measure was universal. Ours is a rapidly increasing trade, and if this increase were delayed for a short time, it would enable us to throw the additional expence on the consumer, as the prices of our articles are kept low in foreign countries by the competition among ourselves, and not by the competition with the manufacturers of other countries.



A. 38, 39, & 40.—There is no artificial heat employed in my mill; indeed, the lower the temperature can be kept, consistent with the comfort of the workpeople, the better are the operations carried on.

A. 41.—There has been no night-work at my mill. By night-work I understand work carried on all night, by a different set of hands from the day hands.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—No provision, except opening the windows.

A. 52.—During the short time that persons are employed by artificial light at present, I am not aware that there is any difference in their habits; but I am of opinion that if a night set of hands were employed their morals would be deteriorated, as the superintendence is not so strict as during the day.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and half an hour for dinner for all classes, except mechanics.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—With the exception of about twelve individuals, they all go home to their victuals; and the only reason why these twelve do not also go home is the want of convenience there, and distance from their lodgings.

A. 57.—With females no means are taken to enforce obedience, except the fear of losing their employment.

A. 58.—With boys punishment with a strap on the hand is sometimes used, but seldom, and always voluntary on their part.

A. 59.—By the overseers of the rooms.

A. 60.—It is with my knowledge and sanction that the above punishments have been inflicted, considering them more mild than the alternative of being discharged, and their parents agreeing with me in that opinion.

A. 62.—No other corporal punishments allowed, except the above.

A. 63.—The manager has given verbal instructions to the overseers of the rooms to punish the boys in the manner narrated in answer to query 58.

A. 64.—No complaints have been made nor proceedings entered into before magistrates, but an overseer of a room has been discharged from the works by the manager for using harsh measures with the boys.

A. 65.—None live in the employers houses, and we consider all control and superintendence on our part to be at an end after they leave the works.

A. 66.—For the class of spinners, it is of great advantage that they begin early; indeed, it is hardly possible to teach them after they exceed twelve years of age. For the other classes of girls, it is of advantage that they be of more advanced age. The boys, again, generally leave the mill about fifteen or sixteen years of age, and betake themselves to other trades.

A. 67.—I am not aware that there is any difference in the health of the workpeople during all the time that this mill has existed.

A. 68.—The workpeople when they enter the work are allowed to select their own employment, and they generally continue at it while at the work.

A. 69.—Not subject.

A. 77.—I am not aware of their being afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence.

A. 78.—No law having as yet applied to any works in this neighbourhood, I have no experience as to what would secure obedience to any proposed law.

A. 79.—If this query refers to the Bill proposed by Lord Ashley, of which I have seen a copy, in that Bill I think there are many objectionable clauses, which would require alteration.

JOHN BROWN.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES CARMICHAEL, Dens Mill, Dundee.

No. 62.

James Carmichael.

A. 1.—Dundee, Forfarshire.

A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow.

A. 3.—Employed as a flax spinning-mill since 1805.

A. 4.—Six-horse steam-engine; very regular.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Regulated by foreman, or any of the workers who please.

A. 8.—Fenced off where it is thought necessary.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Ten years of age. Do not know of any of them having been previously employed.

A. 11.—No; but have taken some in under that age, merely to oblige the other part of the family.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 15.—Parents or guardians may visit their children as often as they choose, but seldom do so.

A. 16.—No one but the foreman to account to.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours five days, and eleven hours and a half on Saturdays.

(APP.—A. 1.)

M 3

A. 20.



Forfarshire.

*James Carmichael.*

- A. 20.—About three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand six hundred and forty hours.  
 A. 22.—Work all going.  
 A. 23.—About seventy-six hours.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours, and then for the purpose of getting away to a fair, &c., and was always at their own request.  
 A. 25.—Have not known the hours less than twelve hours for these twenty-eight years past. Cannot say the time of lengthening the hours; a quarter of an hour was added at one time, and a quarter at another, &c.  
 A. 26.—There is no justifiable excuse in going beyond the regular hours.  
 A. 27.—No; I cannot say I have.  
 A. 28.—If in thirteen hours I spin thirteen spindles at 6*d.* per spindle, that is 6*s.* 6*d.*; if I only spin ten hours at 6*d.* per spindle, that is only 5*s.* Coals, oil, and deterioration is not equal to half of this loss.  
 A. 31.—Do not spin extra hours, and do not know.  
 A. 33.—Have employed a set of night-hands nine years ago for a few weeks, but disliked it, and do not recollect how I arranged the hands.  
 A. 34.—See no reason for working more than the regular hours.  
 A. 36.—See no reason why night-work should be allowed, excepting any millwright work, or cleaning boilers, which otherwise would stop the mill next day.  
 A. 37.—Shall readily agree to eleven working hours, providing all mills are restricted to the same, and think ultimately it would not be much against the spinning interest, as a small addition of machinery would make the quantity of spindles lost by the short hours.  
 A. 38.—No statement of temperature; being unnecessary.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—None, excepting the windows.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast, and same to dinner.  
 A. 54.—All may leave the work, foreman excepted.  
 A. 55.—For the conveniency of the mill the foreman has to stop.  
 A. 56.—Have no such persons, except the above foreman.  
 A. 57.—If they do not give satisfaction, a week's notice, and discontinue their service.  
 A. 58.—Not tolerated, nor ever done.  
 A. 62.—My foremen are strictly prohibited from using corporal punishment.  
 A. 65.—Workpeople find their own lodgings.  
 A. 66.—My general observations have been, that those who are employed early, say from ten to fourteen years of age, make the best spinners; and if the master spinner is confined to girls of twenty-one years of age, a sorry account of their dexterity will be felt.  
 A. 67.—I consider the health of the spinners and those employed at mills is greatly improved. Mills are now built more capacious, the machinery greatly improved in cleanliness, carding-engines being well boxed in, &c. Of late years the new mills have all well-kept water-closets.  
 A. 68.—Make no change of any person employed, to prevent injurious effects, as I do not find it necessary.  
 A. 69.—Do not know what Act is alluded to.  
 A. 77.—Do not think the workpeople would be afraid to give evidence if they only abide by the truth.  
 A. 78.—Cannot suggest any improvement, as I do not know the present law.

JAMES CARMICHAEL.

No. 63.

*William Hackney.*

ANSWERS of WILLIAM HACKNEY, of the Firm of Chalmers and Hackney, Dundee.

- A. 1.—Dundee, Forfarshire.  
 A. 2.—Preparing and spinning flax and flax tow yarns.  
 A. 3.—There are two mills, one of which has been in use as a spinning-mill about forty years. The other was built twelve years ago, and four years after one additional floor was added, making four floors, besides attics.  
 A. 4.—The old mill is wrought by a steam-engine of fifteen-horse power; the new mill by two engines, one about twenty-five horse power, the other about seventeen.  
 A. 5.—There is no specific plan for ventilating the rooms, except by opening the windows at the top and bottom, which are so placed that a current of air can be obtained at all times.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the overlookers of the different floors; and as no particular temperature is required, they of course consult the comfort of those in the room.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There are water-closets in each floor of the new mill, and at the other work one water-closet. There is no provision for washing in the different floors but a well in the court. There is no place allotted for the workpeople changing their clothes, but the want of it has not been observed to be an inconvenience; and the rooms being of the usual temperature, they do not require to put on additional clothes on leaving the work.  
 A. 10.—In some instances children have been employed at ten and eleven years of age. These very seldom have occurred, and only at the entreaty of the parents. We consider it a dis-



a disadvantage to have any children employed under twelve years. We are not aware of any of them having been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—It does not; it is a disadvantage, as stated above.

A. 12.—The improvements in machinery have rendered fewer hands necessary. With regard to age, as answered at 10 and 11, none are required under twelve.

A. 13.—No apprentices employed.

A. 15.—No children lodged nor maintained.

A. 17.—No distinction in the hours of employment for those of different ages.

A. 19.—For three days the work was kept on sixteen hours a day, but this was done at the request of the workers, as they wished an extra play-day, and they preferred working three successive Saturdays sixteen hours a day rather than make up the time by an hour a day.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—About three thousand seven hundred and ninety hours.

A. 22.—All parts of the work are carried on about the same time, except the carding-room, which averages half an hour less per day.

A. 23.—The working hours are twelve and a half for each day, except Saturday, which is twelve hours, making seventy-four hours and a half a week, which are adhered to as nearly as possible; in some cases where time has been lost by stoppages it has not been made up.

A. 24.—All the workers continue the same length of time, excepting those in the carding-room as above.

A. 25.—When the usual time of working is exceeded, it is in consequence of some previous stoppage of the machinery, or from the cause stated at No. 19, the hands getting at their own request an additional play-day to those allowed them; this occurs at the fair times and at the new year, when at each of those periods they get two days instead of one.

A. 26.—Any excess beyond the regular hours might be avoided, but the manufacturer in that case could not indulge his workers with any extra time for play if he and they did not have it in their power to make it up after, as they might agree; and in cases where time was lost by stoppage of the engine or other machinery he would consider it a hardship to pay wages for that time if it was not made up, and the majority of the hands would rather make up the time than want the payment.

A. 27.—In 1821 and 1822 the working hours were longer than now, being about thirteen hours and a half a day, or eighty-one hours a week; the wages then were high, twenty per cent. above the present rates.

A. 28.—Since the above period the improvements in machinery, fall of wages (about twenty per cent.), and the reduction in the price and freight of coals (about twenty-five per cent.), have reduced the cost of production fully as much as the above reduction of the working hours raised it; but under the same circumstances the cost must be greatly increased by reducing the working hours, and the increased cost would be in a much greater ratio than the hours reduced, even although there were to be a corresponding reduction of wages.

A. 29.—The object of the manufacturer in continuing his work a greater length of time than is general is to obtain a greater gain. A manufacturer working thirteen hours and a half a day instead of twelve hours and a half will produce the same quantity for 12,500*l.* capital as the others for 13,500*l.*, and at less proportional expence for wages and tear and wear of machinery.

A. 30.—The hours of flax-mills are not limited. Rest of question answered at No. 28.

A. 31.—If only those under fourteen years of age were to be considered as children, there would be little objection to having relays of them; the principal one would be, that their wages divided betwixt two would be insufficient to support them both; but an arrangement might be made to reduce the hours of that class an hour per diem by allowing them one half hour in the morning and half an hour at night; but if all persons under twenty-one years of age are to be rated as children, the objections to relays of that description are various. In a place like Dundee, where so many are employed under twenty-one, it would be long before a sufficient number of hands could be got, and although they were, they could not be paid half wages; if they are employed, the employer must support them, and even for full work the hands have not much more than is necessary for that purpose.

A. 32.—A system of relays has not been tried here for the reasons stated above at 31.

A. 33.—Once, for a short period, the tow-spinning at one of our works was carried on during the night by a fresh set of hands, commencing about half past eight o'clock and working till five in the morning, getting some refreshment during the night. The trade being profitable at the time induced a trial of it, but it was abandoned, being carried on at a great disadvantage in comparison with day-work.

A. 34.—We work only one set of hands.

A. 36.—Do not consider night-work being prohibited would be a disadvantage to the trade.

A. 37.—The effects of the reduction of the hours of working are various. In the first place the quantity produced is lessened, and the manufacturer's reimbursement for his capital invested depends on this; next, the quantity produced after the reduction of time is done at a much greater expence than before in proportion; and, in addition, the foreign



Forfarshire.

William Hackney.

manufacturer, who is not fettered with limitations, obtains an advantage over the manufacturer here, and in time this may become serious for the trade.

A. 38.—There is no artificial mode of heating the mills, (it is not required in spinning flax,) but the temperature is more even than it would be in a dwelling house, the windows and quick motion of the machinery keeping it cool in summer, and in winter the air is heated by the friction of the machinery.

A. 50.—Lighted by gas in the mornings and evenings in winter.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast and half an hour at dinner to all; the workers might have longer time, but they prefer this arrangement as it lets them away earlier.

A. 54.—With the exception of a few to clean and oil the machinery, and who go when the others return, the whole number might leave the work at meal-times; many of them do not go, but have victuals brought to them; this is their own choice; the proprietors would prefer them all leaving the work; probably about a fourth remain.

A. 57.—The only means taken to enforce obedience are entreaty, and pointing out the propriety of what is wanted; when these fail, dismissal.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment inflicted.

A. 62.—Corporal punishment forbidden.

A. 64.—No complaint made, nor any proceedings taken in any way.

A. 65.—The workpeople find lodgings for themselves.

A. 66.—With the exception of spinners, it is of little consequence at what periods they are taken in to work; all the time keeping in view that those under twelve are too young; and again, for various employments those from twelve to sixteen answer as well as older, and are had for less money. Spinners would require to begin to work from twelve to fourteen; it requires time to learn, and older hands do not acquire it well. The number of spinners required in a mill are about one third of those employed. The general character of those that are engaged about mills early and those that are older before working at them is much the same.

A. 67.—With regard to the general health of those employed here now, and what it was ten years ago, it appears to be improved, and their comforts increased. We believe the general health of those employed to be equal to that of other classes in similar circumstances, and when sick they are well attended to, being generally contributors themselves to the hospital as well as their employers.

A. 68.—There is no system for changing the employment of persons to relieve them from what might be considered injurious, but if it is seen that any particular employment is unsuitable, a change is made, if not very inconvenient.

A. 69.—Our mills are not subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 73.—There are no cotton-mills or other mills that are affected by the existing Act in this neighbourhood.

A. 78.—There are no penalties connected with our trade, except what are obtained by common law; and, with the exception of limiting the age at which children are admitted at spinning-mills, it might be as well to let the trade continue as it is.

WILLIAM HACKNEY.

No. 64.

John Crichton.

## ANSWERS of JOHN CRICHTON, Dundee.

A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow.

A. 3.—In 1832, wholly.

A. 4.—Steam, sixteen-horses power.

A. 5.—Windows hung.

A. 6.—Windows let down.

A. 7.—As the workers find it suitable.

A. 8.—No places of danger where hands are employed.

A. 9.—Water-closets, and convenience for shifting clothes.

A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Twenty days.

A. 21.—Two hundred and fifty-four hours.

A. 23.—Twelve hours forty-five minutes.

A. 25.—Had none.

A. 26.—Yes, by a reduction of wages.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—No alteration.

A. 29.—Quantity.

A. 31 & 32.—Never tried.

A. 35.—Work by day only.

A. 37.—Less profit, both as regards masters and workers.

A. 38.—Requires no regulation.

A. 41.—None.

A. 50.



- A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—No night-work.  
 A. 53.—One half hour.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 57.—Dismission.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 65.—Lodge with their parents, or with others about town.  
 A. 66.—No difference of morals, but more expert in their employ.  
 A. 68.—Know of no injurious effects from any process of our work.  
 A. 69.—Do not know what Act.  
 A. 77 & 79.—No.

Forfarshire.

*John Crichton.*

JOHN CRICHTON.

## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER DICK, Lower Dens Mill, Dundee.

No. 65.

*Alexander Dick.*

- A. 1.—Situated in Dundee, parish of Dundee and county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Solely flax-tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—The whole of the work was erected in the year 1830.  
 A. 4.—By a steam-engine only of sixteen-horse power.  
 A. 5.—No distinct provision.  
 A. 6.—Entirely on the opening of the windows, which are all hung, except in the attic flat, and they can be as easily opened as if they were hung.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the discretion of any person employed in the mill; in fact, any person employed in the mill is at perfect liberty to open or shut the windows at pleasure.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off where it can be done consistently with its being worked; but now, from the improved state of machinery, and the substitution of belts for wheels and pinions, the danger is very much reduced.  
 A. 9.—There are water-closets in the work. The practice of the workers changing their clothes when they go out of the mill is not followed in flax-spinning mills, except amongst some of the girls, who change their gowns and dress their hair; the work is not considered so dirty as to require their changing their clothes or washing their persons before leaving their work, and the few girls who wish to show their taste by the substitution of a newly-washed gown for a dirtier one do so whilst the work is going on, and they are not found fault with for doing so. The whole work is swept out and the machinery dusted down at certain periods of the day; the windows are cleaned and the walls whitewashed as occasion requires.  
 A. 10.—In some cases children are taken in to work as low as ten or eleven years of age, but this has occurred so very seldom that it need not be noticed; it was only done in very particular cases, to give relief to their parents. I do not like to employ children under twelve years of age. I have never had any workers who have previously been at any other trade except spinning-mills.  
 A. 11.—The nature of the work requires no person under twelve years of age, and I do not like to employ any under that age.  
 A. 12.—I believe any recent alterations in machinery have not affected the employment of hands of any particular age; certainly not in my case. I do not like to employ any young person under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—I never employ apprentices, but I frequently take in girls to learn spinning, upon a verbal understanding with their parents that they are to remain at the work for two years, and to be paid as they become expert and useful; but if their parents think they are underpaid, they of course feel themselves at liberty to remove them.  
 A. 14.—I believe that in Scotland the practice of apprenticing from parishes is unknown, at least so far as my knowledge consists.  
 A. 15.—None of the children are regularly visited in the work, either by their parents, natural or legal guardians, because it is quite unnecessary; those of them who have parents or guardians live with them, and any of those who are orphans and have no protector, I generally see that they are lodged with some decent person who will attend to them.  
 A. 16.—No actual superintendence, excepting what is stated in answer to the preceding question.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day, except on Saturdays; on these days eleven hours and a half only; but previous to the 29th April last thirteen hours and a quarter per day, except on Saturdays, eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—The same hours as for hands above twenty-one years of age, excepting in the preparing-flat, where they are almost all under twenty-one years of age, and these generally get away from a quarter to half an hour earlier.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a quarter, but that for a very limited period, and was done to make up prospective holidays or lost time.  
 A. 20.—From the 1st January 1832 to 31st December last there were six or seven holidays; the mill was worked all the rest of the time, excepting Sabbaths of course.

(APP.—A. 1.)

N

A. 21.



Forfarshire.

Alexander Dick.

A. 21.—From 1st January 1832 to 31st December last the mill has been worked, as nearly as I can calculate, three thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven hours and three quarters.

A. 22.—Every part of the work is carried on at same time; it cannot be otherwise, except that in the preparing flat the workers are generally allowed to go away from a quarter to half an hour earlier, as before stated.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and nine tenths per day from 1st January 1832 to 31st December last.

A. 24.—This question is answered in A. 18. and 22.; but say fourteen hours and a quarter.

A. 25.—When the mill happens to be stopped for an hour or two, from any derangement about the steam-engine or otherwise, the workers are allowed their full wages, and make up the time at the rate of a quarter of an hour or so per day; and at certain occasions, say the new year and annual fairs, they get two days instead of one. One of the days I pay them for without compensation, the others they make up time for beforehand; but this is, I believe, their unanimous choice.

A. 26.—Any excess beyond the regular working hours is their own choice, as explained in the preceding answer.

A. 27.—I believe I have never done so.

A. 29.—I have never worked my mill beyond the regular hours, except to the trifling extent already stated, which I have explained in answer 25.

A. 30.—My opinion is, that to reduce the working hours, the expence of production would be increased.

A. 31.—The extra working beyond the usual working hours has so very seldom occurred, and when it did occur it was to such a very trifling extent, that any fresh set of hands were quite unnecessary.

A. 32.—Never had any system of relays or change of hands in my work, as they never were required.

A. 33.—Never worked night-work, and of course no arrangement required as to hands.

A. 37.—In my opinion, it would open a door for perpetual discord betwixt master and servant, when they are under the present system in perfect unison. It would prevent the British manufacturer from competing against foreigners in foreign markets; and for other reasons.

A. 38.—I have never ascertained the temperature in my works, but no artificial heat is required, and the workers are all at perfect liberty to regulate the temperature by opening or shutting the windows without the least control.

A. 39.—No artificial heat required; on the contrary, a cold temperature is best suited for the spinning of flax.

A. 40.—I generally employ about sixty hands within the walls of my work.

A. 46.—No process; it is not required. It is all done during the ordinary working hours.

A. 50.—By gas light from the public gas-works.

A. 51.—None, excepting the windows, as before explained.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine A.M. for breakfast, and from two to half past two P.M. for dinner, for all classes.

A. 54.—All leave the work at meal-times; they all live in the immediate neighbourhood of the work.

A. 55.—They all leave the work as above stated.

A. 56.—They all leave the work to get their meals.

A. 57.—Any offence is punished by levying a fine, varying in amount from one penny to a sixpence, according to the nature of it, which is deducted from their wages. The fine seldom exceeds three-pence; but we generally repay such fines by premiums to the amount levied, if their future conduct at all merits it.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment is allowed by any person whatever.

A. 60 & 61.—If corporal punishment has been inflicted at any time by any of the overseers, I have uniformly discouraged and forbidden it.

A. 63.—The overseers of the respective flats, upon an offence being committed, mark a fine on a slate kept by them respectively; and the manager of the work, after satisfying himself as to the nature of the offence, exacts the whole, or modifies it, as to his judgment seems best.

A. 64.—No complaint against any one to my knowledge connected with my work, except about two years ago, an Irish boy having threatened to strike his overseer with some weapon, the overseer struck him. The boy's parents complained to a police officer, who came to the work and inquired into the case, which when he had done he would have nothing to do in the matter.

A. 65.—My workpeople live with their parents, natural or legal guardians, or otherwise; and, besides, it is imperative on all the younger ones to attend an evening school attached to the mill, and attend one of the established churches twice on Sabbath, where sitting accommodation is provided for them at my expence, and attending the mill school on Sabbath evening. The grown-up hands may do all this, but it is not imperative upon them to do so; but I do every thing in my power to encourage it.

A. 66.



A. 66.—Workers employed in spinning-mills, at least in some departments of it, require to go in when young to become proficient. When they enter to the work when old they seldom become so expert as those who have gone young.

A. 67.—I have no reason to suppose that the health of the workpeople employed has deteriorated since I started my work in 1830; they are all in general quite healthy.

A. 68.—I do not consider any process carried on in my work more injurious to health than another. They have no complaint; they are generally quite healthy.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any act of parliament affecting flax spinning-mills.

A. 77.—I shall be most happy that my workers give any evidence that may be required.

A. 78 & 79.—I have nothing to suggest. I consider that any legislative interference betwixt master and servant is quite uncalled for. I believe there is no complaint amongst the workers generally employed in flax spinning-mills; certainly there is no complaint amongst mine. I have, besides the work in Dundee, to which these answers apply, another flax spinning-mill in Perthshire, propelled by water power and a water-wheel; and I would take the liberty to say, that the provisions of Lord Ashley's Bill would be ruinous to me, as well as to many other mill proprietors similarly situated, and dependent on a water-wheel power.

6th May 1833.

ALEXANDER DICK.

Forfarshire.

Alexander Dick.

ANSWERS of DANIEL DUFF, South Tay Street Spinning-mill, Dundee.

No. 66.

Daniel Duff.

A. 1.—Town of Dundee and county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in 1830, and used as a spinning-mill from the first.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines fifteen horse power.

A. 5.—Not any farther than the opening of the windows.

A. 6.—Just on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Any one is at liberty to put up the window when they wish fresh air.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—I have arrangements for supplying them with plenty of fresh water, both for drinking and for washing, and any one is at liberty to change their clothes if they choose.

A. 10.—One boy nine years of age.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not, but the simple nature of it adapts it for children.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery do not render it necessary to employ a greater proportion of children under twelve years, but these alterations make it much easier for them.

A. 13.—No apprentices in the spinning-mill.

A. 15.—Margaret Stormont and David Douglass are two orphans in my employ.

A. 16.—Margaret Stormont under the care of her aunt, and David Douglass under the care of his brother-in-law.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half per day.

A. 18.—All my hands work the same number of hours, say twelve hours and a half per day.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a half is the greatest number, but only kept on a day or two for that time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven hours and a half.

A. 22.—All carried on at one time.

A. 23.—The average of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, twelve hours and a half; Friday, thirteen hours and a half; and Saturday, eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours and a half the greatest number.

A. 25.—Chiefly in the month of December last, caused by breakage of machinery and repairing ponds.

A. 26.—It could be avoided, but the hands generally rather choose to make up the time than lose their wages.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—We do not practise night-work.

A. 37.—The probable effects of a reduction of the working hours will be to reduce the quantity and the wages, for you cannot give so much for spinning four spindles as for spinning five spindles.

A. 38.—Temperature has little to do in flax or tow spinning.

A. 50.—Lighted with gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour.

A. 54.—All are at liberty to leave the work at meals excepting the fireman.

A. 55.—Some do not go, merely for their own convenience, or rather from laziness.

A. 56.—It would have the effect of making them clean themselves at each meal, for they generally clean themselves before they go out.

A. 57.—We make examples now and then, by dismissing some from the work when they disobey.

A. 58.—I never allowed corporal punishment.

(APP.—A. 1.)

N 2

A. 63.



Forfarshire.

Daniel Duff.

A. 63.—No specific instructions have been given.

A. 64.—There is one case in which one of the foremen struck a boy, and the boy's friends instituted legal proceedings against him.

A. 65.—No, they do not live in the houses of their employers.

A. 66.—Those who are taken in young are a great deal more expert at their work and do it much better than those who are taken in at a later period.

A. 67.—It is only about two years and a half since I commenced, and during which time have not observed any sensible alteration on their health.

A. 68.—I do not require to do that.

A. 69.—No.

A. 79.—Nothing further than the Bill be eleven hours each day for five days of the week, and ten hours for Saturday, and all mills both in town and country be brought to that standard. I would do away with the penalties in Ashley's Bill, and in their stead make all mill masters form themselves into a society to support those who may be rendered, by accident at their works, unable to support themselves.

DANIEL DUFF.

No. 67.

David Edward.

## ANSWERS of DAVID EDWARD, Logie Mill, Dundee.

A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—Work erected at once, and was first employed in April 1829.

A. 4.—Steam, thirty horse power.

A. 5.—The upper part of the windows are made to slip up and down.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows, as above.

A. 7.—Occasionally by the overlooker, generally by the hands.

A. 8.—The parts deemed such are so.

A. 9.—There is in each room a water-closet, and hot water can be had in each room by the opening of a water-cock, for the purpose of washing. The hands (those who require) generally change their clothes on entering, and many of them wash themselves on leaving the work. There are no compulsory arrangements for insuring the personal cleanliness of those employed, and I do not consider that there is a necessity for any. These arrangements were introduced when the work was sent a going.

A. 10.—Ten is the lowest at which any are presently employed—know of none having been employed otherwise.

A. 11.—Not absolutely.

A. 12 &amp; 13.—Have had no means of ascertaining. No.

A. 15.—None lodged and maintained, and the accompanying list will show the number of orphans, if any.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days in the week, and eleven hours and a half on Saturday, making seventy-six hours and a half weekly.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four.

A. 21.—Twenty-three thousand two hundred and forty-two, nearly.

A. 22.—All carried on at same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and twenty-five minutes.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—Fair and new year times.

A. 26 &amp; 27.—Avoidable, mechanics excepted.

A. 29.—Necessity may induce him.

A. 30.—Have had no limitation.

A. 31.—Not required.

A. 32.—No, not found necessary.

A. 33.—No night-work.

A. 37.—Would increase the cost of production in the first place, and might in the long run have a tendency of driving the trade out of the country.

A. 38.—I should think less than the temperature in the shade in summer, and considerably higher in winter, and there is no necessity for a lower temperature than the above.

A. 39.—In no degree above the natural temperature.

A. 40.—No artificial heat.

A. 41.—Not once.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—Same as at day.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine for breakfast, and from two to half past two for dinner.

A. 54.—All; at least they have it in their option, unless one person in each of the spinning and preparing rooms whose duty it is to oil part of the machinery, &amp;c. when the engine is stopped, and these have half an hour for each meal, either immediately before or after the time above named.

A. 55:



- A. 55.—Answered in part: have known some remain at times for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—The meals are taken out of the factory.  
 A. 57.—Threaten dismissal.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—One case of an overlooker.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Have not had sufficient experience in the trade to answer.  
 A. 67.—Have not had ten years observation.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Not aware of being subject to any act.  
 A. 77.—Have no reasons for believing any thing of the kind.  
 A. 78.—Cannot, because unacquainted with the present law; but would beg to suggest, if an act is found necessary, that three quarters of an hour at least be allowed for each of both meals, that no one should be employed under twelve years of age, and that informers should receive nothing for informing.

DAVID EDWARD.

9th May, 1833.

Forfarshire.

David Edward.

## ANSWERS of JAMES FORBES, Dundee.

No. 68.

James Forbes.

- A. 1.—Dundee, Forfarshire.  
 A. 2.—Tow preparing, spinning, and reeling.  
 A. 3.—The mill was built in 1831–32, and commenced working 9th July 1832.  
 A. 4.—A steam-engine of sixteen horse power.  
 A. 5.—Hung windows.  
 A. 6.—The opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker in the room.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is a necessary in each room, the soil-spout of which is daily washed down with water (the cistern for water-closets not being put up yet). The workpeople have no room set apart for washing and shifting their clothes, but they have access to clean water in the court, and there is drinking water at hand in each room.  
 A. 10.—The youngest girl in the work is ten years and five months. Not aware of any of the children having been employed at other trades. There is one boy, besides, ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—The improved machinery renders fewer hands necessary.  
 A. 13.—No; every hand is at liberty to leave on a week's notice.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours during the first five days of the week, and eleven hours and a half on Saturday, being seventy-six hours and a half per week.  
 A. 18.—The same as above. No distinction in the hours of employment for those of different ages.  
 A. 19.—For three successive Saturdays the work was kept on fifteen hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—The mill has not been a year in operation.  
 A. 22.—All parts of the work are carried on during the same time.  
 A. 25.—The regular hours have never been exceeded except in the case stated in A. 19., which was done at the workpeople's request, who wished an additional holiday after New Year's Day.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Additional profits to himself, or wages to his labourers.  
 A. 30.—There is no limitation of hours.  
 A. 31.—I know of no objection.  
 A. 32 & 33.—Never had occasion to try.  
 A. 37.—One effect would be to increase the cost of the production of any given quantity of goods.  
 A. 38.—No artificial modifying of temperature is required.  
 A. 50.—By gas; *i. e.* in the mornings and evenings of winter during the ordinary work-hours.  
 A. 53.—From nine till half past nine A. M., and from two till half past two P. M., except one boy in each room who stays to oil the machinery, and who gets his half hour for meals either before or after the others.  
 A. 54.—All of them may leave, but several of them remain at the place.  
 A. 55.—For the workpeople's own convenience.  
 A. 56.—It would make no difference.  
 A. 57.—A verbal reprimand and threat of dismissal.  
 A. 58.—Never.  
 A. 60 & 61.—I have heard of one case only, in which an overseer, who had only been two days in my employ, struck a boy; the manager reprimanded the overseer, and forbade him to do so in future.

(APP. A.—1.)

N 3

A. 63.



Forfarshire.

*James Forbes.*

A. 63.—No written instructions. The manager and overlookers know it to be a standing regulation that no corporal punishment be inflicted.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—The workpeople find their own lodgings.

A. 66.—As to general character, I am not aware of any difference. Those who begin young, say from twelve to fifteen, are more expert at their work than those who begin older; and the former are likewise more attached to the mill they learn at, and consequently steadier in general.

A. 67.—The factory has not been in existence one year.

A. 68.—There are no particular changes made. If any individual complains, or is found inadequate for one department, he or she generally gets the first offer of any other place more suitable, if fit for it.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe that they are so. An individual (William Urquhart) who gave evidence before the Committee of Parliament on the factory question is one of my overlookers.

A. 78.—I do not think any legislative provision is required with respect to flax-mills in this neighbourhood.

JAMES FORBES.

No. 69.

*John Gray.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN GRAY, Dundee.

A. 1.—One mill in Dundee and two in the parish of Monyfieth, six miles from Dundee, but so near each other as to be considered one.

A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow of flax.

A. 3.—I do not know the date of erection, but one of the mills was erected more than forty years ago.

A. 4.—In Dundee, steam alone, nine horse power; at Monyfieth it is chiefly water, but occasionally assisted by steam in summer by a six horse power—the water equal to about twelve or fifteen horse power.

A. 5.—No specific provision for ventilation.

A. 6.—The windows all open for ventilation.

A. 7.—Chiefly by the overseer.

A. 8.—Yes, they are fenced off.

A. 9.—Most of the young women change part of their clothes when they enter or leave the mills; the men and boys do not.

A. 10.—None under ten years of age. None have been at any other trade.

A. 11.—It is convenient to employ a few children under twelve years of age, but not absolutely necessary to do so.

A. 12.—I am not aware that they have.

A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices.

A. 17.—The regulated hours are twelve and a half working hours each day.

A. 18.—There is no difference in the hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 22.—No different parts are carried on by themselves except occasionally the pre for an hour or so at a time.

A. 23.—Intended twelve hours and a half.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—When the people wish to halt a little sooner than usual for any purpose they work a little longer than usual on the preceding days.

A. 26.—There is certainly no absolute necessity for exceeding the usual hours, except to induce the people to attend regularly at the specified time of beginning to work.

A. 27.—Never more, but sometimes less.

A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity is certainly enhanced by reducing the hours of working.

A. 29.—If a manufacturer works his people more hours each day than his neighbour does without paying them more wages than in proportion, he can thereby produce his manufactured article cheaper.

A. 30.—If the hours of work are limited to a shorter period, the cost of production would be greater.

A. 31.—None that I know.

A. 32.—Never tried by me.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 34.—I do not consider it my interest to work more than one set of hands.

A. 37.—I am of opinion that if the hours were shortened the cost of production would be greater.

A. 50.—By oil lamps at Monyfieth, by gas in Dundee.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and the same for dinner.

A. 54.—The whole leave at meal-times.

A. 55.—If otherwise, for the convenience of the workpeople themselves.

A. 56.



A. 56.—Do not know.

A. 57.—None other than dismissal.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 65.—In the country they all live in houses belonging to me, and all must be kept clean, or otherwise removed.

A. 66.—I have little experience as to this, but I think they are better when learned young.

A. 67.—The mills have been only three years in my possession, but I think the condition of the working people is improved; the mills are more airy and kept cleaner. None of my people have died, and only one slight accident happened to one of them from entire carelessness.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—Subject to no particular act.

A. 73.—No cotton or woollen mills in this neighbourhood.

A. 77.—No reason whatever.

A. 78.—No penalties necessary.

A. 79.—None, except that no interference of the legislature seems necessary in this neighbourhood, except perhaps to reduce the hours of labour in all flax and tow mills from twelve and a half to eleven hours per day.

JOHN GRAY.

Forfarshire.

*John Gray.*

ANSWERS of WILLIAM GRAY, Proprietor of Anchor Spinning-mill, Dundee.

No. 70.

*William Gray.*

A. 1.—Parish of Dundee.

A. 2.—Flax-spinning.

A. 3.—Part built in 1821, and part in 1824.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5 & 6.—None, but by opening windows.

A. 7.—At discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All that can possibly be fenced off are so where considered dangerous.

A. 9.—None but boys, for holding any clothes they change in going into and leaving the mill.

A. 10.—Ten years of age.

A. 11.—No occupation where children below twelve years are preferable to those above twelve years.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 15 & 16.—No children lodged and maintained by me.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve and three quarters working hours.

A. 19.—Fifteen hours and a half, making up time at request of hands for a holiday or fair-day.

A. 20 & 21.—All the year, except a few days repairing engine.

A. 22.—None.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and three quarters.

A. 24.—Fifteen hours and a half before a holiday.

A. 25.—Before or after a holiday or fair.

A. 26.—It is at request of the hands.

A. 27.—At one time the hours of work was thirteen hours and three quarters per day.

A. 28.—Enhanced a little no doubt, but never calculated how much.

A. 29.—Know of no such a case.

A. 30.—No knowledge of, not having considered the case.

A. 31.—Do not know, never having had relays or night-workers.

A. 32.—Never tried by me.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 37.—To produce less yarn, therefore expence of production increased.

A. 38.—The lower the temperature the better, consistent with the comfort of the hands.

A. 49.—No such process.

A. 50.—By gas for the few hours required in winter.

A. 51.—None but windows.

A. 52.—Have none employed all night.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and half an hour for dinner.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—All leave work, as the engine stands half an hour.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, & 61.—Left to the manager and overseers, but no authority or instructions given for corporal punishment; if absent twice, a deduction for such absent time is made at end of the week.

A. 62.—Never have had any complaints of punishments, and not aware of any.

A. 65.—All live at their own homes.

A. 66.—Found best to begin at twelve to fourteen years of age.

A. 67.—Not aware of any difference.

A. 68.—None.

WILLIAM GRAY.



Forfarshire.

ANSWERS of JOHN HALLEY, Flax-spinner, Dundee.

No. 71.

*John Halley.*

- A. 1.—Parish of Dundee, county of Forfar.
- A. 2.—Spinning of flax and hemp tows.
- A. 3.—Erected in 1828.
- A. 4.—Driven by steam entirely; engine twenty horse power.
- A. 5, 6, & 7.—No distinct provision made for ventilation but by the windows, which are under the control of the workpeople; the work requires no artificial heat, they may therefore keep the temperature as low as on the outside.
- A. 8.—All parts considered dangerous are fenced off.
- A. 9.—No particular arrangements except water-closets; but the greater number keep a shift of clothing for the work, and as there is necessarily plenty of water about the work they may and do keep themselves clean.
- A. 10.—Children of ten years of age may be employed, but the nature of the work does not require any below twelve years; if taken in younger, it is from motives of charity, or from having older members of the same family along with them at the work.
- A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not affected the employment of the younger children.
- A. 13 & 14.—Employ no apprentices.
- A. 15 & 16.—Do not lodge and maintain any of the children.
- A. 17 & 18.—Employed twelve hours and forty-two minutes for five days, and eleven hours and a half on Saturdays.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a quarter.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and seven.
- A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.
- A. 22.—All parts of the work go together.
- A. 23 & 24.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 25.—Accidental stoppage of the moving power, or continuing to absent themselves after a holiday, when they prefer making up a day to the loss of wages; about two days only have been made up during the last year by extra hours.
- A. 26.—All irregularity in time is to be avoided as far as possible, as it is accompanied with loss to the employer.
- A. 27 & 28.—Have made no alteration since starting.
- A. 29.—Does not seem to apply to the flax-spinning trade, in which no night-work is done.
- A. 30.—Having made no alterations, cannot say.
- A. 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, & 36.—No extra hours are required with me.
- A. 37.—I am of opinion the shortening the hours of labour would materially increase the cost of that labour, the money for wages forming a small proportion of the general expence.
- A. 38, 39, & 40.—No artificial means used to alter the temperature, the nature of the work not requiring it.
- A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No night-work.
- A. 46, 47, 48, & 49.—None of the branches of flax-spinning indispensably continuous for a certain number of hours.
- A. 50.—Lighted by gas when necessary.
- A. 51.—Same provision for ventilation by night as by day.
- A. 52.—Cannot state the effects of night-work on the habits of the persons employed in it, never having practised it.
- A. 53.—From nine to half past nine in the morning for breakfast, and from two to half past two, afternoon, for dinner.
- A. 54, 55, & 56.—All the workpeople are at perfect liberty to leave the work at the above times for their meals (except the fireman); if they do not it is for their own convenience.
- A. 57.—No coercive means taken; refractory hands must be dismissed.
- A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—Corporal punishments altogether disallowed.
- A. 62.—Having had no complaints about any punishments inflicted, have taken no particular steps to prevent it, otherwise I certainly would have done so.
- A. 63.—No written instructions have been given with respect to the punishment of children, but neither directly or indirectly has any encouragement been given the overlookers to use them harshly.
- A. 64.—No complaints have been made or proceedings taken before a magistrate against me or any of my foremen for any unkindness towards any of the workpeople since starting.
- A. 66.—Spinners employed from an early age generally acquire the greatest degree of skill. Preparers may be taken at any age. Cannot state any difference betwixt the general moral character of those who entered a mill very young or otherwise, but would consider it rather in favour of the former.
- A. 67.—Within the last ten years the health and convenience of the workpeople has been particularly studied in all the erections made for spinning flax in this neighbourhood. Water-closets have been provided, the free admission and circulation of air promoted, and the



the height of the rooms so as to let the dust go off freely; their condition must therefore be much improved.

A. 68.—It is not necessary to change the employment of sets of hands in this branch of trade.

A. 69.—No.

A. 79.—I consider all legislative enactments between employer and employed very impolitic, and will prove vexatious and detrimental to all parties.

JOHN HALLEY.

Forfarshire.

John Halley.

ANSWERS of J. B. HELDRUM of Chapelshade Mills, Dundee.

No. 72.

J. B. Heldrum.

A. 1.—Dundee.

A. 2.—Flax-spinning.

A. 3.—They have been erected at different times, partly in 1820 and partly in 1825.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the overlooker.

A. 8.—They are all fenced as far as possible.

A. 9.—Arrangements are made to enable them to change their clothes at commencing and stopping work, and places are assigned for holding their clothes.

A. 10.—Ten years, and they have not generally been previously employed.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—They have not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Very few. They reside with their parents or relatives.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and sixty-two hours.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—Making up time the days after new year and fair.

A. 26.—This excess avoidable.

A. 32.—No relays have been tried.

A. 37.—Would require more machinery, and accordingly more capital.

A. 38.—A few degrees above the atmosphere.

A. 39.—Atmospheric.

A. 41.—Have not been worked at night.

A. 50.—By gas-light.

A. 51.—Opening windows in the evenings.

A. 52.—No night-work.

A. 53.—One hour per diem.

A. 54.—The majority leave the works at meal-times.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the people.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—They are not.

A. 60.—They have been inflicted on rare occasions, but are not sanctioned.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—Yes; dismiss, but do not strike.

A. 65.—In one house a few reside, which is whitewashed occasionally.

A. 67.—No apparent alteration.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is not subject.

7th May 1833.

J. B. HELDRUM.

ANSWERS of PETER HINMOND, Dundee.

No. 73.

Peter Hinmond.

A. 1.—Town and parish of Dundee, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Spinning flax-tow.

A. 3.—One mill was erected in 1822, and the other in 1831; and both have been employed since these dates as at present.

A. 4.—A steam-engine of ten horse power in the oldest mill, and one of forty horse in the new.

A. 5.—No specific provision for ventilation.

A. 6.—No ventilation is required in the process of spinning flax-tow, but the mills are ventilated by opening windows and by the operation of the machinery.

A. 7.—The opening and shutting of the windows is controlled at the discretion of all.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery in both mills are fenced off.

A. 9.—Arrangements have been made in both mills for the convenience of the work-people,

(APP.—A.1.)

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Forfarshire.

Peter Hammond.

people, and particularly with regard to personal cleanliness, such as water-closets, kept clean by a regular supply of water. Provision has been made for containing a change of clothes, and a constant supply of water is kept for washing or other purposes, there being a pump-well in the court of both mills, and has been so from the commencement of the work.

A. 10.—By the annexed list the lowest age at which children have been employed is eight years and a quarter, but this is on account of those who bring them deceiving the manager by saying they are older than they are, merely to get them taken in, as they are well aware they would not be taken so young if it was known, as our intention is to take none under ten years of age.

A. 11.—No; and the reason is, that older hands answer the purpose much better.

A. 12.—From the recent alterations in machinery fewer workpeople are required at all the processes, and particularly in reference to children under twelve years of age. Indeed it would be a saving to the mill-spinner to have none under that age in his employ; but masters are often compelled to take them in, otherwise they would lose the services of their parents, who in many cases will not engage, unless their children also are employed.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I lodge and maintain none, and their guardians visit them at pleasure.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day for five days, and eleven hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—There is no difference of time for those under twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a quarter on an occasion of making up time for a day of recreation.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days and a half.

A. 21.—About three thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven hours.

A. 22.—All the processes are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and fifty-three minutes.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours and a quarter.

A. 25.—About a week in August and about a week in December, making up time for a day after a fair held in August and for the day after New Year's Day; the fair and New Year's Day being allowed them for recreation gratis, they choose to make up time for the day after on both occasions, and thus have two days to themselves at the same time.

A. 26.—This is entirely in the option of the hands, it being solely for their accommodation that time is made up.

A. 27.—From 1822 to 1826 the usual time of working was about fourteen hours.

A. 28.—Yes, as there is less work done and the wages is not reduced in proportion.

A. 29.—I do not consider that any intermediate change of hands is at all requisite when the working hours are not beyond the practice in my works, and I have never used working by night, and do not believe that this is practised in any work in this neighbourhood.

A. 30.—The price of production is enhanced, inasmuch as the outlay of capital, and expence of maintaining the works, such as fire, oil, repairs, &c. being the same, there is less yarn spun by one fourteenth part, for want of which the trifling reduction that could be made on the wages would hardly be known.

31 & 32.—Never go extra hours except at the times and for the reasons mentioned in A. 25, and at such times the extra time is so short that it is not worth while to employ a fresh set, and, besides, the miserable pittance they could obtain by it would not support them.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—It is quite unnecessary, as one set of hands will do all that I require in the time mentioned as well as two sets.

A. 37.—From the diminished quantity of work done the price of the manufactured article would be much enhanced, as the work done in the short hours would cost nearly the same expence as at present; and this would have the tendency to drive the trade out of this country, as the spinners here would be unable to compete with the foreigner; and as flax-spinning mills are already erecting on the Continent, it would be very difficult to compete with them should the spinning trade here be any more trammelled.

A. 38.—No artificial heat is required in the process of manufacturing, but the rooms are kept comfortable.

A. 39.—No heat required at all.

A. 40.—None.

A. 50.—No night-work, as already stated, but in winter when it gets dark in the evening before the regular working hours are completed the works are lighted with gas.

A. 51.—No night-work.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine A.M. for breakfast, and from two to half past two P.M. for dinner, for all the servants employed at the works.

A. 54.—They may all leave if they choose, except the man in charge of the engines and the cleaners and oilers.

A. 55.—If they do remain it is solely for their own convenience, and they are allowed to adopt either way they think proper, except those mentioned in A. 54.

A. 56.—Any alteration would make no difference to me as the time allowed for meals is wholly at their own disposal.

A. 57.—They are threatened with dismissal.

A. 58.—No.



A. 60, 61, & 62.—It is my express injunctions to the manager and overseers that no corporal punishments be at any time inflicted on the servants, whether old or young, and I have found my instructions in this respect always adhered to, with one exception which happened lately, one of my overlookers having slightly struck one of the hands, which infringement was followed up by the overseer's instant warning of dismissal being given, one week's warning being necessary, according to the regulations of the work.

A. 63.—My instructions are that no punishment whatever be inflicted on children.

A. 64.—On one occasion some time ago my manager found it necessary to turn a man from the work for misconduct, and it was alleged by the man that he had used violence in so doing, and for which a complaint was lodged before the sheriff court, where the matter underwent strict investigation, and it was decided that the manager had done nothing amiss.

A. 65.—All live in their own houses.

A. 66.—We find those who go into the works about eleven or twelve years of age become the most skilful and efficient hands. Those who are taken in at a more advanced age do not obtain the same degree of proficiency. I could scarcely give an example, as none of my servants are engaged for longer time than one week, and they are frequently shifting from one mill to another as suits their convenience.

A. 67.—It is my decided opinion that the health of the factory people has been much improved within the last ten years, owing to the improvements in machinery and the great height of the ceiling in the different flats; as well as the great attention to cleanliness which is now paid.

A. 68.—None of the processes carried on in my works have injurious effects.

A. 79.—I am decidedly of opinion that any legislative enactment relative to mill-spinning would be highly injurious and quite unnecessary, for the workpeople are only engaged for one week, and if they do not like the employment they can then leave it. I may here remark, that I keep a school within the works at my own expence for the instruction and moral improvement of the younger branches of the servants; a teacher and assistant are paid by me, as well as books for the use of those who attend; the school is open for this purpose four evenings every week and also on Sunday evening.

PETER HINMOND.

Forfarshire.

Peter Humond.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Dundee.

No. 74.

W. Johnston.

A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—The whole work erected in the year 1832, and the machinery first used in the month of September same year.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of twenty horse power.

A. 5.—Hung windows.

A. 6.—Opening of windows and action of machinery.

A. 7.—By the overlooker and the workers for the general comfort.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—Water-closets and washing-basins abundantly supplied with clean spring-water pumped up regularly by the engine, also clothes presses for holding a change of clothes on the original plan, and executed as soon as the mechanics could get it done.

A. 10.—Ten or eleven years; there is one only eight years old, who has been employed at the earnest request of her mother, to keep her off the street; her employment is to carry bobbins in the spinning-room.

A. 11.—No.

A. 15.—No orphan under eighteen years of age is employed by me.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half for five days of the week, and eleven hours and a half on Saturday.

A. 18.—Twelve hours and a half; it would be inconvenient to make any difference, the one party's work depending upon the other.

A. 19.—Fifteen hours and a half for one day.

A. 20.—Has not been carried on for a complete year.

A. 22.—Before all the machines were set a-going part of the roving or preparing has gone from one to three hours extra, not exceeding sixteen nights in all, and not likely to occur again (eleven hours of the above time to make up for a play-day at the special request of the workers).

A. 23.—For seven months from twelve hours and a half to thirteen hours.

A. 24.—A few of the children, only for one day, fifteen hours and a half. (See A. 22.)

A. 25.—From seven o'clock to nine or ten o'clock P.M., on account of the machine-makers not keeping their time.

A. 26.—It is avoidable, but by avoiding it altogether more loss than benefit might be occasioned to all parties.

A. 29.—Have not been induced to do so, and can hardly say what might cause a continuation of work. Perhaps very large profits might have the effect, on the same principle that smuggling is carried on.

A. 30.—Not long enough in the trade to be able to answer.

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O 2

A. 31.



Forfarshire.

W. Johnston.

A. 31.—It would be attended with great trouble and expence, and I think adults would be preferred.

A. 32.—No relays have been tried with me, and I have not thought of doing so. I do not think it would be either pleasant or profitable.

A. 34.—I do not conceive it to be my interest to work more than one set of hands.

A. 37.—A reduction of the working hours would diminish the quantity of yarns, and of course increase the cost of production.

A. 38.—The temperature varies with the season, but I think never under 55° or above 75°; the action of the machinery keeps the air in constant motion.

A. 39.—No heat required.

A. 40.—From ninety to one hundred.

A. 47.—No maximum of time.

A. 48.—All ages from ten or eleven years to fifty, both males and females.

A. 49.—It is not indispensable.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine for breakfast, and two to half past two for dinner.

A. 54.—All may leave; some do not.

A. 55.—Some prefer having their meals brought to them for their own convenience.

A. 56.—None are obliged to take their meals in the manufactory.

A. 57.—Threat of dismissal.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Expressly forbidden.

A. 63.—Positive instructions have been given verbally to the foreman or manager not to inflict or allow to be inflicted any corporal punishment.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Never live in the houses of the employers in this town.

A. 66.—From the short time I have been in the trade, I cannot answer this question.

A. 68.—There is no selection made, and I do not think it necessary to make any.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any act applicable to it.

A. 77.—I do not think they are, or that they have any reason to be so.

A. 78.—There should be no penalties and no legislative provisions for regulating the hours of labour; I think they would be very inconvenient, and would be first petitioned against by the workpeople themselves if they had trial of their operation.

A. 79.—I would further observe, that the condition of the workpeople employed at spinning-mills in Scotland is much improved within these few years past in morals and otherwise; the construction of the buildings recently erected is also much improved, and these improvements have been progressive, and are still going on. I would therefore consider it impolitic to make laws for their regulation at present.

6th May 1833.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON.

No. 75.

James Low.

## ANSWERS of JAMES LOW, Dundee.

A. 1.—Dundee in the county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow into yarn.

A. 3.—Erected and commenced spinning in 1829.

A. 4.—Steam is the only power employed.

A. 5.—The mill is ventilated by the windows being placed directly opposite each other, the tops of which are lowered at all times when the weather will permit.

A. 7.—By the manager, overseer, or workpeople.

A. 8.—Yes, the whole.

A. 9.—A well of spring-water at the mill, to which all have access.

A. 10.—Only one at nine years.

A. 11.—No.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Neither lodge nor maintain any.

A. 17.—In summer twelve hours and fifty-five minutes, in winter twelve hours and fifty minutes, and these hours are common to all the hands at the work.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven hours.

A. 22.—No difference of time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours fifty-five minutes.

A. 25.—Making up time for stoppages occasioned by repairing the engine or great machinery, or for holidays.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 29.—Have no experience of this.

A. 31.—No particular objections.

A. 32.—Never tried it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—Less profit.

A. 38.



- A. 38.—No particular temperature required.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as through the day.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour from nine to ten for breakfast, and half an hour from two to three for dinner; all classes the same.  
 A. 54.—All if they choose, except the fireman.  
 A. 57.—Admonition and dismissal.  
 A. 58.—Not by my orders.  
 A. 63.—None.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Don't live with the employer.  
 A. 66.—The difference is considerable.  
 A. 68.—No process particularly injurious.  
 A. 69.—No Act in existence.  
 9th May 1833.

Forfarshire.

James Low.

JAMES LOW.

## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER MILNE, Dundee.

No. 76.

Alexander Milne.

- A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Spinning flax and hemp.  
 A. 3.—Built in the year 1821, and a new gable and vent in the year 1831.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine sixteen horse power.  
 A. 5.—Ventilated by scews on the north side.  
 A. 6.—The windows are opened when required.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all or any of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—Such as have been considered very dangerous.  
 A. 9.—No arrangements particularly for this purpose.  
 A. 10.—The lowest age ten years, unless a guardian in attendance; not employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Does not require children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—Cannot say, having no recent alterations in my machinery.  
 A. 13.—No apprentices.  
 A. 15.—None of the children employed by me are orphans.  
 A. 17.—Twelve and a half hours each day.  
 A. 18.—Twelve and a half hours.  
 A. 19.—Not keeping the memorandums of the time for a year, cannot say.  
 A. 22.—All are carried on at the same time.  
 A. 25.—When proposals were made to gratify their own curiosity.  
 A. 26.—They are avoidable.  
 A. 27.—Some years ago.  
 A. 28.—No, I do not find it enhanced.  
 A. 29.—No inducement to have his work protracted in either of the cases.  
 A. 30.—I do not find any increase of cost.  
 A. 31.—I do not consider extra hours advisable.  
 A. 32.—Never having a change when extra hours cannot say.  
 A. 36.—I have no night-work.  
 A. 37.—A reduction of the wages in proportion to the hours taken off.  
 A. 40.—One attending the steam-engine.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour each for breakfast and dinner.  
 A. 54.—The whole but four.  
 A. 55.—For oiling the machinery and taking charge of the work.  
 A. 56.—Their meals are taken out of the mill.  
 A. 57.—Nothing that I know of particularly.  
 A. 58.—No corporal punishments.  
 A. 63.—I never gave any instructions for punishment.  
 A. 64.—Never any proceedings against any in the establishment.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live in houses of their own.  
 A. 66.—Those that are employed from infancy are the most skilful; Janet Chisholm, Ann M'Reay, Jean Henderson, Ann Henderson, Agnes M'Reay, Mary Logan, Betty Hood, &c.  
 A. 67.—Not sensible of any deterioration.  
 A. 68.—The persons are employed as their strength and abilities best befit.  
 A. 77.—No, they are not afraid.

ALEXANDER MILNE.

## ANSWERS of JOHN and WILLIAM MORTON, Dundee.

No. 77.

J. & W. Morton.

- A. 1.—Dundee, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow into yarns.  
 A. 3.—Erected for the purpose of spinning in 1819.  
 A. 4.—Steam alone.  
 (APP.—A. 1.)

O 3

A. 5



Forfarshire.

J. & W. Morton.

- A. 5 & 6.—The rooms are ventilated by pulling down the windows at the top.
- A. 7.—The ventilation is under the control of the foreman, but the workers in the several rooms adjust it according to their own convenience.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced.
- A. 9.—There is no place appropriated for the changing of clothes; when it is done, the outer clothes being only changed, it is done in the common rooms.
- A. 10.—None under eleven years of age at present.
- A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require children under twelve years of age.
- A. 12.—No alteration in flax and tow machinery have taken place to require any particular age or size of workers.
- A. 13.—None.
- A. 15.—No orphans employed; the relations of the workers have access to them at all times.
- A. 16.—All the workers are under the superintendence of their respective foremen.
- A. 17.—All ages continue in the mill the same length of time, viz. twelve hours and forty minutes a day, or seventy-six hours a week.
- A. 19.—Fourteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and eight hours.
- A. 22.—All parts of the works go on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and .647 of an hour.
- A. 24.—Fourteen hours.
- A. 25.—To make up for time lost by casualties befalling the machinery and for time spent by the workers in extra holidays; chiefly the latter.
- A. 26.—It may be avoided by denying the workers the extra holidays they take, or by not paying them wages for these days.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 31.—Never employed relays or fresh sets of workers.
- A. 38.—The process of manufacture requiring no specific temperature, it is regulated by the comfort of the workers.
- A. 40.—Fifty.
- A. 41.—No night-work.
- A. 50.—Lighted by gas in winter.
- A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast and the same for dinner.
- A. 54.—All.
- A. 57.—Every moral means that can be thought of to produce the effect.
- A. 58.—No corporal punishments.
- A. 64.—No complaints have been made.
- A. 65.—None of our workpeople under our superintendence unless when at their work.
- A. 66.—Those who have been brought up to the business from early life are the most expert.
- A. 67.—We cannot state any difference.
- A. 68.—We have had no occasion to make any changes of the nature alluded to.
- A. 69.—It is not subject to the provisions of the present Act.

JOHN and WILLIAM MORTON.

No. 78.

J. Ogilvy.

## ANSWERS of J. OGILVY, Parish of Inverkeillor.

- A. 1.—Lawton Mill and Millfield Mill are situated in the parish of Inverkeillor, county of Forfar.
- A. 2.—Spinning of flax and tow.
- A. 3.—Lawton Mill was erected in 1784, and converted into a spinning-mill in 1813. Millfield Mill was built in 1825.
- A. 4.—At Lawton Mill both water and steam are employed; at Millfield Mill water only. The supply is very irregular in the summer season, and the mill is occasionally stopped for want of water by frost and excess of water in the winter to the extent of at least one eighth part of the year. The extent of the power of Lawton Mill is six-horse power, and Millfield Mill ten-horse power.
- A. 5.—None.
- A. 6.—The provision for ventilation depends on the opening of windows and doors.
- A. 7.—The ventilation is partly regulated by the foreman, but the workers are allowed to open the windows nearest them when they please.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are carefully fenced off.
- A. 9.—I do not require any arrangement for the washing or changing of the clothes of the workpeople in the mills, as they nearly all go home to their own parents houses, who take particular care of their cleanliness.
- A. 10.—I take in children at nine years of age, although I rather prefer them a year or two older; they are generally sent to school for two or three years before they begin to work.
- A. 11.—No.

A. 13.



A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—All the apprentices taken into the works live with their parents in the neighbourhood.

A. 15.—None of the children I lodge are orphans; they generally see their parents every two weeks.

A. 16.—Yes; the overseer and cook superintend them.

A. 17.—About twelve hours and a half is the average each day, or thirteen hours for five days, and ten hours and a half for Saturday.

A. 18.—The same number as above, as the work is all carried on together.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours.

A. 20.—Lawton Mill was carried on three hundred and four days, and Millfield Mill was carried on two hundred and seventy-five days.

A. 21.—Lawton Mill was carried on three thousand eight hundred and nine hours, and Millfield Mill was carried on three thousand four hundred and thirty-seven hours.

A. 22.—The different parts of the work are carried on together.

A. 23.—The average of the hours of work of each day of the week, including holidays, is at Lawton Mill twelve hours and one fifth, at Millfield Mill eleven hours and one sixtieth.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—Before a market-day, as the workers are allowed only three fourths of that day.

A. 26.—This excess cannot be avoided in my case, as I pay for all holidays.

A. 27.—No.

A. 31.—Country mills having to board and lodge almost all their hands it would be inconvenient and expensive, and in some cases impossible, as hands could not be got at such wages as could be afforded under these circumstances.

A. 37.—My opinion as to the effects of a reduction of the working hours is, that there will be less work performed, and consequently a reduction of wages, and that the time will not be beneficially employed by the workers.

A. 38.—The spinning of flax and tow requires no particular temperature.

A. 41.—My works have not been worked by night during the last year.

A. 50.—With oil during the winter.

A. 51.—Same provision as stated in A. 6.

A. 53.—The time allowed for meals is half an hour.

A. 54.—All the hands leave the works at meal-times.

A. 57.—They are fined for any flagrant breach of obedience.

A. 62.—I have always forbidden corporal punishments.

A. 63.—I have given instructions to the foreman to threaten and fine the children for misconduct; if that would not do, to part with them altogether.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Part of the workpeople live in a house under my charge, and the foreman has a control over them with regard to keeping regular hours, and they have accommodation for cleanliness.

A. 66.—I do not consider that there is much difference in skill and general character of those who have been employed for a number of years; and the children who have entered lately, by referring to the list, you will see that the latter can nearly all read and write, while many of those advanced in years cannot write. In this quarter I think people pay more attention to the education of their children now than formerly.

A. 67.—I know no difference in the health of the people of the mills during the last ten years; they have generally been healthy.

A. 68.—If any of the hands are troubled with asthma or shortness of breath, they are generally put to work as free from dust as possible.

A. 73.—I know nothing of the management of the mills in this neighbourhood; I hear of no complaints amongst the workers.

A. 78.—I consider the penalties proposed in the Bill by far too high, and that there should be a scale of penalties for the workers; also I think any legislative provisions for regulating the hours of labour unnecessary; that can be best settled between master and servant.

A. 79.—I would further observe, that mills worked entirely by water (where the supply is irregular) should be allowed at least an hour each day more time than mills worked by steam. If the proposed Bill pass into a law, it will entirely ruin the mills on Lunan water.

JOHN OGILVY.

Forfarshire.

J. Ogilvy.

#### ANSWERS of WALTER JUST, Parish of Kinell.

No. 79.

Walter Just.

A. 1.—Parish of Kinell, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Spinning flax and tow into yarns.

A. 3.—The principal building was erected in 1807, an engine-house and engine added in 1825. Never employed for any other purpose.

A. 4.—Water and steam. The former irregular, say about five hours per day short for four months in summer, if a dry season, in which case, and when there is any interruption from ice or back-water, the engine is used; power seven horses.

(APP.—A. 1.)

O 4

A. 5.



Forfarshire.

*Walter Just.*

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Only ventilated by the windows and doors.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the overlooker, who is instructed to encourage the free admission of air at all times when not prevented by the state of the weather.

A. 8.—All machinery may be considered more or less dangerous; that which is most so is fenced off. No serious accident ever occurred at this work.

A. 9.—The houses where the workers are boarded and lodged are within a few yards of the mill, to which they have free access at all times, where every accommodation is afforded for their cleanliness and comfort, and has been so from the commencement of the work.

A. 10.—For two years past have not employed any children under nine years of age, but have done so formerly, at the solicitation of their parents. None of them previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—No alteration has taken place in the machinery that bears on this question.

A. 13.—No apprentices; but there is generally an understanding that those who enter to learn spinning are to remain for three years, when they get board and lodging, and in other cases six months. The other hands are generally engaged six months.

A. 14.—No apprentices or learners from parishes.

A. 15.—Two of them are orphans. Parents or relatives seldom visit the children, but the children have an opportunity of visiting them at least once a week.

A. 16.—An overlooker is appointed for each department of the work.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours and a half for five days of the week, and eleven on Saturday.

A. 18.—No difference.

A. 19.—The number of hours in any one day is never increased, unless at the particular request of the workers to make up lost time for holidays or fairs, so as they may be allowed to go away to their own amusements, which may sometimes be to the extent of half an hour or an hour for two or three days at a time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—Four thousand hours.

A. 22.—Not carried on at different times.

A. 23.—Thirteen hours and a half each day, except Saturday, eleven. The average of hours for each day worked during the year is thirteen hours and five minutes.

A. 24.—Fourteen and a half.

A. 25.—Only at the request of the workers, as stated in A. 19.

A. 26.—Quite avoidable, unless to make up for lost time, for the reasons stated above.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Not having practised night-work or any extra work, cannot give an opinion.

A. 30.—No limitation of hours has taken place.

A. 31.—Country mills having to lodge and board almost all their hands, it would be inconvenient and expensive, and in some cases almost impossible, as hands could not be got at such wages as could be afforded under these circumstances.

A. 33.—Never employed any hands at night-work.

A. 37.—A reduction of wages equal to the reduction of hours would be difficult to effect, from the increase of machinery at present, and consequent demand for hands; and even could this be effected it would operate against the mill-proprietor, as it would require a greater quantity of machinery to produce the same quantity of yarns, and consequently a greater capital to carry on the same trade.

A. 38.—No artificial heat required.

A. 50.—The lights used in winter evenings are inclosed oil-lamps in the preparing department, and open ones in the others.

A. 51.—The same as stated in A. 6.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and half an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—The whole.

A. 57.—Slight corporal punishments are resorted to when admonitions fail; refractory persons are dismissed.

A. 58.—Very seldom.

A. 59.—By foremen or overlookers.

A. 60.—Yes, but never severe.

A. 61.—No.

A. 62.—No instance of the infliction of corporal punishment has occurred to that extent that I considered it necessary to interfere.

A. 63.—My instructions to the foremen and overlookers (being all married men) are to preserve the same subordination amongst the children in the mill, and by the same means, that they do in their own families.

A. 64.—No case of the kind ever occurred.

A. 65.—The workers all live in the houses of their employers, and are under the control of the foreman, and reprimanded for any breach of morality; a female superintendent is kept to preserve their cleanliness and comfort in every respect.

A. 66.—In point of skill and expertness at their work those learned young are generally most proficient, although there may be some exceptions. I do not consider it has any effect on their general character or health; Nos. 21 &amp; 23 on the list may be taken as instances, both having been employed since they were seven years of age, are both good spinners, and in



in good health, and have saved from their earning a sum to enable them to leave the work to get education for themselves, which otherwise they would not have been able to obtain.

A. 67.—So far as my observation goes, there is no alteration in the health of the workers for the last ten years. They may be generally considered healthy.

A. 68.—No selection.

A. 69.—No.

WALTER JUST.

Forfarshire.

Walter Just.

ANSWERS of JOHN ANDSON, Parish of Kirkden.

No. 80.  
John Andson.

A. 1.—The spinning-mill of Friockheim, parish of Kirkden, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Spinning of linen yarn.

A. 3.—The mill was erected and set a going in the year 1800, and the steam-engine in the year 1822.

A. 4.—Steam and water; but owing to the low rates of spinning of late years, the steam-engine is not very often applied, owing to the additional expence of coals, carriages, &c. &c., being seven miles distant from the sea-port. The steam-engine is six horses power, with an eight horse boiler, and the water-wheel is about ten horses power. The water is very irregular, during several months there will not exceed two thirds power, and sometimes not more than half power.

A. 5.—The mill is ventilated by the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Generally by the overlooker, but sometimes by the hands nearest.

A. 8.—All what I conceive to be dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—As proper discipline requires that no one should have any occasion to go out of the mill during working-hours, fresh spring water for drinking is brought in several times each day for the convenience of the workers; I could not specify what time this was introduced, but it has been practised here for several years. There are two conveniences of another nature on the outside of the mill-house, with a communication to each by a door struck out of the wall of the mill. The most of the females who are engaged in the more dusty departments of the work, put on additional clothing during the time of their work, so that when they leave the manufactory at meal-times and in the evening, they may be more clean and tidy in their apparel: this is done of their own accord.

A. 10.—Ten years. I am not aware of any of them having been employed at any other trade previous to entering this manufactory; there have been instances of some who were not quite ten years old when they entered the manufactory, but at present all are above that age.

A. 11.—In one department of the manufactory, namely, superintending the spinning-frames, it is necessary that the hand be trained at an early age, say about eleven or twelve, otherwise the individual seldom becomes an expert worker.

A. 12.—I am not aware of any alterations in machinery which can effect any difference in the proportion of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13 & 14.—No.

A. 15.—I do not at present employ any orphans; all the children whom I employ reside with their parents in the vicinity of the work, and I do not have any control over them except during mill-hours; the adults who have no parents in the neighbourhood reside in lodging-houses at a convenient distance from the work.

A. 17.—The flax-dressers, whose work is very laborious, and who are paid piece-work, and who are masters of their own time, usually work eleven hours a day; all other description of hands young and old, when water is plentiful, usually work thirteen hours.

A. 19.—Twenty-three hours, but two sets of hands were employed.

A. 20.—I think three hundred and twelve is the exact number of days the mill was on, but on some of these days the mill did not go above half time.

A. 21.—Owing to the irregularity of the water during the summer half year, the working-hours for a long time were very uneven, so that I cannot give a correct state of the total number of hours.

A. 22.—The flax and tow spinning is carried on generally during the ordinary working-hours in the day-time, and during the time night-work was continued it was only the former which was carried on.

A. 23.—The average of Saturday will be lower than any of the other days of the week, as it is the common practice to go an hour longer on Friday, for the purpose of letting the hands away an hour earlier on Saturday evening; but owing to the reasons stated in A. 21. I could not say exactly the average number of hours for each day of the week throughout the year, owing to the irregularity of time for want of water during the summer months; however, after having maturely considered the matter, I am prepared to say upon oath, that to the best of my knowledge the average number of hours work of my day-hands during each working-day of the year, including any out of door or field labour which they may have been put to, does not exceed eleven hours and three quarters.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours.

A. 25.—Generally, for a short period, when the water became plentiful, after the mill had probably for weeks or months suffered a loss of nearly one third part of each day's work for want of water, or on the evenings of Fridays for making up time owing to the shorter hours of Saturdays.

(APP.—A. 1.)

P

A. 26.



Forfarshire.

John Andson.

A. 26.—With water-mills, where the moving-power is not regular, I consider an occasional excess beyond the regular working-hours almost indispensable; but the practice of working an hour extra on Friday in order to get the work stopped earlier on Saturday could be dispensed with; it is done merely to suit the workers, and no bad effects seem to be produced by it.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—I never wrought longer than at present.

A. 29.—If this is done I know of no other motive but that of making a certain given capital produce the greatest possible return.

A. 30.—Not having made any alteration in my working-hours I cannot speak from experience; but I should consider, that if the wages were to remain at the same rate as at present, the cost of production would increase nearly in proportion to the limitation of the time, because the difference in the other items of expenditure would be comparatively trifling.

A. 31.—I do not think there could be any objection.

A. 32.—I never tried a system of relays or change of hands excepting for night-work.

A. 33.—When the night-hands come in to the manufactory at the expiry of the day-work, they just step into the places of those who have been working all day; and they again in their turns are relieved in the morning by the day-hands.

A. 34.—My chief reason for so doing was to furnish more constant employment to nearly two hundred weavers, who receive their work from me, and who had been for months one, two, and sometimes three days a week idle for want of yarn, and by employing a night-set of hands, in addition to the ordinary day-workers, I was enabled to increase considerably the quantity of yarns, and by that means I had it in my power to furnish the weavers with nearly constant employment, and at a time when they would have with difficulty got work elsewhere.

A. 35.—It was only for the short period of six weeks that I employed a night-set of hands. The night-set of hands did not change with the day-set.

A. 36.—As there is very little gain produced to the manufacturer by persevering in night-work, and as it is very seldom attempted, and even when tried it is only to a very limited extent; on that account I would not conceive the prohibition of it of great moment to the manufacturer; and the effect of it upon the trade at large would scarcely ever be known.

A. 37.—In the first place it would lessen the capital of the mill proprietor, by injuring the value of his property; and as the quantity of machinery in Angus-shire is not more than sufficient, with the present hours, to give full employment to the weavers, flax-dressers, &c., I am of opinion, that the probable effect of shortening the hours would be to throw out of employment a considerable number of flax-dressers and weavers; and the wages of the hands employed at mills would naturally fall in proportion to the reduction of the working hours, although the rate which they presently earn, in general, is not more than what is necessary for their subsistence.

A. 38.—The temperature of my manufactory does not much exceed that of an ordinary dwelling-house, and no artificial heat is required for any of the processes of flax or tow spinning.

A. 41.—About thirty-five nights from May 1832 till May 1833.

A. 42.—Only one, the rest were all adults.

A. 43.—Ten hours.

A. 44.—All those employed at night-work were adults, save one.

A. 45.—Generally from eight o'clock P.M. to six o'clock A.M.

A. 46.—There are none.

A. 49.—This has no reference to my manufacture.

A. 50.—By oil.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Owing to the short time I persevered with night-work no effects on the workers could have been thereby produced.

A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast and half an hour to dinner; and the friends of the workers for the most part bring in to the manufactory refreshment between five and six o'clock in the afternoon, for which purpose the mill-door stands open. At all other times it is understood to be shut.

A. 54.—Every individual employed at my works leave it at meal-times.

A. 56.—I conceive that arrangements might easily be made in every manufactory whereby the workers might be permitted to go home to their respective lodging-houses at meal-times, as the victuals when brought to the manufactory must often be out of season, and consequently will not have the same nourishing effects as when eaten comfortably at their own homes.

A. 57.—In general the people employed at my manufactory, both children and adults, perform their work with alacrity and cheerfulness, and therefore do not require coercion.

A. 58.—In the case of sullen and obstinate individuals, for gross carelessness or insolence, chastisement is administered similar to what is commonly inflicted at public schools; but this is seldom found necessary.

A. 59.—By the man who was overseeing the flat at the time the individual was in fault.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—With both.

A. 62.



A. 62.—I never needed, as the punishment practised at my work never exceeds what a wise parent would naturally inflict for the proper training of his offspring.

A. 63.—Any instructions which I ever gave to my foreman or overlooker were verbal. They were generally to keep up a proper state of discipline, and inflict suitable and salutary chastisement where it was merited.

A. 64.—I do not recollect of any complaint having ever been made to me on the subject of punishment during the last three years, and no proceedings before magistrates against me or any of my overlookers or foremen on the subject of punishment ever took place.

A. 65.—The children employed at my work all reside with their parents, and the adults at their homes or lodging-houses, so that I have no control over them except during work-hours. It, however, may be proper to mention, that a number of the workers attend, of their own accord and at their own expence, or the expence of their parents, the village school in the evening, for reading, writing, &c. &c.; and a Sunday-school is taught by the principal men in my employment for the benefit of all the young people who work in the mill.

A. 66.—In some departments of the business, but particularly in the spinning department, the difference in skill between those employed from infancy and those commencing the work at a more advanced age is very considerable. I have frequently had instances in support of this, but I cannot refer to any on the list, as the spinners presently with me were all trained at an early age; and I can state with every degree of confidence, that the general character of those who have been employed at the mills from the age of ten years are in every respect as decent and intelligent as those who have entered the factory at a more advanced age.

A. 67.—I do not think any change has taken place in the health of the people employed at my factory during the last ten years; but from the list descriptive of the people employed, I suppose it will be manifest that the general health of the workers employed at my factory is not inferior to that of any other class of His Majesty's subjects.

A. 68.—I do not consider any of the processes carried on in my factory to be attended with injurious effects.

A. 69.—It is not subject.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 71.—Never was convicted.

A. 72.—Never took place.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—I cannot admit that any legislative interference with the hours of labour in factories is at all necessary. I consider that in this respect the power of the children ought not to be taken out of the hands of the parents; and in the case of adults or grown up persons, they should be allowed to work when and where they please; and as to the imposing of penalties on the mill-masters in cases of accidents, I consider this idea could only have been suggested by a selfish and hard-hearted man. The proprietors of spinning-mills surely are not devoid of common humanity; and besides, when accidents do occur, the mill-master generally procures the best medical advice, and commonly allows the person who has received the injury full wages till he is able to resume work, although the mill-owner is not by law obliged so to do.

A. 79.—I would only remark, that if a Bill is to be passed for limiting the hours of work in mills and factories to ten or eleven hours a day, I trust the legislature will make provision for those works which are chiefly driven by water, in order that they may be permitted to make up to a certain extent for the deficiency of time during the dry period of the year. This is nothing more than strict justice, as by adopting this regulation the works in town and country would be placed on an equal footing. But if this is not done, if country mills are to be limited to ten hours a day, and not permitted to make up lost time, I consider the measure will be in the highest degree mischievous, and attended with destructive consequences.

JOHN ANDSON.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. KINMOND and HILL, Lochee.

A. 1.—Burnside Mills, Lochee, parish of Liff, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—The works were all erected about twelve years ago by Watt and Brown, the former proprietors; now in our possession, since September 1832.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines; one of twenty, and one of seven horses power.

A. 5.—There is no specific provision for ventilation.

A. 6.—Both mills are ventilated by sash and other descriptions of windows, and by the action of the machinery; but ventilation is not required further than the workpeople may wish for their own comfort.

A. 7.—The ventilation of both mills is regulated by the overlooker, agreeably to the wish of those employed.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery in both mills are fenced off.

A. 9.—Arrangements have been made in both mills for the personal cleanliness of the hands, such as water-closets; there are convenient places for containing their clothes, and a constant supply of spring water kept for the sake of promoting their cleanliness.

(APP.—A. 1.)

P 2

A. 10.

No. 81.

Messrs.  
Kinmond and Hill.



Forfarshire.

Messrs.

Kinmond and Hill.

A. 10.—The lowest age of children employed is about ten years.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age; on the contrary, we consider that it would be for our interest that none under that age were admitted, and it is only at the solicitation of parents that so young children are employed.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery do not require the service of a greater number of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No apprentices are employed at our mills.

A. 15.—We lodge and maintain none.

A. 17.—The usual number of hours each day, during which persons of twenty-one years of age and upwards are employed in our service, is thirteen, excepting on Saturday, when it is eleven hours and a half.

A. 18.—There is no difference of time for the service of those under twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—The greatest number of hours during which our works have been kept going in any one day, since we have been the proprietors, is fifteen and a half for two days, which extra time was at the request of the hands themselves, in order to make up for a day of recreation.

A. 20.—Our works have not been going a whole year.

A. 22.—The spinning and preparing in the different branches are all carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—The average number of hours of each day's work during the week, since our entry, is twelve hours forty minutes.

A. 24.—The greatest number of hours during which the same set of children were employed in any one day last year was fifteen and a half, and for the reason stated in A. 19.

A. 25.—The usual number of hours service was exceeded on 22d and 29th December last, in order to make up time for a holiday given on 14th January last.

A. 26.—The extra time mentioned was at the particular request of the workpeople, rather than lose their wages.

A. 29.—From the short time we have been in business, we do not consider ourselves competent to answer this question; we have no night-work.

A. 30.—A diminution of hours would increase the cost of production; but from our limited experience we cannot say to what extent.

A. 31.—Extra hours have not been required, except in the case mentioned. We could not afford to keep two sets of hands; and the scanty pittance of wages which could be allowed would be insufficient for their maintenance.

A. 32.—We have not required longer hours than what has been already stated, and consequently have never had occasion for a set of extra hands.

A. 34.—The expence would be great, and the people in our employment have never complained to us as to the hours of work being too long.

A. 37.—From the depressed state of the manufacturing trade, and the miserable returns for the investment of capital on mills, any diminution in the present hours of working would be felt very severely by the proprietors, and would, from the consequent reduction of wages, operate very much against the interest of the workpeople.

A. 38.—The rooms are comfortable, and no artificial heat is required in the process of spinning.

A. 50.—As already stated, we have no night-work; and when we required to light for making up our regular working-time (as mentioned above) in the winter season, we used oil with argand lamps, but intend to use gas next winter.

A. 51.—No night-work, as stated already.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine o'clock A.M. for breakfast, and from two to half past two P.M. for dinner, for all the hands.

A. 54.—All may leave the work for meals, except the person in charge of the engines. Those who choose may take their meals in the work.

A. 55.—They seldom remain in the work, but may do so if convenient for themselves.

A. 56.—As it is for their own convenience that any remain, any alteration would have no effect.

A. 57.—They are threatened with dismissal, but this is seldom required.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Our express orders are that no corporal punishment be inflicted.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in their own houses.

A. 66.—From the short time we have been in business we are not competent to answer this question.

A. 68.—None of the processes in our works have injurious effects.

A. 69.—We are not aware of any law relative to flax-spinning in Scotland.

A. 77.—No; as the evidence taken before a Committee of the House of Commons can testify.

A. 78.—No; as this must refer to cotton-spinning.

A. 79.—Nothing further than that we think any legislative enactment on the subject would be injurious both to masters and servants.

KINMOND and HILL.



## ANSWERS of ROBERT MATTHEWS, Lochee.

Forfarshire.

No. 82.

*Robert Matthews.*

- A. 1.—Lochee, parish of Liff and Bennie, Forfarshire.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—Cannot say when erected; used by me since November last.  
 A. 4.—A steam-engine of sixteen horses power.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overseer of the flat.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts fenced.  
 A. 9.—Water-closets are erected in each flat for the convenience of the hands.  
 A. 10.—The lowest age at present is nine, and to the best of my knowledge have never been at any other employment.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—Recent alterations in machinery render fewer hands necessary under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days, and twelve hours for one day, each week.  
 A. 18.—No difference in the hours to any.  
 A. 20.—Have not occupied it for a year.  
 A. 22.—At one time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and five sixths a day on average.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 29.—More yarns.  
 A. 31.—Additional expence in two relays or sets of workpeople.  
 A. 32.—Not by me.  
 A. 33.—Never wrought over night.  
 A. 37.—The consequent increase of cost of production, because of the workpeople's inability to live on lower wages than the present.  
 A. 38.—Usual temperature of the atmosphere all over the work.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and half an hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—The whole, with two or three exceptions.  
 A. 55.—Those who do not leave the work remain to take charge of the machinery.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 65.—Generally stay with their parents, or in lodging-houses.  
 A. 66.—The longer they have been at such work the better skilled.  
 A. 67.—No deterioration in health can be proved.  
 A. 68.—In flax-mills there is no peculiar danger in any particular department.  
 A. 69.—No; being a flax-mill.  
 A. 70 & 71.—Never.  
 A. 73.—On flax-mills here.  
 A. 79.—Any interference by law with the arrangements between mill-masters and their servants would be attended with effects detrimental to the interests of the working-classes.

ROBERT MATTHEWS.

## ANSWERS of ARCHIBALD FOOTE, of the Firm of Aberdeen, Gordon, &amp; Co. Logie Mill.

No. 83.

*Archibald Foote.*

- A. 1.—Logie Mill, parish of Logie Pert, Forfarshire.  
 A. 2.—Heckling, spinning, bleaching, and weaving of flax. The answers only apply to spinning and weaving.  
 A. 3.—A small spinning-mill was erected in the year 1800, which was replaced by the present one in 1816, and a farther addition was made in 1822.  
 A. 4.—Water-power from the North Esk. Upon an average from three to four days in the year are lost on account of back water, occasioned by floods in the river; and there is sometimes a scarcity of water for a few months in summer, and during severe frosts in winter. Average power about twenty-four horses.  
 A. 5.—There is no provision for ventilation beyond the windows.  
 A. 6.—The windows are suspended by weights in the usual manner; and unless when the weather is very close, as much air can be admitted by them as the workpeople can endure.  
 A. 7.—There is nothing to prevent the workpeople from moving the windows at their pleasure; but it is the duty of the foremen to see that proper ventilation is preserved.  
 A. 8.—Such parts of the driving machinery as are likely to come in contact with the workers, and the more dangerous parts of the different machines are fenced off by wooden boxes.  
 A. 9.—There is some provision made in the different rooms for keeping any articles of wearing apparel which the hands may choose to put on while at their work, or when leaving it. The foremen attend to the cleanliness and clothing of the children under them. There is no particular place for washing within the mill, but there is ample provision for doing so in the bothy, one hundred yards from the mill-door, and abundance of water everywhere. This has always been the case.

(APP.—A. 1.)

P 3

A. 10.



Forfarshire.

Archibald Foote.

A. 10.—Our wish has been not to admit children under ten years of age. In a few instances, at the request of parents, they have been employed a year or so younger. We never knew of them coming from other trades.

A. 11.—There is nothing in the nature of our work which requires the employment of children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—We do not find that any improvements which have taken place on machinery have altered the proportion of people employed at different ages.

A. 13.—None to whom this inquiry extends, except millwrights.

A. 14.—No parish apprentices.

A. 15.—We employ six orphans at present. The parents or guardians of all the children visit them when they think proper. We cannot say how often. Those hands who sleep in their employers houses disperse themselves amongst their friends on Saturday, and return before work commences on Monday.

A. 16.—It is the duty of every foreman to give advice to the children under him at all times; and the woman who has charge of the bothey has particular charge of those who sleep in their employers houses.

A. 17 & 18.—The stated time of work for all ages is twelve hours and forty minutes for five days of the week, and ten hours and a half and eight hours and a half alternately on Saturday; average twelve hours eight minutes; the eight minutes go to make up for lost time.

A. 19.—For one day, 14th July 1832, fourteen hours.

A. 20.—From 1st May 1832 to 1st May 1833, three hundred and ten days.

A. 21.—From 1st May 1832 to 1st May 1833, three thousand seven hundred and fifty-six hours.

A. 22.—No department of our work is ever carried on while other parts are standing.

A. 23.—Average working time, Monday, twelve hours and thirty-seven minutes; Tuesday, twelve hours and eleven minutes; Wednesday, twelve hours and forty minutes; Thursday, twelve hours and forty-nine minutes; Friday, twelve hours and twenty minutes; Saturday, nine hours and thirty-five minutes.

A. 24.—One, the 14th July, as above, fourteen hours.

A. 25.—The longest day happened on a Friday; the intake sluice was repaired on Saturday, and the work was not on. The mill stops at nine A. M. on the days of the Montrose fairs, &c., and it is usual to work thirteen hours for a few days to make up time.

A. 26.—Avoidable, if the workpeople choose to give up some of their days of recreation, or submit to a reduction of wages; they have always received about an average weekly pay when any stoppage occurred, from whatever cause.

A. 27 & 28.—There has been no increase or diminution in our hours of labour for many years.

A. 29.—If a manufacturer is resolved to increase his own gains, without regard to the means he employs for doing so, he will most likely work longer hours than his neighbours; it is clearly his interest to get the greatest quantity of work from the same set of hands, for the current wages of the country.

A. 30.—We invariably find the quantity of work obtained to correspond exactly with the number of hours of labour; if, for instance, we produce from a given quantity of machinery twelve hundred spindles of yarn in twelve hours, we produce from the same machinery ten hundred spindles of yarn in ten hours, and as the waste of capital on buildings and machinery must continue the same, and the expence for power, furnishings, &c. is not materially affected by an hour or two more or less work, it is manifest, that the cost of production must rise in exact proportion as the hours of work are shortened, making a variation of about eight per cent. for each hour; no doubt wages, which constitute about half the cost of production, would be reduced, but to what extent this might be carried it is impossible to tell; they would require to be reduced one sixth part for every hour's diminution of labour, to keep the cost of production steady; and there is no other saving which the manufacturer can make.

A. 31.—It is impossible to employ two sets of hands, either young or old, so long as to entitle them to wages worth naming, unless the work is continued over night, and this we have always considered one of the most pernicious practices both for the health and morals of the children when systematically adopted.

A. 32.—We never heard of any change of hands being tried, unless where night-work had been adopted; we never tried it, for the reasons above stated.

A. 33.—We never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 37.—The sure effects of any reduction of hours must be a corresponding decrease on the value of capital employed in manufactories, a reduction of wages to every class of workpeople, a scarcity of employment for flax-dressers and weavers (the latter class is often out of work and very inadequately paid at present), and, what is perhaps worse, if any material reduction is made, the British manufacturer, after all his endeavours, may be under-sold by foreigners, and the trade banished from the country. For the grounds of this opinion we refer to our answer to Q. 30.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—No artificial heat is required; when the thermometer stands above 60° of Fahrenheit we consider it fully too warm; it must vary with the weather from 40° to 70°, and perhaps a little higher.

A. 46, 47, 48, & 49.—Any process may be stopped at any time, without injury to the work.

A. 50.—By coal gas.

A. 51.



A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Never having adopted night-work we cannot speak from experience; our opinion is quite against it.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and the same for dinner, making an hour and a half for meals per day; this, however, is frequently reduced, to save time at night, to forty minutes each meal, or an hour and twenty minutes per day.

A. 54.—There is nothing to prevent them, and they almost all invariably do so.

A. 55.—In a very bad day some of the people may prefer having their meals brought to the mill; but this is entirely for their own convenience.

A. 56.—It is the practice here, and has no bad effect.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—If admonition fails, a fine is sometimes exacted, which in no case exceeds 6*d.* in one week; and as tickets are given along with the wages, stating the amount, and the reason for any deduction, the parents are made aware of the behaviour of their children. Corporal punishment is not sanctioned by us; we are not aware of any instance of its infliction, although it may have been applied to boys by the overseers; we never had any complaint on the subject. The last resource is notice to leave the work at the end of a month, the regular term of agreement.

A. 63.—The foremen are instructed to proceed as above; no written instructions have ever been given.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—The greater part of the workpeople live in their own, their parents, or friends houses, and the rest in the houses of their employers during the week (going to their friends on Saturday), where they have fuel and cooking utensils, and a regular supply of clean bed clothes provided gratis, and every encouragement is given to promote domestic cleanliness; the whole is under the charge of a woman, whose duty it is to report any instance of misconduct to the manager. A Sabbath-school is carried on during part of the year; a school-house and regular teacher have been provided, who keeps a day and evening school. A library was instituted three years ago, and contains three hundred and fifty volumes, and is managed by persons annually chosen by the workpeople. A savings bank, and deposit and friendly society connected with it, has also been long in existence; funds about 400*l.*

A. 66.—No person ever thinks of learning to attend a spinning-frame unless when young; most of them are begun by the time they are fourteen years of age; a person of good hands and tolerable activity may learn any thing else in a flax-mill, although much older. I cannot point out any person in the list whose inferior skill can be accounted for only in consequence of learning late in life, although we know well that they who learn young have most facility in performing their duty. Almost all those whom we have had long, and who were early trained to habits of industry, have turned out well; their general character is fully equal to the other class.

A. 67.—We are not aware that any alteration has taken place in the general health of the people about our work during the last ten years. We append a certificate from the medical man who attends them, as to the general state of health amongst them:

“ I hereby certify that I have attended Logie Works since the year 1821, and during that period I have found the people employed there generally as healthy as any other class of our working population.

“ Montrose, 14th May 1833.

“ D. NIDDINS, Surgeon.”

A. 68.—No change is ever made for this purpose.

A. 69.—There is no Act applying to flax-mills.

A. 77.—We have no reason for believing any such thing.

A. 78.—We are not prepared to point out what scale of penalties it may be proper to adopt in order to secure obedience to any law which is or may be enacted. The amount of penalty is not an object of so much importance to the mill-owner as the justness of the principle upon which it is imposed, and the fairness of the tribunal to which he is rendered amenable. A scale of penalties for accidents, such as is contemplated in the Bill now before the House of Commons, we would object to in the strongest terms; in fact, any law on the subject which shall have the effect of impressing the workpeople with the idea that their masters are alone responsible for any accident which may befall them, and removing that salutary dread with which they are inspired, will infallibly increase the number of casualties, which at present is very small, while it may lessen that sympathy which the masters at present feel and exercise when any unfortunate thing occurs. If interference must be had, Government ought to appoint an inspector; if his instructions are not attended to, then there may be some justice in making the owners responsible; but nothing could be more unreasonable than to leave them at the mercy of justices of the peace, or others, who would have to decide under excited feelings, on a subject upon which no two persons of experience would exactly agree; the practice of guarding the machinery is not the same in any two works.

A. 79.—Although we cannot allow the necessity for legislative interference in our case, a Bill may be required to put an end to cases of oppression, and if so, in order to be impartial and effective, we think it should consist of a few simple provisions, fixing the lowest age at which children could be employed, and the greatest number of hours during which work could be carried on during one week, applying to all ages, putting an end to night-work, and leaving the details as much as possible to the arrangement of parties.

ARCHIBALD FOOTE.



Forfarshire.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM JAMESON, Manager, for Richards &amp; Co., Logie Pert.

No. 84.

William Jameson.

A. 1.—Parish of Logie Pert, county of Forfar. The mill is situated on the river North Esk, five miles from Montrose.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—The mill was erected eleven years ago, to contain sixteen spinning-frames; enlarged in 1826 to contain thirty-one spinning-frames; remains so at present.

A. 4.—Water-wheel. No steam. About twenty horses power. Some interruptions take place from frosts in winter and drought in summer, but not to much extent.

A. 5.—The ventilation is by windows and doors, which are constantly open to a certain extent in fine weather.

A. 7.—The overseer of each room attends to the opening and shutting the windows, according to the weather, as he is always in the room.

A. 8.—They are all fenced off with wooden covers.

A. 9.—There is a public washing-house, with a boiler, for the use of all the hands, within ten yards of the mill, adjoining the public kitchen and lodging-house; and there are necessities in each floor of the mill; these were made at the erection of the mill. The hands all live within a very short distance of the mill, and do not change their clothes at meal-times.

A. 10.—No children are employed under eleven years of age, and very few indeed so young, as will be seen on reference to the schedule of ages. Some of the older hands may have been employed as domestic servants, or at out-door work, such as the bleach-field, but we are not aware of any trades.

A. 11.—The employment of children under twelve years of age is not from our choice, but generally to assist the parents employed about the works.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not rendered it necessary for us to employ more young children than formerly.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—There are no orphan children about the works; the great proportion of the children in our mill live with their parents, and the others go home to their parents every Saturday afternoon.

A. 16.—There are, as before stated, no orphan children, but there is a public kitchen and lodging-house for such children as do not live with their parents, where a cook and housekeeper is provided for their superintendence.

A. 17.—The usual hours of work for five days in each week are thirteen hours and a half, but on Saturdays we work alternately, one Saturday eight hours and forty minutes, the other eleven hours and forty minutes.

A. 18.—No difference is made on account of the ages.

A. 19.—The longest time the hands are ever employed is just preceding the fair days, which happen twice a year, when the hands voluntarily work fourteen hours, to get a holiday on the fair day; we have never worked extra hours to make up lost time by breakage of machinery or scarcity of water.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days; the total number of working-days was three hundred and twelve; but we lost about four days in repairing the machinery and water-courses.

A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine hours, which at three hundred and eight days gives an average per day of twelve hours forty-seven minutes, and at three hundred and twelve days an average of twelve hours thirty-seven minutes and a half.

A. 22.—The whole works are carried on at the same time; no difference is made.

A. 23.—Thirteen hours is the nominal time, but the real average time is given in A. 21.

A. 24.—The greatest number of hours has been fourteen, but this has been explained to arise from preparing for a holiday at the fair days, but only in these cases. See A. 19.

A. 25.—In the case of a breakage of the machinery which happened at this mill, and the hands were thrown idle for four days, the older hands were brought into Montrose and worked in our mill there during two nights, as they did not work at all during the day; for this they were paid extra wages.

A. 26.—No excess is necessary from the nature of the work, and is never resorted to but for the accommodation of the hands themselves, and with their ready concurrence.

A. 27.—In the year 1825 we worked fourteen hours per day for one summer only, and discontinued it the same year; for which we paid extra wages.

A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity is now lower than at the above date, because our wages are reduced since then; but the cost of production must always be increased by the reduction of working-time, unless wages are reduced in a still greater proportion, because the charges for plant and management tell more seriously on a diminished production.

A. 29.—The only inducement to the manufacturer to contravene any existing law can be his profit; but we are not aware of any existing law for the regulation of flax-mills.

A. 31.—If we required to work extra hours, an insuperable objection to relays or fresh sets of children would lie in our local situation, as the population is so limited that we have sometimes a difficulty in keeping one set, and could not possibly get a relay.

A. 32.—The experiment has not been tried by us, and cannot, for the reason given in the last reply.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night-set of hands, as we have no night-work.

A. 37.



A. 37.—The effect of a reduction in the working hours must ultimately be a reduction of wages to the hands employed, because the quantity of yarn produced from a given amount of plant being less, we could not afford to pay the same wages to the hands.

A. 38.—No artificial temperature is required in our mills, which can be carried on equally well in all temperatures, and no arrangements are made to produce artificial heat.

A. 40.—There is no difference in the temperature, or the hands employed.

A. 41.—Not any; but some of the hands were employed two nights in another mill under peculiar circumstances, as explained in A. 25.

A. 43.—In the case referred to above the hands worked ten hours the first night and nine hours the second, for which they were paid extra.

A. 44 & 45.—In the cases referred to above there were seventy hands employed two nights, the first from eight o'clock till six in the morning, and the second from eight o'clock till five.

A. 46.—None. The various processes of flax and tow spinning can be abandoned and resumed at any time.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—The same as during the day, viz. windows and doors.

A. 53.—We allow forty minutes for breakfast and forty minutes for dinner to all classes of hands employed at the works.

A. 54.—The whole hands are allowed to leave the works at meal-times; if any remain it is by choice.

A. 55.—The workpeople are allowed to please themselves entirely.

A. 56.—Every person has the power of taking their meals out of the manufactory; none are required to take them in.

A. 57.—We find the children obedient in general, and do not require any means to enforce obedience beyond occasional small fines or ultimate dismissal.

A. 58.—They are not, to the best of our knowledge.

A. 62.—Corporal punishments are forbidden, and we have never heard an instance of their infliction.

A. 63.—The overlookers are strictly forbidden to punish any children, and it has never been considered necessary to issue any written instructions to that effect.

A. 64.—None from the commencement of the works.

A. 65.—This question is very general: many of the people live in our houses, and some in their own. A general lodging-house is also provided for those who do not live as above, where a housekeeper and cook is kept to attend to their domestic comforts and cleanliness; and in general the fullest arrangements are made to promote their moral improvement, for which purpose we have a school-house and schoolmaster provided; and it will be seen in the schedule that every person but one can read, and almost all can write. That single exception arises from a natural defect in her speech.

A. 66.—We uniformly find that those spinners who begin young become the most skilful and handy; and there are very few instances among those who begin at an adult age where the spinners are so skilful and active as those who begin young. We never attempt them, and cannot refer to any instances in the annexed list. In other branches of the manufacture we prefer them from sixteen to twenty years of age, except the weighers in the carding-room.

A. 67.—The general health of the people employed at these works has always been good, and we are not aware of any change in their health since the establishment of the works eleven years ago. We consider them uniformly healthy.

A. 68.—No change or selection is necessary in varying the employment of the hands from any effects of particular processes, as no injury whatever is produced from any process.

A. 69.—We are not aware of any act referring to flax-spinning mills, and we do not yet see any occasion for one.

A. 71 & 72.—These questions cannot apply to our mill, where the moral regulations are of such a nature as to invite the fullest investigation and inquiry, and we deny in the strongest manner its application to our establishment.

A. 73.—We know of no mills in our neighbourhood but flax-mills, and we know of no law for the regulation of them.

A. 74, 75, 76, & 77.—These questions are ambiguous, and leave a doubt whether they apply to the proprietors of "mills in your neighbourhood" or the "proprietors" of these works; if the latter, we conceive the questions cannot be noticed by them without compromising the high and honourable station they fill in society, and in that feeling we pass them over unanswered. If to the proprietors of "mills in our neighbourhood," we answer that we never heard of any one of them being subjected to a penal or moral degradation.

A. 78.—We know of no law empowering a scale of penalties for securing obedience to its provisions. The proprietors and manager of these works have sufficient penetration to discover that the interests of masters and servants are too closely interwoven to require penal regulations to stimulate them to treat their hands well; and they refer the Commissioners to a personal investigation of their works, to show at least that in their case all legislative provisions or penal regulations are unnecessary and uncalled for.

A. 79.—The replies given to the foregoing string of questions embody our general opinions on each subject brought under our notice, and we have nothing further to add to them.

14th May 1833.

WILLIAM JAMESON.

Forfarshire.

William Jameson.



## ANSWERS of JOHN BUCHAN, Finhaven Spinning Mill, Montrose.

Forfarshire.

No. 85.

*John Buchan.*

A. 1.—Finhaven Spinning Mill is in the parish of Oathlaw, county of Forfar, and situated on the river South Esk.

A. 2.—Flax and tow-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in the year 1822; enlarged by an additional flat in 1825.

A. 4.—Water-wheel about sixteen horses power; some interruption is occasioned by out-breakings in the dam-dyke and leads in time of speats, and by frost in winter.

A. 5.—The windows draw up and down at pleasure.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—The persons working nearest the windows regulate the ventilation.

A. 8.—They are all properly fenced in.

A. 9.—The dwelling houses being close at hand, there is no place kept in the mill for changing or washing clothes.

A. 10.—None below nine years, and not at that age, unless to oblige parents who may be at the work.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not particularly require the employment of children under twelve years of age, although they might be very usefully employed under that age in some departments.

A. 12.—No difference.

A. 13.—Only one as a turner.

A. 17.—The whole of the persons employed work thirteen hours a day.

A. 18.—No distinction is made.

A. 19.—Not more than thirteen hours, unless to shorten the hours of another day to answer the workpeople's own purpose.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven.

A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and seventeen hours.

A. 22.—The whole works go regularly, unless any part be stopped by breakage or want of hands.

A. 23 & 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 26.—Quite avoidable, provided those employed were willing to give up attending the fairs, but they are always anxious to have these days, and to make up time beforehand for them.

A. 29.—The proprietor knows of no law applying to flax-mills.

A. 30.—The cost of the production must be invariably increased by the limitation of the hours of work, as the capital employed and expence of management remain the same, while the profit is diminished.

A. 31.—This situation would not admit of it.

A. 32.—Have never heard of the experiment being tried, and in the country, where the masters have in general to erect houses for the workpeople, it could not be.

A. 33.—When a scarcity of water occurs, that there is not power to drive the whole machinery, the one half might be worked through the day and the other through the night, but that has not been done here since 1826.

A. 34.—More than one set of hands cannot be kept here.

A. 36.—It would be attended with a very great loss in a dry season when there was not water to drive more than one half of the machinery, and would throw the one half of the operatives out of employment.

A. 37.—If a reduction of the working hours were to take place, a corresponding reduction of wages would necessarily follow, and a number of flax-dressers and weavers thrown out of employment.

A. 38.—No particular temperature is necessary for carrying on the work.

A. 39.—No particular degree of heat is required for any portion of the work.

A. 41.—No night-work during the last year.

A. 50.—By gas-lights.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 52.—There has been no night-work here since 1826.

A. 53.—One half hour.

A. 54.—The dwelling houses being close at hand, the persons employed at the work go all home to their meals.

A. 55.—They invariably leave the work.

A. 57.—Small fines and dismissal.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—They are strictly forbidden, and no complaint has ever been made.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in the houses of their employer, and the manager, who lives beside them, looks strictly after their moral conduct; he also gives instruction to the children after work-hours, and keeps a school for their religious instruction on Sabbath-evenings. Cleanliness is strictly enjoined, and enforced if necessary.

A. 66.—Persons of adult age seldom or ever arrive at any proficiency, particularly as spinners, which is the most important part of the work; it is therefore of the very greatest importance they should be employed young.

A. 67.—Know no difference; they have, upon the whole, been very healthy.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Know of no act applying to flax-mills.

JOHN BUCHAN.



## ANSWERS of WILLIAM CRAWFORD, Crawford and Smith's Works, Montrose.

Forfarshire.

No. 86.

*William Crawford.*

- A. 1.—Montrose, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—In the summer of 1822.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine of twenty-horse power.  
 A. 5.—From the opening of windows on both sides.  
 A. 6.—Only from the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the pleasure of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All are fenced off so far as can be.  
 A. 9.—The engine is drove slower for ten to fifteen minutes in order to enable the work-people to shift their clothes, and water is kept in each flat that they may wash, which has always been the case.  
 A. 10.—We do not require any nor wish to have them below twelve years of age, and so far as we know have not been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—It does not.  
 A. 12.—We do not think it has made any difference.  
 A. 13.—Only as a mechanic.  
 A. 14.—None from parishes.  
 A. 15.—All the orphans we employ live either with their living parent or relations.  
 A. 16.—Either their living parent or relations.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours fifty-five minutes per day.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours fifty-five minutes per day.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours fifty minutes when making up lost time.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days.  
 A. 21.—Four thousand and seventeen hours.  
 A. 22.—All at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and three quarters.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours and fifty minutes.  
 A. 25.—At Whitsunday and Martinmas, making up time for going off at the markets.  
 A. 26.—It could be avoided, but it is the general wish of the workpeople to make up their time.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—We think it would.  
 A. 29.—We do not see any inducement, as the workpeople could not stand a continuance of extra hours or night-work.  
 A. 30.—Not having had the experience of a limitation of hours of work, could not say to what extent an increase of the cost of production might be.  
 A. 31.—As we do not work extra hours we cannot say what objection might be offered by those who do so to have fresh sets of children.  
 A. 32.—We have never tried it, not working extra hours.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—The workpeople here would not work unless employed the whole day.  
 A. 37.—If the hours were reduced, the people would not gain a sufficient livelihood, as the wages would also be reduced; it would also greatly limit the profits of the manufacturer, and would reduce much the value of their works.  
 A. 38.—We do not require to use any artificial heat.  
 A. 39.—Natural heat.  
 A. 40.—None.  
 A. 49.—There is no part of our work the continuance of which is indispensable.  
 A. 50.—With gas in winter evenings and mornings.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast, and forty minutes to dinner.  
 A. 54.—Every one if they choose.  
 A. 55.—Some at times do not, for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—No bad effects.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal in case of disobedience.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—No punishments allowed, and any instructions on that subject given verbally.  
 A. 64.—Never one.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Few are very good spinners unless they learn from twelve to sixteen years of age. Other parts of the work can be learned in a short time.  
 A. 67.—We have not observed any difference in the health of our people during the last ten years; they are generally very healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—We are not aware of what act is referred to, as we know of no act that refers to mills in Scotland.  
 A. 79.—The only observation we have to make is, to say that we think the hours of labour should not be shortened for the reasons given in A. 37.

11th May 1833.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD.



Forfarshire.

No. 87.

John Herd.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HERD, for Messrs. Duke and Alexander, Montrose.

- A. 1.—Montrose, county of Forfar. The work is situated on the river North Esk.  
 A. 2.—Tow-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 18 , and converted into a tow-spinning mill in 1823.  
 A. 4.—Water-wheel about four horse power; some interruption is occasioned by frost in winter, by which eight or ten days are lost in the course of a year.  
 A. 5.—None.  
 A. 6.—The ventilation depends on the opening of the windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—The persons working nearest the windows usually regulate the ventilation.  
 A. 8.—They are properly fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is a house situated at the end of the mill, and used as a bothy or lodging-house, where they have every necessary accommodation.  
 A. 10.—We have never employed any under ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—No, although they might be employed.  
 A. 12.—No, as far as we have observed.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 15.—We have no orphans employed at our work.  
 A. 17.—The whole of the persons employed by us work thirteen hours and a half a day for five days in the week, and eleven hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—No distinction is made.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and twenty-six hours.  
 A. 22.—The whole works are carried on together.  
 A. 23.—About twelve hours and three quarters.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Previous to fair-days.  
 A. 26.—This excess could be avoided provided those employed were willing to give up attending the fairs, but they are always anxious to attend.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 29.—His profit; we are not aware of any existing law applying to flax-mills.  
 A. 30.—The cost of production must be invariably increased by a limitation of the hours of work, as the capital employed and expence of management remain the same, while the produce is diminished.  
 A. 31.—Our situation would not admit of it.  
 A. 32.—We have never heard of the experiment being tried.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 37.—To reduce wages and profits, as the quantity produced must be reduced in proportion as the hours of labour are limited.  
 A. 38.—No particular temperature is necessary for carrying on our work.  
 A. 50.—By oil-lamps.  
 A. 51.—The same as during the day.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and forty minutes for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 55.—They invariably leave the work.  
 A. 57.—Small fines and dismissal.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—They are strictly forbidden, and we have never had a complaint on the subject.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live in a bothy, as stated in A. 9.; and the manager lives with his wife and family in the same house, and superintends their domestic arrangements.  
 A. 66.—We rarely find that persons of adult age ever arrive at any proficiency, particularly as spinners, and it is therefore of importance they should be employed young. We cannot point to any particular case at present.  
 A. 67.—They have been invariably healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—We know of no act applying to flax-mills.

JOHN HERD.

No. 88.

J. & G. Paton.

## ANSWERS of JOHN and GEORGE PATON, Montrose,

- A. 1.—Parish of Montrose, county of Forfar.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of flax and tow yarns.  
 A. 3.—There is only one work; it was erected in 1828 and 1829, and first employed in the spring of 1829.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine.  
 A. 5 & 6.—It is ventilated by the windows, which may be opened at the pleasure of those employed.  
 A. 7.—It is regulated by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are boxed in.

A. 9.



A. 9.—In each room of the mill-house there is a supply of water for the people washing themselves, which has existed since its erection. They change their outer clothing on entering and leaving the work, although there are no separate apartments provided for that purpose. All are provided with boxes for keeping their clean clothes.

A. 10.—Sometimes at nine years of age. One boy attended a tobacconist, and a girl was employed sewing.

A. 11.—It does not, and if it were not required by the parents it would be no inconvenience to us that they could not be employed under twelve years.

A. 12.—Since the work was erected there has been no alteration in machinery such as to render the employment either of a greater or less proportion of children under twelve years of age necessary.

A. 13.—Learners are employed, but no apprentices.

A. 15.—They are not.

A. 17 & 18.—Persons of all ages are employed the same number of hours, viz. twelve hours and three quarters for five days of the week, and twelve on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half is the greatest, and this occurred only in a single instance. The usual rate at which extra time is made up is half an hour daily.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days year ending 9th May 1833.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven hours forty-five minutes; year ending 9th May 1833.

A. 22.—All parts of the work are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours twenty-five minutes and a quarter.

A. 24.—Only one set of children is employed.

A. 25.—When a part of the steam-engine was broken, and occasionally when the people choose to work extra hours at one time that they might be at liberty at another. The whole extra time worked during year ending 9th May amounts to nine hours and fourteen minutes.

A. 26.—It may be avoided.

A. 27.—We have not.

A. 29.—We have no experience in this.

A. 33.—We never have.

A. 37.—There has been no reduction in the working hours since the work was first employed. The cost of production in wages would not only increase in proportion to the reduction in the working hours, but the charges of interest, deterioration, &c. would also tell very heavily on the diminished quantity produced in consequence of such reduction.

A. 38, 39, 40.—There is no artificial heat required.

A. 46.—There are no such processes about the work as are here referred to.

A. 53.—Mechanics one hour; mill-hands thirty minutes to breakfast, and the same to dinner.

A. 54.—They may all leave the work at meal hours, with the exception of the fireman.

A. 55 & 56.—It is necessary for the fireman to be always in attendance.

A. 57.—Small fines or dismissal.

A. 58.—They are not.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—In our short experience no difference has been observed.

A. 68.—The different processes are so similar that this has not been done.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 78.—As there is no law applicable to this factory we have no suggestions to make.

A. 79.—In regard to the present inquiry we have only to remark, that if the result should show that legislative interference is really necessary, we hope such a measure as the one proposed will not be extended to flax factories, where, in its present shape, it is certainly not required, as the hours of labour would be thereby reduced to an extent altogether uncalled for, and penalties would be thereby imposed on the proprietors of a nature the most unjust and oppressive.

JOHN and GEORGE PATON.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM TAMNON, Manager for Richards and Company, Montrose.

No. 89.

*William Tamnon.*

A. 1.—Montrose, county of Forfar.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—This mill was erected by Mr. Ford in 1805, enlarged in 1813 or 1814; the mill was unemployed for several years after that time, and was bought by this company in 1817, by whom it has been since worked under the present manager.

A. 4.—Steam; two engines; one twenty-five horse power, and the other fourteen horse power.

A. 5.—The ventilation is by windows and doors, which are constantly open to a certain extent in fine weather.

A. 7.—The overseer of each room attends to the opening and shutting the windows, according to the weather, as he is always in the room.

A. 8.—They are all fenced off with wooden boxes.

A. 9.—Water-pipes with clean water are provided in each floor of the mill, where the workpeople can wash themselves, and cupboards and chests also for holding their clean clothes,

(APP.—A. 1.)

Q 3



Forfarshire.

William Tamnon.

clothes, which they are allowed to put on before their meal-time commences; in addition, there are regular water-closets in each floor of the mill, which were built at its first erection.

A. 10.—We have only one of nine years of age, and she is kept out of charity; there are only four at ten years of age, and they are all the children of persons employed about the works. There are about 260 persons employed altogether in this mill, and but a small proportion under twelve. Some of them may have been domestic servants, but we are not aware of any having been at trades.

A. 11.—The employment of children under twelve years of age is not from our choice, but generally to assist the parents employed about the work.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not rendered it necessary to employ more young children than formerly.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—Some may be orphans, but if they are young they are looked after by the kirk session or elders. They mostly live with relations, and we neither lodge nor maintain them.

A. 17.—The usual hours of work for five days in each week is thirteen hours and twenty minutes; but on Saturdays we only work ten hours and a half. This arrangement is made at the request of the hands themselves.

A. 19.—The longest time the hands are ever employed is just preceding the market or fair days, which happen twice a year, when the hands voluntarily work fourteen hours twenty minutes to get a holiday on the fair-days. We have never worked extra hours to make up lost time by breakage of machinery.

A. 20.—The total number of working days was 312 days; but we lost two days by a breakage of the main shaft of the large engine. A part of the hands thus thrown idle were transferred to work on the machinery driven by the small engine for one night, but in no case have the same hands worked night and day.

A. 21 & 22.—It has been already stated in A. 4. that this mill contains two steam-engines, each driving separate machinery; the total number of hours worked by each engine would have been three thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight hours forty minutes, being an average of twelve hours forty-one minutes and a quarter per day. The breakage explained in A. 20. lost twenty-one hours thirty-five minutes to the large engine, of which we recovered only nine hours on the small engine by working one night with hands which had not worked during the day. In addition to the above the large engine was worked two nights, one ten hours, the other nine hours, by the Craigs Mill hands.

A. 23.—Thirteen hours is the nominal time, but the maximum average is, as above stated, twelve hours forty-one minutes and a quarter.

A. 24.—The greatest number of hours has been fourteen hours twenty minutes, but this has been explained to arise from preparing for a holiday at the fair-days, and in no other instance. Vide A. 19.

A. 26.—No excess is necessary from the nature of the work, and is never resorted to but for the accommodation of the hands themselves, and with their ready concurrence.

A. 27.—In the year 1825 we worked fourteen hours per day for one summer only, for which we paid extra wages; we discontinued it the same year.

A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity is now lower than at the above date, because our wages are much reduced since then; but the cost of production must always be increased by the reduction of working time unless wages are reduced in a still greater proportion, because the charges for plant and management tell more seriously on a diminished production.

A. 29.—The only inducement to the manufacturer to contravene any existing law must be his profit; but we are not aware of any existing law for the regulation of flax-mills.

A. 31.—If we required to work extra hours we could not get a relay or fresh set of children under twenty-one years of age, because the population of Montrose is too limited to produce them, the numbers required to be a relay for a mill of our extent being so large.

A. 32.—The experiment has not been tried by us, and cannot be, for the reason given in last answer.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands, as we have no night-work.

A. 37.—The effect of a reduction in the working hours must ultimately be a reduction of wages to the hands employed, because the quantity of yarn produced from a given amount of plant being less, we could not continue to pay the same wages to the hands.

A. 38.—No artificial temperature is required in our mills, which can be carried on equally well in all temperatures. No arrangements are made to produce artificial heat.

A. 40.—There is no difference in the temperature nor in the hands employed.

A. 41.—The only times in which any of our works have been employed at night have been fully explained at A. 19, 21, 22, &c.

A. 42.—The circumstances under which we worked night-work have been often referred to as mere casualties, and not part of a regular system. We cannot trace the number of hands correctly, but it never was one half of them: in the case where the Craigs hands worked two nights here the number of hands was seventy.

A. 43.—Never exceeding ten hours, including twenty minutes for refreshment.

A. 46.—None. The various processes of flax and tow spinning can be abandoned and resumed at any time.

A. 47.



- A. 47.—We do not require continuous work, as explained above.
- A. 50.—With gas.
- A. 51.—The same as during the day, viz. windows and doors.
- A. 52.—We have no night-work, except in the cases referred to in A. 21 & 22.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and forty minutes for dinner.
- A. 54.—The whole hands are allowed to leave the works at meal-times; if any remain it is by choice.
- A. 55.—The workpeople please themselves entirely.
- A. 56.—Every person has the power of taking their meals out of the manufactory. None are required to take them in.
- A. 57.—We find the children obedient in general, and do not require any means to enforce obedience beyond occasional small fines or ultimate dismissal.
- A. 58.—They are not, to the best of our knowledge.
- A. 62.—Corporal punishments are forbidden, and we have never heard an instance of their infliction.
- A. 63.—The overlookers are strictly forbidden to punish any children, and it has never been considered necessary to issue any written instructions to that effect.
- A. 64.—Never, from the commencement of the works.
- A. 65.—None of them.
- A. 66.—We uniformly find that those spinners who begin young become the most skilful and handy, and there are very few instances among those who begin at an adult age where the spinners are so skilful and active as those who begin younger; we never attempt them, and cannot refer to any instances in the annexed list. In other branches of the manufacture we prefer them from sixteen to twenty years of age, except the weighers in the carding-room.
- A. 67.—The health of the people employed at these works during the last ten years has been always good, and we are not aware of any change in their health during that time; we consider them uniformly healthy.
- A. 68.—No change or selection is necessary in varying the employment of the hands from any effects of particular processes, as no injury whatever is produced from any process.
- A. 69.—We are not aware of any Act referring to flax spinning-mills, and do not yet see any necessity for one.
- A. 73.—We know of no mills in our neighbourhood but flax-mills, and we know of no law for the regulation of them.
- A. 78.—We know of no law empowering a scale of penalties for securing obedience to its provisions. The proprietors and manager of these works have sufficient penetration to discover that the interests of masters and servants are too closely interwoven to require penal regulations to stimulate them to treat their hands well, and they refer the Commissioners to a personal investigation of their works, to show at least that in their case all legislative provisions or penal regulations are unnecessary and uncalled for.
- A. 79.—The replies given to this string of questions embody our general opinions on each subject brought under our notice, and we have nothing further to add to them here.
- Montrose, 14th May 1833. WILLIAM TAMNON.

Forfarshire.

William Tamnon.

## ANSWERS of JOHN ROXBURGH, Strathmartin.

No. 90.

John Roxburgh.

- A. 1.—Parish of Strathmartin, county of Forfar.
- A. 2.—Spinning flax; nothing else.
- A. 3.—Originally a bleachfield, but turned into a flax tow-spinning mill in 1806, and afterwards in 1824 into a flax-mill.
- A. 4.—Partly steam, partly water; the latter very irregular; and the former being insufficient of itself to propel the whole machinery, the loss in the summer months has been very considerable, equal to a fourth part of the production. Extent of power, steam and water, ten horses.
- A. 5 & 6.—No specific provision other than the windows, or casual means, which are under the control of all or any of the people.
- A. 8.—All parts of the machinery considered dangerous are fenced off.
- A. 9.—No particular provision is made or thought necessary in the mill, as the dwelling houses are situated within one hundred yards of it, where these conveniences are provided for them.
- A. 10.—Only one at present as low as eleven years of age, and whether any of the others had been at other trades I cannot say.
- A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age.
- A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not caused any difference in respect of the employment of young children.
- A. 13.—I employ no apprentices.
- A. 15.—None of the children at present employed are orphans, and the parents reside at the work.
- A. 16.—The children are under the superintendence of their parents.
- A. 17.—The usual number of hours each day that the persons above twenty-one years are employed is thirteen.

(APP.—A. 1.)

Q 4

A. 18.



Forfarshire.

*John Roxburgh.*

- A. 18.—Those under twenty-one the same.  
 A. 19.—Beyond the regular time, say thirteen hours, twenty to thirty minutes are sometimes added, which is deducted from Saturday.  
 A. 20 & 21.—Three hundred and five days. No record kept of the hours, many being lost for want of water.  
 A. 22.—All must go or stand together.  
 A. 23.—No record kept, but it will not exceed eleven.  
 A. 25.—The usual hours exceeded at night only when time is lost by day.  
 A. 26.—By water-power irregularity is unavoidable.  
 A. 27 & 28.—Some years ago the hours were rather longer, but at that time wages were rather higher; therefore the difference is not great in the cost of production.  
 A. 29.—Surely nothing but a view to profit could induce a spinner to work extra hours or by night without any change of hands; but no such practice obtains here.  
 A. 31.—Require no extra hours.  
 A. 33.—No night-work done here.  
 A. 37.—Of opinion that a reduction of the hours of work would increase the cost of that work in the same proportion as the time is shortened.  
 A. 38.—No particular degree of heat is required. The lower the temperature the better for the work.  
 A. 50.—By oil-lamps.  
 A. 51.—Same as by day.  
 A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, same for dinner, to all.  
 A. 54, 55, & 56.—All leave the work at meal-times.  
 A. 57.—If they will not attend to their work, no other means are resorted to but dismissal.  
 A. 58.—Are not allowed.  
 A. 62.—Positively forbidden them.  
 A. 64.—No complaints have been made or proceedings taken before a magistrate against me or any of my foremen on the subject of any punishment alleged to have been inflicted on any person about this work within the last twenty-seven years.  
 A. 65.—They do, and care is taken to enforce cleanliness when necessary, and care is also taken to prevent immorality.  
 A. 67.—No alteration, so far as I observe.  
 A. 79.—Cannot see the propriety of any legislative interference, when the servant, if dissatisfied with the situation, may leave it at fourteen days notice.

JOHN ROXBURGH.

Lanarkshire.

No. 91.

*Hugh Cogan.*

## LANARKSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of HUGH COGAN, of the Firm of John Bartholomew and Co.

- A. 1.—Barony, parish of Glasgow.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving by power.  
 A. 3.—Cotton works in 1800, the old works, since a good deal remodelled, in 1831, and the new cotton work wholly erected in 1823; weaving factory about 1795.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power only. Cotton-mill engine sixty horse power, weaving engine twelve horse power; in all, seventy-two horses.  
 A. 5.—The card-rooms are ventilated by funnels in two or three places from each room; also the scutching-rooms; which carry off the dust so as not materially to affect the air in the lower part of the room in which the workers move.  
 A. 6.—In the spinning-rooms and weaving-work by the windows only.  
 A. 7.—In the card and preparing rooms, where the fanners which supply the funnels go by power, the ventilation goes constantly on whilst the engine goes, and the people are at work; in the spinning-rooms an opening pane in each window is regulated by the spinners themselves.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have never considered this necessary. A number of the hands, females, viz. in order to appear clean out of doors, change their upper garments when they come into the work, substituting a working-dress there, which dress is generally cleaned weekly.  
 A. 10.—Rarely under ten years; they generally begin with us.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely, although for some parts of the work younger hands answer fully better.  
 A. 12.—There is no difference in our experience.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Never longer than twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—At New Year's day and the annual city fair two or three holidays are always allowed, and there are also three sacramental fast-days yearly, during which we shut our works; in whole, we scarcely exceed three hundred working days during the year.  
 A. 22.—Our works always go the full time, and the whole go together.

A. 23.



A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—No different sets of children, and the children are always employed along with the other workers.

A. 25.—Never exceeded.

A. 27.—At one time we averaged twelve hours per day; never more.

A. 28.—Gradual improvements in machinery render it difficult to answer this question.

A. 29.—Saving of rent, or return from the large capital necessarily invested in such premises.

A. 31.—The objection is not insurmountable; the employment of two sets of hands in completing the same work obviously renders it difficult to fix upon the proper individual when faults are found to exist.

A. 32.—Never by us.

A. 37.—Any important additional reduction of the time would enhance materially the cost of production by increasing the rental on the quantity produced, even although the wages of those hands who are paid by the day were reduced in proportion to the diminished time, and such a change increases the difficulty of competing with foreigners.

A. 38 & 39.—We never require to exceed 75°; our more usual temperature, however, is about 65°.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 52.—We observe no bad effects; of course we (as before observed) employ none during the night.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour; but no fine imposed, unless habitually late.

A. 54.—Almost all.

A. 55.—Never for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—We very rarely permit any meal being taken within the walls, and when allowed, it is altogether for the convenience of the worker.

A. 57.—We use no coercion; if a hand is found unfit for his work, we part with him as soon as possible.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 65.—Very few of them.

A. 66.—Every thing depends on the workers, as a general rule; the old Scotch saying, "Learn young learn fair," holds true in this as in every thing else.

A. 67.—The general arrangement of machinery recently put up, the more elevated ceilings, and more airy rooms of such works have all conspired during the last twelve or fifteen years to improve the healthfulness of such works.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 73.—We never trouble ourselves with the operations of others, however near to us.

A. 77.—We have always been on the best footing with our workers, and we have no reason to think that they would decline giving any evidence on our account.

A. 78.—We must leave this to the collective wisdom of the nation after they have the result of the present inquiry before them.

HUGH COGAN.

#### ANSWERS of PETER BOGLE, Parish of Barony, Glasgow.

No. 92.

Peter Bogle.

A. 1.—Bridgeton, parish of Barony and county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The work was erected in 1823, and commenced operations in 1825, for its present purpose.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of thirty-two horse power.

A. 5.—The provision for ventilating the factory is by means of opening panes in the windows, and its effects are such as to air the rooms properly.

A. 6.—By an opening pane in each window.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the workpeople and the overlookers.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—Every arrangement for the health and convenience of the workpeople is strictly attended to; but as the nature of their work is such as to require no change in their clothing, (with the exception of substituting a clean for a soiled apron upon their leaving the work,) we have no arrangements for that purpose. With regard to an arrangement for washing their persons we have none, as it is distinctly understood that they wash themselves at home. For those who are incidentally employed in cleaning the machinery there is a place appropriated to wash their hands, which is open to all. These arrangements have been since the commencement of the work.

A. 10.—None are employed under nine years of age. The only trade we know of that the children have been employed at is hand-loom weaving.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery enable us to employ a greater proportion of young people, but we consider it by no means requisite that they should be under twelve years of age.

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R

A. 13.



Lanarkshire.

Peter Bogle.

A. 13.—No apprentices employed.

A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any of the children.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and ten minutes during five days of the week, and on Saturday eight hours and ten minutes. Working the additional ten minutes on five days is at the especial request of the workers, which enables them to complete their day's work on Saturday before going to dinner.

A. 18.—Twelve hours and ten minutes during five days of the week, and on Saturday eight hours and ten minutes. All work the same hours.

A. 19.—Our mill was never at work during the period specified more than twelve hours and ten minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-two hours.

A. 22.—All the parts of the work are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and ten minutes.

A. 25.—Upon two occasions, when reform processions took place, the workers got leave to attend them on condition of making up the lost time, which they did by working some additional hours on the following Saturdays; but the lost time was not all exacted, as we disapprove of keeping the work open extra hours.

A. 26.—As we have no other mode of exacting regular attendance, we make the workers work up the time lost by their absence in working extra hours. In this respect we consider it unavoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Although since our commencing business the hours of working have been all along the same; still we are satisfied that if the daily hours of labour were reduced, the cost of production would be proportionably increased.

A. 29.—One great inducement to the manufacture in having his work done by one set of hands is to enable him to make each person responsible for the quality of the work produced by him; and as the work is of such a nature that it cannot be laid aside to make room for a new set of workers, and resumed again by the former set, but must be continued in the process by the set following, it would be impossible to make such a distinction between the work of the two sets of hands as that each would be responsible for his own. There is another great inducement for continuing the same set of hands; from the nature of the machinery it would be subject to great damage and liable to much tear and wear if neglected to be properly cleaned and oiled, and it must be evident that there would be very great difficulty in getting two sets of hands to take the same care of it that one would.

A. 30.—We are of opinion that the limitation of the hours of work would increase the expence of production in all branches of trade where there is a capital sunk in public works.

A. 31.—The chief objection to having relays of the people described is the difficulty of making each set responsible for the quality of work, as, from the nature of cotton-spinning, the work of each set cannot be laid aside, and resumed on their return. Another great objection to changing hands is the additional tear and wear it would cause to the machinery from the difficulty of getting two sets of hands to take the same care of it as one would.

A. 32.—As we work no extra hours, this question is inapplicable to us.

A. 33.—We never have worked through the night.

A. 36.—The prohibition of night-work would give us great satisfaction, as it would put the trade on an equal footing.

A. 37.—It would be extremely prejudicial to the trade, as it would give a decided advantage to the foreign manufacturer, and cause a reduction in the workers wages at home.

A. 38.—Usual temperature 76° and 80°; we consider 76° as low as the nature of the process will allow.

A. 39.—78°.

A. 40.—There is no process in the work that requires an increased temperature.

A. 47.—We have no process that requires continuous attention.

A. 50.—No night-work; during the winter in the morning and evening lighted with gas.

A. 51.—No night-work, but the provision when the work is lighted in the morning and evening during winter is the same as during day.

A. 52.—As we have no night-work, we cannot give a positive answer.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and three quarters of an hour to dinner, to all the workers.

A. 54.—It is understood that all the workers should leave the mill at meal-times, but at the special request of a few who live at some distance these are allowed to take their meals in the work.

A. 55.—Those who take their meals in the work do so entirely for their own convenience.

A. 56.—The effect would be that those persons who take their meals in the work would be obliged to take them in the fields, or pay some one else for the privilege granted by us.

A. 57.—Admonishment, and if that has not the desired effect, dismissal.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment allowed in the work.

A. 62.—Corporal punishment is strictly forbidden, and any person punishing a child is dismissed from the work.

A. 64.



A. 64.—No complaint was ever made either against ourselves or servants, consequently no proceedings have ever been instituted.

A. 65.—Our workpeople live in houses of their own; we therefore have no control over their domestic arrangements.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed in the works from infancy are decidedly superior in skill, but we have observed no difference in general character between them and those who have entered the work at a later period of life.

A. 67.—We believe that during the last ten years there has been no material change in the general health of the people, which has all along been uniformly good.

A. 68.—From the uniform nature of our work, we do not consider it necessary.

A. 69.—We consider it so.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We believe they do, but know of no steps taken to enforce obedience.

A. 74.—We do not recollect of having heard of any such case.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that the workers would be afraid of giving evidence; we are perfectly satisfied that evidence could easily be obtained.

A. 78.—We can suggest no other scale of penalties, or any other means which would secure greater obedience to the present law, which we believe is well attended to in this district.

A. 79.—The only observation we would make with reference to the subject of the present inquiry is, that any farther restriction of the present hours would hold out a greater inducement to people to evade the law by solely employing workers above the interdicted age.

PETER BOGLE.

Lanarkshire.

Peter Bogle.

#### ANSWERS of J. K. CLARK, for the Barrowfield Weaving Company, Glasgow.

No. 93.

J. K. Clark.

A. 1.—Barony parish of Glasgow and county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Power-loom; cotton cloth only of light fabrics.

A. 3.—The large body of the work was entirely built in 1824.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines of fourteen horse power each.

A. 5.—We have large ventilators in the roofs and gables.

A. 6.—The ventilation depends on these ventilators, but in addition we have it in our power to open several windows hinged for the purpose.

A. 7.—The ventilators are regulated entirely by the operatives, and for the purpose only of the comfort of the workers. The work is entirely one story, and lighted from the roof.

A. 8.—Any parts of the machinery that are dangerous are out of the way or fenced off.

A. 9.—Every worker has access to troughs of cold and hot water for washing themselves. This convenience the work has always. The mill is swept three times each day, and the floor washed with hot water every alternate Friday. These arrangements have long existed in the work. The sweeping always, and the washing for three years, being when we put in a deal in place of a brick floor.

A. 10.—We do not know that any in the work are under twelve years of age, and we do not know that any have been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—We do not require hands under twelve years.

A. 12.—No alterations that have taken place in machinery cause us to employ a greater or less proportion of children under twelve years.

A. 13.—No apprentices.

A. 15.—All the workers come from their own, their parents, or guardians dwelling house, to the work, and are in no shape under our control excepting during working hours.

A. 17.—Our work continues twelve hours each day excepting Saturdays, which are nine hours.

A. 18.—Same time for young persons as adults.

A. 19.—We never have wrought more than twelve hours per day during the last year, or nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 20.—Three hundred days of work during last year.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours of work during last year.

A. 22.—All the departments of our work continue during the whole of the twelve hours.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half is the average of work for each day of the week during last year.

A. 24.—We have no sets of workers.

A. 25.—We have never exceeded the hours.

A. 26.—We do not require to exceed the hours.

A. 27.—Previously to the present Time Act we wrought a half hour longer each day, and on Saturdays two hours and three quarters longer, than at present.

A. 28.—The cost of our cloth is enhanced by our hours being shortened.

A. 29.—The wish for unfettered hours by the manufacturer is simply to produce more cloth at one expence.

A. 30.—The cost of our cloth is increased just in proportion as our hours of work are diminished, in so far as regards our cost from capital sunk in buildings and machinery.

A. 31.—No objection to relays of young persons.

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A. 32.



Lanarkshire.

J. K. Clark.

- A. 32.—Young persons no more than adults will take any less than full employment.
- A. 33.—We have had no experience of night-work.
- A. 37.—We are perfectly certain our set-wage hands will not accept of less wages per day, though our time should be reduced one, two, three, or four hours; our quantity being lessened, with the same invested capital, will cause our cloths to cost us more.
- A. 38.—We never heat our work but to render it comfortable to the persons employed, the machinery requiring no extra heat.
- A. 39.—No degree of heat required to the apartment farther than for comfort.
- A. 40.—No process requiring the apartment to be heated above comfort.
- A. 50.—In winter we light with gas mornings and evenings.
- A. 53.—The time for meals is, to all the hands, three quarters of an hour to each for breakfast and dinner.
- A. 54.—They are all allowed and desired to go to their houses to meals.
- A. 55.—When they do not, it is entirely a toleration to the worker.
- A. 56.—Every worker must be the better for going home to his meals rather than remain in the factory.
- A. 57.—No means are required to force obedience by the young persons. They know they will be dismissed the work if refractory.
- A. 58.—There is no corporal punishment here.
- A. 62.—We do not know of punishments being practised in the works in or near to Glasgow.
- A. 64.—We never were complained upon for inflicting punishments; we never heard of such complaint against any manufacturer.
- A. 65.—The workers do not live in houses belonging to us, but in houses rented from proprietors in the neighbourhood.
- A. 66.—We do not think we can throw any light on this subject, as we do not employ very young persons.
- A. 67.—We do consider our factory exceedingly healthy, and we consider that it is more so since we put away the brick floor three years ago, and put in a deal floor.
- A. 68.—We have no injurious processes in our manufacture.
- A. 69.—We are entirely regulated by the present Act.
- A. 70.—We never were informed against.
- A. 73.—We consider it invidious to speak of our neighbours; but we think, when an act is passed, that the legislature ought themselves to look after the enforcement of its provisions. We consider it speaks highly for our countrymen that, although there may have been infringements of the running Act, no one has been found an informer, notwithstanding the bounty offered, so far as we have heard.
- A. 74 & 75.—No person we ever heard of has been summoned before a magistrate, and of course never heard of any being fined.
- A. 76.—Never heard of any evidence being required.
- A. 77.—We do not think any worker would be deterred from giving evidence by fear of the master.
- A. 78.—We have a great dislike to penalties and to private informers, and also to legislative enactments, upon the principle already acted upon. We think that other methods might be discovered to protect young persons against tyranny without enactments that force us to reduce the hours of adults equally with those to which the law limits the employment of children.

J. K. CLARK.

No. 94.

John Ewing.

## ANSWERS of JOHN EWING for the Mile-end Spinning Company, Glasgow.

- A. 1.—Village of Mile-end in the Barony parish of Glasgow.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning.
- A. 3.—The work containing the carding and spinning machinery was erected about twenty-two or twenty-three years ago; the other operations carried on in an addition made about fourteen years ago.
- A. 4.—Steam-power.
- A. 5.—There is an opening pane of glass in every window, thirty-six windows in each room of the carding and spinning departments; besides, there is a ventilating chimney in every spinning-room.
- A. 6.—Opening of windows.
- A. 7.—At the control of those employed.
- A. 8.—Fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have a pump-well on the premises, where they are permitted to wash.
- A. 10.—Nine years; the children are almost wholly employed by the operative spinners.
- A. 11.—I should think not under eleven or twelve years.
- A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.
- A. 17 & 18.—Sixty-nine hours weekly.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 20.—The whole year, with the exception of nine or ten days.
- A. 21.—Sixty-nine hours weekly, with the exception of the above nine or ten days.

A. 22.



- A. 22.—Wholly carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half each day; during the last year nine or ten days excepted, when the mill did not work.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 25.—In order to make up lost time, but this was of rare occurrence.
- A. 26.—It may be avoided only by not making up the time lost by accidents or otherwise.
- A. 27.—Yes; before we were limited by Act of Parliament we wrought it twelve hours and a half each day.
- A. 29.—In order to bring his manufacture into the market at a cheaper rate and in greater quantity.
- A. 33.—We have never employed a night-set of hands.
- A. 37.—It must either increase the cost of the article manufactured, or reduce the wages of the persons employed.
- A. 38.—The average heat is not more than 75° or 76°, although it may occasionally be a little higher or a little lower; the lowest heat necessary may be 70° or 72°.
- A. 39 & 40.—We require no higher degree of heat than is mentioned above for the carding and spinning departments, where one hundred and ninety hands are employed; a lower degree of heat is sufficient for the other processes.
- A. 50.—With gas, morning and evening from the middle of September till the latter end of March.
- A. 53.—Forty minutes to breakfast, and the same to dinner.
- A. 54, 55, & 56.—They all leave the work at meal-time.
- A. 57.—Dismissal in case of disobedience.
- A. 58.—No corporal punishment permitted.
- A. 64.—No complaints.
- A. 65.—They do not live in the houses of their employers.
- A. 66.—I am unable to answer this query, but it must be more difficult to learn a grown-up person than one who has commenced learning in childhood.
- A. 67.—There is neither improvement nor deterioration that I am aware of.
- A. 68.—It has been done when the worker requested it, but this is of rare occurrence.
- A. 69.—It is.
- A. 73.—I cannot positively say, but I believe they generally conform to the Act.

JOHN EWING.

Lanarkshire.

John Ewing.

## ANSWERS of H. HOULDSWORTH &amp; SONS, Anderston, Glasgow.

- A. 1.—Anderston, in the barony parish of Glasgow, county of Lanark, Scotland.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.
- A. 3.—Two mills; one erected in 1801, the other in 1805.
- A. 4.—Steam-power; three engines, equal to a power of eighty horses, sixty of which are employed in spinning, the remaining twenty horses in driving a machine-shop and foundry.
- A. 5.—All our windows have openings, the greater number equal to eighteen inches square, and others two panes. The largest of our mills has twenty-four windows in each room of one hundred and two feet long by thirty-eight feet broad. The number of workers employed in each of these rooms is twenty-four to twenty-eight. The ventilation is ample, provided the workers attend to our instructions to keep the windows open, but which they seldom do. We, therefore, are about to erect in a new mill we are at present building in the country a pump or fanner to be constantly worked by the moving power, which will draw its supply of air from the heated rooms through the necessary pipes.
- A. 7.—Overlookers as well as operatives are strictly enjoined to keep the windows open.
- A. 8.—All the parts of the machinery which are considered by the proprietors as dangerous to the workers, and which can be fenced off consistently with the good working of the machines, are so fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have no apartments allotted to the workers for the changing of their clothes on entering the manufactory, or of washing themselves; but the workers are in the habit, of their own accord, of making changes in their habiliments on entering and leaving the factory.
- A. 10.—We seldom employ any hands under eleven or twelve years old. The children under these ages are employed by the spinners, and are frequently taken in without our knowledge. When we observe any child whom we suspect is below nine years old, its parents are questioned, who almost universally state the age to be upwards of nine. Their employment is to clean the dust and cotton flowings off the machinery, which they effect in five or ten minutes four or five times each day. They also carry messages to the overlookers, and perform other little necessary duties, which would otherwise have to be done by the spinner or one of his assistants, which would interfere with his produce, and consequently with his wages. Children at nine, or below that age, are frequently put to the loom, and as draw-boys or assistants to hand-loom weavers, and frequently leave these employments to get into cotton-mills.
- A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require children under twelve years of age; but as every operative spinner requires one irregular hand to clean and send messages, a child of

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nine

No. 95.

H. Houldsworth  
& Sons.



Lanarkshire.

H. Houldsworth  
& Sons.

nine or ten is nearly as useful for this purpose as one of twelve or above, and the lower rate of wages is the only inducement for their employment. These young children generally get at first from 1s. to 1s. 6d. each week, and after one or two years experience will get 2s. to 2s. 6d. per week.

A. 12.—We are of opinion that the improvements in mule-spinning machinery require a less proportion of children under twelve years.

A. 17.—Twelve hours per day and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Old mill three hundred and three days, and new mill three hundred days.

A. 21.—New mill three thousand four hundred and one hours and three quarters, and old mill three thousand four hundred and forty-eight hours and thirty-three minutes.

A. 22.—On the 17th, 18th, 21st, 22d, 23d, and 24th January 1833 the new mill card-room worked half an hour more each day than what is noted — short of preparation.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—At various times, when a stoppage took place from a shaft breaking, the engine going wrong, or a holiday allowed the workers at their request, on which occasion half an hour additional per day was sometimes worked up during the following ten days, a whole hour for ten days being allowed by the Act.

A. 26.—It is our opinion that the moving power driving cotton machinery should be limited, under all circumstances, to a stated time daily, and no lost time, from whatever cause, worked up; otherwise any legislative measure will be as inoperative as the present and previous Acts have been, and any other clause a new Act may contain will not only be ineffectual, but will greatly lessen the advantages which the promoters intend, by affording the avaricious opportunities of evasion, by working longer time, and thereby obtaining an advantage over those who are anxious to conform to the law.

A. 27.—Previous to the Regulation Act we worked our mills seventy-two hours per week.

A. 28.—We consider our cost of production has been enhanced by the reduction in the hours of labour.

A. 29.—Owing to the great cost of cotton-mills the interest on the capital alone is considerable, which, added to the incidental expences, form a sum nearly equal to the whole wages paid to the workers in any one year; therefore any additional yarn produced by working extra hours must benefit the master by reducing the cost per lb.

A. 30.—The interest on our capital and incidental expences amount, on an average, in our mill, to about 8½d. per lb.; if our working hours were reduced to eleven per day, these charges would be 9.45d. per lb., if to ten hours, 11.55d. per lb. Thus by reducing our hours of labour to nine hours per day, our cost would be increased 3d. per lb. on yarn worth 2s. 6d., or ten per cent. This supposes the wages of our workers reduced in proportion to the hours worked, which reduction probably might not wholly be effected.

A. 31.—We only see one objection to this, that in towns there would be a difficulty in preventing the same children from working in two factories on the same day.

A. 32.—Not been tried by us, for we have never heard of the children being fatigued with their work. On the contrary, when, by any accidental stoppage, the workers are not required in the mill, we have the greatest difficulty in keeping out the young children. If there be any symptoms of fatigue in those employed by us, it is by the adults, and not by the children.

A. 34.—We have never employed more than one set.

A. 36.—It would only affect us by stopping those who do practise it, and to that extent relieving the markets of the extra produce.

A. 37.—As previously stated in A. 30, our cost of production would be materially increased, and consequently the price of the article produced would be increased also, and thus we would be giving a bonus to foreigners to increase their manufactories. Gradually as this change took place abroad would we find it necessary to reduce the workers wages, and then the price of the manufacture in order to force sales; and the ultimate result would be great misery among the working classes in this country, and an increased demand for labour abroad, where no legislative enactments fetter the community.

A. 38.—The usual temperature in our mills is sixty-four to seventy-four degrees. The comfort and feelings of the workers, particularly the children, is our principal guide; they being thinly dressed, and having no labour beyond locomotion, require a temperature that will enable them to use their fingers with freedom and facility in order to piece the broken threads, but without producing perspiration, which would spoil the work. Heat is not essentially necessary in any of the processes in our manufacture beyond that which the hands require. The difficulty of regulating the heat is the principal cause of its being higher than is necessary.

A. 39 & 40.—The spinning department, in which two thirds of the workers are employed, requires the greatest heat from the causes above stated, the operation of the other processes being less delicate, and the workers generally not less than fourteen years of age.

A. 50.—Gas is our light when required.

A. 51.—The same as in the day, that is, by openings in the windows; it is in contemplation however to effect this object by opening a communicating pipe after the mill is stopped at night from the pipe through which the foul air is drawn by the fanner, as explained in

A. 5.,



A. 5., and the chimney of the steam-boilers; the heat which the chimney has acquired through the day will produce a strong draft from the room during the whole night.

A. 52.—Have had no experience.

A. 53.—All hands in our mills have half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Our orders are that none remain during meal-hours.

A. 57.—Finding fault, and if that fails discharging them; flogging or whipping is not permitted for any fault with their work.

A. 60.—When any worker who is under the age of legal correction commits violence upon others to the effusion of blood, or commits any other offence which would subject him to legal punishment, we sometimes strap them, or order the door-keeper to do so in our presence, rather than discharge them, provided the circumstances of his parents are such as to render it probable by our doing so he would acquire idle and other bad habits.

A. 61.—Neither.

A. 62.—Yes; and in severe cases uniformly dismiss an adult person who takes upon himself to strike another in the mill or out of it, if it be in consequence of any thing done in it.

A. 63.—None, except general instructions to see that no child be improperly used.

A. 65.—We have houses in which some of our workpeople reside, but they are not required to do so; and we pay a medical man to attend such as are unable to pay one themselves. An inspector visits these houses always weekly, and if required oftener, to enforce cleanliness, and should they be found fault with frequently for uncleanness or improper conduct without effect they are dismissed.

A. 66.—The piecers, who in after-life are spinners, are the only description of hands that require to begin early in life; they acquire a facility from commencing when young that a grown-up person, or one even at fifteen or sixteen, can seldom if ever acquire; if a child begins at nine or ten it will earn its own subsistence at eleven or twelve.

A. 67.—We have no data here except our own belief, and we are not aware of any difference whatever except what may arise from more attention being now paid to the internal management of our mills.

A. 68.—No; we may observe however, that last year, when cholera was raging all around us, in one of our buildings, containing at that time sixty-two families, or about four hundred and fifty persons, all going in at one door, and those the poorest of our workers, not a single case occurred.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 73.—Some of them, we believe, do not, and we are not aware that any steps have ever been taken in consequence of disobedience. The interests of those willing to conform to the law would have induced them to put a stop to the illegal practice of others working longer time than the law allows, had it been possible in practice to have carried on their works without being themselves daily exposed to the same consequences from violation of the minor clauses of the Act by their workpeople, contrary to general orders; this circumstance alone has induced avaricious men to commit the most flagrant violations openly and with impunity.

A. 77.—We are of opinion that the workpeople would be more afraid to give evidence in favour of than against their masters.

H. HOULDSWORTH and SONS.

#### ANSWERS of CHARLES KIRKWOOD, for the Barrowfield Weaving Company, Glasgow.

No. 96.

Charles Kirkwood.

A. 1.—Barony parish of Glasgow and county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Power-loom; cotton-cloth only, of light fabrics.

A. 3.—The large body of the work was entirely built in 1824.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines of fourteen horse power each.

A. 5.—We have large ventilators in the roofs and gables.

A. 6.—The ventilation depends on these ventilators, but in addition we have it in our power to open several windows hinged for the purpose.

A. 7.—The ventilators are regulated entirely by the operatives, and for the purpose only of the comfort of the workers; the work is entirely one story, and lighted from the roof.

A. 8.—Any parts of the machinery that are dangerous are out of the way, or fenced off.

A. 9.—Every worker has access to troughs of cold and hot water for washing themselves; this convenience the work has always; the mill is swept three times every day, and the floor washed with hot water every alternate Friday. These arrangements have long existed in the work; the sweeping always, and the washing for three years, being when we put in a deal floor in place of brick floor.

A. 10.—We do not know that any in the work are under twelve years of age, and we do not know that any have been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—We do not require hands under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—No alteration that has taken place in machinery cause us to employ a greater or less proportion of hands under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No apprentices.

A. 15.—All the workers come from their own parents or guardians dwelling houses to the work, and are in no shape under our control, excepting during working hours.

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A. 17.



Lanarkshire.  
 Charles Kirkwood.

- A. 17.—Our work continues twelve hours each day excepting Saturdays, which are nine hours.
- A. 18.—Same time for young persons as adults.
- A. 20.—Three hundred days of work during last year.
- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours of work during last year.
- A. 22.—All the departments of our work continue during the whole twelve hours.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half is the average of work for each day of the week during last year.
- A. 24.—We have no sets of workers.
- A. 25.—We have never exceeded the hours.
- A. 27.—Previously to the present Time Act we wrought a half hour longer each day, and on Saturdays two hours and three quarters, longer than at present.
- A. 28.—The cost of our cloth is enhanced by our hours being shortened.
- A. 29.—The wish for unfettered hours by the manufacturer is simply to produce more cloth at one expence.
- A. 30.—The cost of our cloth is increased just in proportion as our hours of work are diminished, in so far as regards our cost from capital sunk in building and machinery.
- A. 31.—No objections to relays of young persons.
- A. 32.—Young persons, no more than adults, will take any less than full employment.
- A. 33.—We have had no experience of night-work.
- A. 36.—No good that we can see arises from night-work.
- A. 37.—We are perfectly certain our set-wages hands will not accept of less wages per day, though our time should be reduced one, two, three, or four hours; our quantity being lessened with the same invested capital will cause our cloth to cost us more.
- A. 38.—We never heat our work but to render it comfortable to the person employed, the machinery requiring no extra heat.
- A. 39.—No degree of heat required to the apartment further than for comfort.
- A. 40.—No process requiring the apartment to be heated above comfort.
- A. 50.—In winter we light with gas mornings and evenings.
- A. 53.—The time to meals is to all hands three quarters of an hour to each for breakfast and dinner.
- A. 54.—They are all allowed and ordered or desired to go to their houses to meals.
- A. 55.—When they do not, it is entirely a toleration to the worker.
- A. 56.—Every worker must be better for going home to his meals, rather than remain in factory.
- A. 57.—No means are required to force obedience by the young persons; they know they will be dismissed the work if refractory.
- A. 58.—There is no corporal punishment here.
- A. 62.—We do not know of punishments being practised in the works in or near to Glasgow.
- A. 63.—No instructions were ever given by us to inflict punishment.
- A. 64.—We never were complained upon for inflicting punishments; we never heard of such complaint against any manufacturer.
- A. 65.—The workers do not live in houses belonging to us, but in houses rented from proprietors in the neighbourhood.
- A. 66.—We do not think we can throw any light on this subject, as we do not employ very young persons.
- A. 67.—We do consider our factory exceedingly healthy, and we consider that it is more so since we put away the brick floor three years ago, and put in a deal floor.
- A. 68.—We have no injurious processes in our manufacture.
- A. 69.—We are entirely regulated by the present Act.
- A. 70.—We never were informed against.
- A. 73.—We consider it invidious to speak of our neighbours, but we think, when an Act is passed, that the legislature ought themselves to look after the enforcement of its provisions. We consider it speaks highly for our countrymen that although there may have been infringements of the running Act, no one has been found an informer, notwithstanding the bounty offered.
- A. 74.—No person we ever heard of has been summoned before a magistrate.
- A. 77.—We do not think any worker would be deterred from giving evidence by fear of the masters.
- A. 78.—We have a great dislike to penalties and to private informers, and also to legislative enactments, upon the principle already acted upon; we think that other methods might be discovered to protect young persons against tyranny without enactments that force us to reduce the hours of adults equally with those to which the law limits the employment of children.

CHARLES KIRKWOOD.



ANSWERS of ROBERT JOHNSTON, Messrs. May and Dennistoun, Glasgow.

Lanarkshire.

No. 97.

Robert Johnston.

- A. 1.—County of Lanark, barony parish of Glasgow, and burgh of Calton.
- A. 2.—Spinning of cotton-yarn.
- A. 3.—There has been no alteration in the works since possession by the present proprietors.
- A. 4.—The machinery is driven by a steam-engine of eight-horse power.
- A. 5.—There is a provision for ventilation.
- A. 6.—It depends on the opening of the windows.
- A. 7.—It is left to the workers themselves, who are at liberty to open the windows when they think proper.
- A. 8.—There are no parts in the works considered dangerous.
- A. 9.—There is a pipe which conveys water into the court at which the workers have access at all times for the purpose of washing themselves; there is no place allotted to the workers for changing their clothes on entering or leaving their work, but they are at liberty to change their upper garments at their stations in the work.
- A. 10.—Nine years; none of them have ever been employed at other trades.
- A. 11.—Yes; for above twelve years they are too big for the nature of their employment.
- A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not caused any change in the number of children employed.
- A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.
- A. 15.—We do not at any time lodge and maintain children; the children we employ are either under the care of their parents or guardians.
- A. 16.—Yes, the manager of the works.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days of the week, and nine on Saturday.
- A. 18.—There is no difference of time with respect to the ages of the persons employed.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and eighty-four.
- A. 22.—All the different parts of our work are carried at one and the same time.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 25.—When the engine goes wrong or any part of the machinery gives way, the whole work is necessarily at a stand, or when the workers ask liberty for a few hours, the time thus lost is made up by working one half hour each day every alternate week till the loss of time is made good; under no other circumstances do we work extra time.
- A. 26.—We do not think that the above can well be avoided; the low price of yarns requires as much production as possible, otherwise the proprietors will be losers; besides, the workers at piece-work themselves generally request that their lost time should be made up.
- A. 27.—Yes; previous to the present Act being in force.
- A. 28.—Yes, it must necessarily be so.
- A. 29.—It is always desirable to have as few changes of hands as possible; manufacturers who have to employ an intermediate change of hands often find that the work previously done by the hands going out is spoiled by those coming in, as almost every workman has his own method of working; under these circumstances the manufacturer is induced to have no intermediate change of hands.
- A. 30.—There must necessarily be an increase in the cost of production from the limitation of hours of labour in all the departments of the work; the expence of working two hours longer each day is trifling in comparison to the loss that would be sustained in consequence of less production from working two hours shorter time.
- A. 31.—We have no objection whatever.
- A. 32.—No; it never was wished for by the children or their parents, as far as we know.
- A. 33.—No, we never at any time wrought all night.
- A. 37.—The value of factory produce is at present so low as barely gives the proprietor interest on his capital; on a still farther reduction of the hours of labour there would be a corresponding reduction in the quantity produced; and as there will be no rise in the value of produce, as other countries are making rapid progress in the art of spinning, some of them being already able to export, the probable effects would be, that a great number of proprietors will be entirely ruined.
- A. 38.—From 70° to 80°; we do not think that we could do with a lower rate of temperature, especially during the winter season.
- A. 39.—Eighty degrees.
- A. 40.—Forty-nine degrees.
- A. 50.—With gas.
- A. 51.—The same as during the day.
- A. 52.—As we do not work all night, we are not able to judge of the habits of persons so employed.
- A. 53.—From nine to a quarter to ten for breakfast, and from two to a quarter to three for dinner.
- A. 54.—Yes, they generally leave the works at meal-times.
- A. 57.—First threatened, then dismissed if found incorrigible.
- A. 58.—No corporal punishment is allowed to be inflicted on any person in the works.



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A. 62.—No corporal punishment has ever been inflicted on any person in the works; there never was any necessity for forbidding it.

A. 66.—There is a material difference in point of skill in those who have been brought up from infancy to the work from those who have commenced when advanced in life; they never made such good workmen; we refer particularly to spinning; in the other departments of the work it is not so material; we cannot speak as to character, neither can we refer to any person on our list, as they have all been put to the work in early life.

A. 67.—There is no difference, as far as we can observe.

A. 68.—We do not require to do so, as there are no processes carried on in the works which are deemed particularly injurious to health.

A. 69.—Yes, we consider ourselves subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70.—No, we never have been informed against.

A. 77.—We have no reason to think that they are.

A. 78.—No, we think the present Act perfectly sufficient of itself if properly enforced.

ROBERT JOHNSTON.

No. 98.

George Macleroy.

ANSWERS of GEORGE MACLEROY, for James Oswald & Co., Barrowfield Cotton Works, Glasgow.

A. 1.—Barony parish, Glasgow.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning—mule-twist.

A. 3.—Different times. First in 1802, secondly in 1811, and latterly in 1831.

A. 4.—Steam; first thirty and at present sixty horse power.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening of doors and one pane in each window, which at all times admits a sufficient quantity of fresh air.

A. 7.—The doors and panes in the windows are opened and shut at the pleasure of all the workers, subject to the control of the overlooker.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of our machinery are fenced off, excepting belts and light gearing. The former, from the manner and situation in which they work, cannot be completely fenced off. Accidents from belts are very rare, and I am not aware of any having occurred here. Accidents from small wheels, &c. are also uncommon, are uniformly the result of foolish temerity or carelessness on the part of the sufferers, and are seldom or never attended with fatal consequences.

A. 9.—Nothing farther than whitewashing the walls, and keeping two women constantly sweeping and washing the rooms and stairs, besides giving the workers a plentiful supply of good water.

A. 10.—None are employed under nine years with the knowledge of the masters, and none of them have been previously employed at any regular trade.

A. 11.—No; there are however forty persons in this work at present under that age.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have caused the employment of a greater proportion of young people, but I do not consider it necessary that they should be under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—There has been only one employed within these last seven years.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and ten minutes per day for five days, and eight hours twenty minutes on Saturday.

A. 18.—All work the same time.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and forty minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days and three quarters.

A. 21.—Not more than three thousand four hundred and seventy-seven hours.

A. 22.—All departments work the same time.

A. 23.—Nearly eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and forty minutes.

A. 25.—At the close of winter the works are generally stopped half an hour sooner to save lighting at night; this seldom continues longer than a week, and the lost time is made up during the following week or fortnight by working not more than half an hour extra per day. The works have been stopped also on extraordinary public occasions at the request of the workers, and the time lost on some of these occasions was afterwards wrought up in the same manner.

A. 26.—We do not work beyond the regular hours except when making up time, which we cannot cease doing without increasing the cost of production; all other excesses beyond the regular hours of work are avoidable.

A. 27.—Yes; half an hour more per day before the passing of the present Bill.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—The inducement is to produce a greater quantity at less expence, thereby enabling those who adopt this system to undersell their neighbours who only work the usual hours, and who, even though willing, are unable to procure a second set of workers to carry on their works at night; proprietors whose factories are situated in populous districts having a decided advantage over others whose works are situated in places where the population is limited.

A. 30.—If the wages of workers who are paid by the day are allowed to remain the same, the cost of production will be enhanced nearly in proportion to the reduction of hours. Suppose,



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Suppose, for example, that we produce per fortnight, of yarn, 16,500 lbs.; by reducing our working hours from twelve to ten per day, this would be a loss of two hours, or one sixth part of our time; but as it is said the spinners will throw off a larger quantity in these ten hours than they do in the same time at present, the reduction in quantity may be called one seventh instead of one sixth part: one seventh part of 16,500 lbs. will be 2,357 lbs.; and the quantity thrown off when working ten hours would at the utmost be 14,143 lbs. We pay no more for the spinning of these 14,143 lbs. than we paid formerly for the same quantity; but as our picking, carding, ware-room, and all other hands, except reelers, winders, and warpers, are paid by the day, the expence of production in these departments would be increased exactly in proportion to the diminution in the quantity produced one seventh part. Adding one seventh part to the expence of these departments would enhance the cost of production about seven per cent. If we take into account feu duties, insurance, and all other fixed charges, the increased cost would be eight or nine per cent. for production alone, keeping out of view the loss of interest upon a large capital by the limitation of its productiveness. Besides, there is every reason to conclude that if the spinners universally produce an increased quantity in a given time, the work will be inferior to what it is at present. The preparation machinery in all cotton-mills is calculated to produce a stated quantity of prepared rove for a certain number of mules, which work a given time and speed, and spin a particular size and quality of yarn; so that if the spinners produce a greater quantity in a given time, the masters will either be under the necessity of increasing the quantity of their preparation machinery, or of driving this machinery at a proportionally quick speed. The adoption of the latter alternative will make the yarn much inferior in quality, and thereby lessen its value, and at the same time increase the quantity of waste and the tear and wear of the machinery. The former alternative could be adopted by very few without building additions to their premises.

A. 31.—As we seldom work more than six or eight hours extra in the year, we do not find it necessary to employ two sets.

A. 36.—I believe the effect would be beneficial, as it would put the whole trade upon the same footing, and give to all the power of production proportioned to their capital.

A. 37.—The effects of a still further reduction of the working hours would be (as is shown in A. 30) to render less productive the immense capital sunk in our trade, and reduce the profits of the manufacturer, to depress the shipping and all other interests which are in any degree dependent on the cotton trade, and expose us to the growing danger of foreign competition.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of the wright-shop, mechanic-shop, reeling, winding, and warping rooms, are sixty to seventy degrees, and the lowest temperature fifty-five to sixty degrees; the usual temperature of the picking-room is seventy to seventy-six degrees, and the lowest temperature sixty-five degrees; the usual temperature of the card-rooms (average in four rooms) seventy-eight degrees, and the lowest temperature seventy degrees; the usual temperature of the spinning (average in eight rooms) is eighty-one degrees and a half, and the lowest temperature seventy-five degrees.

A. 39.—About eighty-five degrees for fine spinning. The spinning is often reduced twenty numbers coarser, and in consequence of this the average degrees in the apartment will not be above eighty-three.

A. 40.—Thirty-two, and occasionally about fifty hands.

A. 41.—At no time.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—With gas in winter from sunset till half past seven.

A. 53.—Forty minutes to breakfast and the same to dinner to all classes.

A. 54.—Nearly all leave the work at meal-times.

A. 55.—A few of the workers remain during meal-times for the convenience of the manufactory, but none are obliged to do so except the porter at the gate.

A. 56.—If all the hands were prohibited from taking their meals in the work, those who live at a distance of one or two miles would be obliged to pay for accommodation in some public house, or take their food in the open air.

A. 57.—Dismissal in cases where repeated reproofs are disregarded.

A. 58.—No, I never knew of any thing of the kind.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed in factories from infancy are generally the most skilful workmen, and I believe their general character is equally good, and in some instances better, than that of persons who have been taken into employment at later periods. Nos. 1, 41, 42, and 58, on the annexed lists, may be adduced as instances.

A. 67.—As a regular bill of health has never been kept here, it is impossible for me to give a definite answer to this query.

A. 68.—Yes, when it can be done conveniently, but applications for a change of employment are seldom made by the workers.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe they do, except in regard to whitewashing.

A. 74.—Not with my knowledge.

A. 77.—Not the smallest; their masters wish them to give all the evidence they can, and on the present occasion have given them every opportunity of doing so.



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A. 78.—A heavier scale of penalties, say 50*l.* to 100*l.* for each offence, in my opinion, would render the observance of the present law more strict, and is not likely to be objected to by the respectable portion of the trade. I should also recommend that local magistrates no longer have cognizance of offences against the Act, and a government commission be appointed, whose duty would be to enforce obedience to the law, and procure information from all quarters respecting the condition of the operatives. I would likewise suggest that the masters have the employing of all piecers and others who are at present employed by the workmen, in order to ensure the better observance of the law in regard to the admission of persons under the age, and to facilitate investigation in cases where a breach of those provisions which have a reference to the general treatment of children may have taken place. I would also suggest the propriety of having the commission above alluded to appointed every three years.

A. 79.—The appointment of a parliamentary commission was absolutely necessary, in order to remove the false impressions which the wrought-up evidence brought before the late committee upon Mr. Sadler's Bill had produced upon the public mind. The "billey roller" had become notorious, in the history of the factory system, as an instrument of cruelty, and the evidence of its application as familiar to the ears of Englishmen as the Turkish bastinado. The present inquiry will lay the whole subject open to the view of all parties so plainly and impartially, that the calumniators of the factory proprietors will find it difficult to explain or defend the motives by which they were actuated in propagating such absurd and extravagant exaggerations. Those individuals are themselves aware that an exposure must very soon be made, and are now advising the workpeople in factories to resist the commission by refusing to give evidence when called upon. It will be seen, from the answer to No. 30, that three results must follow a further reduction of the working hours; an increase in the cost of production, a diminution of the profit or interest upon the capital in trade, and a necessity, either of increasing the quantity of preparation machinery, or of turning off a number of the spinners where such increase cannot be made.

To prove that factory work is not more unhealthy than many occupations which are far worse paid, I shall only refer to the following Nos. on the annexed list, Nos. 1, 2, 15, 77, 231, 300, 345, 370, 453, and by examination it will be found that many who have wrought longest in factories are the most healthy persons in our employment.

The interference of the legislature in restricting or limiting the power of production in a manufacturing community must be looked upon as a serious evil, except such interference is rendered necessary by the existence of abuses which the parties themselves are unable or unwilling to rectify. The present inquiry will discover whether such abuses exist in the factory system as call for measures which will still further depress the commerce of the country; if such measures must be adopted, they ought to be applied to all, and strictly enforced. The inquiry, I believe, will satisfy the government of the inexpediency of still further lessening the productiveness of capital by shortening the hours of work, and at the same time prove the necessity of a strict enforcement of the present law, particularly as regards the duration of labour.

GEORGE MACLERoy.

No. 99.

Dun. M'Phail.

ANSWERS of DUNCAN M'PHAIL, for Dugald M'Phail & Co., William-street Factory, Glasgow.

A. 1.—Barony parish, county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Weaving cotton cloth, chiefly for printing.

A. 3.—The first factory was built in 1821, and filled with machinery in 1822 and 1823; the Greenhead factory was built in 1824, and filled with machinery in 1825, 1826, 1827; and the William-street factory was built in 1825, and filled in the following year; additions made thereto in 1831, and now in process of filling.

A. 4.—Steam-engines of sixteen, twenty-two, and twenty-five horse power, as regular as engines are in general, but liable to accidents.

A. 5.—An open pane, eight by seven inches, hinged in each and every window in the mill; the garret windows hinged for lifting at pleasure.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of these panes.

A. 7.—Ventilation in the preparation, and weaving by the workers themselves, as they feel inclined to suit themselves.

A. 8.—All the parts considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—It is not customary in this district with workers to change clothes in clean factories such as ours, and for such washings as they need we have always water in each flat of the mill.

A. 10.—We do not want or need any hands below twelve years of age, but through entreaty of parents we admit a few younger, and find now that one had been admitted as young as nine years, but not employed at any machinery.

A. 11.—The nature of our employment does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age; we suffer loss and damage in general by admitting them under that age.

A. 12.



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A. 12.—Any alterations in machinery known to us have been made and are making to curtail labour, thereby to dispense with or lessen the labour of children.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—None; we neither lodge nor maintain orphans or others for factory use.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for five days and nine hours upon Saturdays.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days, or so.

A. 21.—Fifty weeks and five days, each week sixty-nine hours, or three thousand five hundred and ten hours in all.

A. 22.—All at once, from half past five morning till seven o'clock evening, or from six in the morning till half past seven o'clock in the evening, Saturdays excepted, only working nine hours.

A. 23.—Average time of working daily eleven hours and a half, including Saturdays.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, the odd half an hour being for accidents of the engine.

A. 25.—Only six times, as far as we can recollect, from engine accidents as above.

A. 26.—All excess may be avoided but for the mutual interest of employer and employed; lost time by accident of engine is generally made up to the extent of ten hours for such accident, but the time lost by holidays, fast-days, &c. is not made up.

A. 27.—Previous to Hobhouse's Bill the weavers wrought twelve hours and a half daily for five days weekly, and eleven hours on Saturdays, or seventy-three hours and a half in all.

A. 28.—No doubt of that; we pay those on set wages for nine hours work on Saturdays, same as we did formerly for eleven hours work.

A. 29.—We never wrought night-work, and can say little about it.

A. 30.—Machinery driven by power as ours is, produces in proportion to the time driven, and when we pay the same set wages for short time as formerly for longer time we lose the benefit of labour for the time lost, besides the interest of capital invested and lying idle.

A. 31.—The law forbids more than one hour of extra time to be made up in one day, and it would be absurd to think of fresh hands for one hour, and impossible to get them.

A. 32.—None had occasion to try any.

A. 33.—None.

A. 37.—It is evident that if the capital is set idle the capitalist will be ruined, as it will produce no interest, while in many cases he has to pay interest on that capital; equally evident that in proportion to the time shortened, less than the surrounding neighbours or nations, he is crippled to that extent.

A. 38.—We don't require high temperature in weaving, except in dressing the yarns; in weaving no heat is wanted except in winter, or cold and damp weather.

A. 41.—None after half past seven o'clock, or to eight o'clock when any accident took place with the engine.

A. 50.—By gas lighted till half past seven o'clock in winter.

A. 52.—Cannot say, never having any work past eight o'clock or so.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and three quarters of an hour to dinner.

A. 54.—All if they choose; as the engine is always stopped at meal-times none is required to stay in.

A. 55.—If any remain it is for their own pleasure and convenience.

A. 56.—No persons are required to take their meals in our factories.

A. 57.—To be dismissed from the works.

A. 58.—None, to our knowledge.

A. 62.—Corporal punishment is not practised, consequently neither forbidden or allowed; we punish all by dismissal from the works.

A. 63.—None given for corporal punishment; we do not allow it, but for bad conduct we dismiss them.

A. 64.—None has ever occurred.

A. 65.—A few families; but as they are within the bounds of the Calton police, and under their superintendence, we do not interfere.

A. 66.—As to character we find no difference, but in skill we find those early trained to any branch of our business more expert than those grown up in years before they begin.

A. 67.—This factory is not of ten years standing, consequently cannot compare, but can give, as a proof of the health of the workers, that only one person employed in it took the cholera last year, and cases of fever.

A. 68.—We have no particular processes complained of as injurious to health, consequently no changes of that kind.

A. 69.—Subject to Hobhouse's Bill, regarding time, &c.

A. 70.—Never informed against.

A. 73.—Cannot tell.

A. 77.—No reason to believe such a thing.

A. 78.—We obey the present law, and have nothing to suggest.

(APP.—A.1.)

S 3

A. 79.



Lanarkshire.  
 —  
 Dun. M'Phail.

A. 79.—We wish to have the present law put in force on those working thirteen and fourteen hours daily as they do in England; to be left in the command of our own property; but if further legislation must take place, to put us in no worse condition than our rivals in Europe and America.

28th May 1833.

DUN. M'PHAIL.

ANSWERS of HENRY MONTEITH, Blantyre Works.

No. 100.  
 Henry Monteith.

A. 1.—Parish of Blantyre, county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, power-loom weaving, and dyeing turkey-red yarn.

A. 3.—Water-twist mill, erected in 1786 for cotton-spinning; mule-twist mill, erected in 1789 for cotton-spinning; weaving factory, erected in 1810 for power-loom weaving; and yarn dye-work, erected in 1794, and since, for dyeing.

A. 4.—Steam and water regular; the only irregularity arising from heavy floods, which affect the water-power perhaps three or four days in the course of the year, and at these times stop about one third of the works; the power is about two hundred and five horses.

A. 5.—In the spinning-mills and weaving factory the windows are made to open for the purpose of ventilation.

A. 6.—Opening the windows and doors occasionally.

A. 7.—The managers and overlookers frequently open the windows, but the workers generally shut them when the former are out of sight.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—The village expressly built for their accommodation; being close to the mills, the workers do not require to change their clothes; there is a supply of soft water in the rooms for washing their hands, and spring water for drinking.

A. 10.—In the mills the lowest age at which children are taken in is nine; in the weaving factory ten; in the dye-work children are seldom employed; at present there happens to be two of ten years of age, one of eleven, and one of fourteen. They usually come from school.

A. 11.—In the spinning-mills it is better to have children below twelve years of age, because they can clean the machinery with greater facility to themselves, and because they more easily acquire expertness in the operations. In the weaving factory they are employed at light work, sitting in the heddlings-room and going messages, but for the weaving we object to them under twelve or thirteen years of age; in the dye-work they can easily be altogether dispensed with.

A. 12.—In the spinning-mills the number is greater; in the weaving factory for the last twelve years there has been little if any variation.

A. 13.—In the spinning-mills none; in the weaving factory one apprentice as a mechanic.

A. 14.—None.

A. 15.—All the children employed live with their parents, friends, or relations.

A. 16.—None except that of their parents, and relations.

A. 17.—For five days in the week twelve hours for those employed in the mills, factory, and dye-work, and eleven hours and a half for the mechanics; on Saturdays nine hours.

A. 18.—All the workers, of whatever age, work the same hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours for five days and nine hours on Saturday each week. In the weaving factory last year, when the dam broke down, and the works were short of power on several occasions, a request was made by some of the workers to give them from one to two hours extra at night, to make up their work. This was acceded to, but any one was of course at liberty to go away that liked. This extra time might extend to eleven or twelve nights in all; there were no children allowed to remain during these extra hours.

A. 20.—In the spinning-mills three hundred and two days eleven hours, in the weaving factory three hundred and seven days, and in the dye-works two hundred and ninety-four.

N.B.—Turkey-red dyeing is generally stopped for a time during the severe winter weather.

A. 21.—In the spinning-mills three thousand four hundred and eighty-three hours, in the weaving factory three thousand five hundred and forty-three, and in the dye-work three thousand two hundred and thirty-four.

A. 22.—None, with casual exceptions last year, principally arising from reform processions.

A. 23.—In the mills eleven hours eight minutes, in the weaving factory eleven hours and a half, and in the dyework eleven hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—In the spinning-mills at no time; in the weaving factory in the months of November and December, as stated in A. 19.

A. 26.—In the mills and factory there is at no time any necessity for irregularity; as masters we are always opposed to it. If it is ever permitted (as mentioned in A. 19.) it is at the desire of the workers to make up for an accident. In the dye-work, from the nature of the processes, it is sometimes essential, but not to any extent.

A. 27.



A. 27.—Before the passing of the present Factory Act the mills were worked twelve hours and a half. The hours were then from six morning to eight evening, three quarters of an hour being given for breakfast, and three quarters for dinner,

Lanarkshire.

A. 28.—The change in our hours has not been so great as to make it possible to form a sufficiently correct estimate.

Henry Monteith.

A. 29.—To produce the greatest possible return from a given sunk capital.

A. 31.—We do not think relays of workers would do well; all workers are to a certain extent responsible for their own machinery; they have an interest in keeping it clean and in good order; but were fresh sets of hands employed, and the work not well done, they would blame the previous set, and keep the manager in a constant broil with his workers; besides, it would lead to disputes, for if one worker wished to injure or perhaps ruin another, the best opportunity he could have would be to get working at his machine when he could do it with impunity. In works situated like ours in the country it would be quite impossible to obtain a full double set of children; were all children under twelve years of age prohibited from working more than eight hours, this we think we could accomplish, but were the age raised to fourteen it would be impracticable.

A. 32.—It has not been tried here, because we do not consider it advantageous even if practicable.

A. 33.—Never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 34.—We do not conceive it to be our interest.

A. 37.—The effects would be a reduction of the wages of the worker already low enough, and the enhanced cost of the article produced, diminishing the consumption, and giving additional advantages to our foreign rivals. We consider these effects too obvious to make it necessary for us to specify the grounds on which we expect them to follow.

A. 38.—In the mills from 70° to 80°, and in the weaving factory from 60° to 70°; in the turkey-red stoves the heat is occasionally 150°, but it is never beyond 90° when the people are engaged in it; even at 90° they are only employed for about ten or fifteen minutes in the course of the day.

A. 39.—No degree of heat beyond the above is required.

A. 40.—Four hundred and thirty-six in mills, three hundred and thirty-five in factory, thirty or forty in dye-work stoves.

A. 46.—The fires of the stoves and boilers at the dyework must be kept up, which is done by the watchman.

A. 47.—No process going on requiring extra time, except some accidental thing for the mechanics or dyers.

A. 48.—All grown persons.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The windows and doors.

A. 53.—Forty-five minutes to breakfast, and an hour to dinner. It is proper here to state, that the only point in which we infringe the present Act is in regard to the Saturday dinner-hour. The Act requires that it should be before three o'clock; were we to adhere to this (allowing the nine hours work for Saturday), the works would not close till half past four. Instead of this, our people prefer not stopping at all to dinner, and finishing for the day at half past three. This is a great boon, particularly to that part of the workers who wish to spend Saturday afternoon and Sunday with their friends in Glasgow, eight miles off.

A. 54.—In the mills about sixteen persons; in weaving factory, at times, about seven remain to oil the machinery, along with the person who has this charge, during the meal hours; but when the other workers come in they go out, and remain out the regular time for meals.

A. 55.—Oiling and cleaning the machinery cannot be done during the time that the works are going; the persons employed at these operations go home when the works are again set agoing, and get the same time to their meals that the other workers get.

A. 56.—The meals are all taken at home.

A. 57.—Admonition, and if that has not the desired effect they are discharged from the works.

A. 58.—None.

A. 59.—Parents may do as they like at home, but no punishment is allowed in the works.

A. 62.—It has never occurred; we would allow nothing of the kind.

A. 63.—Punishment has never been contemplated; it has never been thought necessary to give any instructions.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Nearly the whole of the workpeople live in houses belonging to the company. Day and night watchmen are appointed to prevent irregularity; scavengers to sweep the streets, and carry off any filth or offal. The whole furniture is taken out, and the dwelling houses cleaned and whitewashed at stated periods at the expense of the proprietors. The proprietors provide a chapel and school-house for the population of the village, and contribute along with them for the support of a clergyman of the Church of Scotland and of a schoolmaster, both of whom devote their whole time and attention to the improvement and instruction of the population. Regular examinations of the school take place by the clergymen of the presbytery, and premiums for excellence are given by the proprietors, who



Lanarkshire.

Henry Monteith.

likewise make it a rule to encourage charitable and other beneficial institutions among the people under their charge.

A. 66.—The great mass of the persons have been brought up to the work from their infancy; they are certainly more expert than those introduced at a later period.

A. 67.—The medical gentlemen who attend the workpeople say they are as healthy, if not more so, than the agricultural labourers in the surrounding parishes, and that they have always been so; we know of no change for the better or the worse.

A. 68.—There are no injurious processes, and therefore there is no necessity to make any change or selection.

A. 69.—The mills and factory, but not the dye-work. It will be observed that many of the queries and answers cannot be applied to the dye-work, but to the mills and factory only.

A. 78 & 79.—The present law is perfectly sufficient were it enforced, which we think can only be done efficiently by the appointment of a stipendiary protector or inspector; perhaps some of the penalties might be advantageously increased.

June 1833.

HENRY MONTEITH.

No. 101.

Robert Dick.

ANSWERS of ROBERT DICK, for John Dennistoun &amp; Co., Bridgeton Mills, Glasgow.

A. 1.—Borough of Calton of Glasgow, county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The greater portion of these works was erected upwards of thirty years since, and part upwards of forty years since.

A. 4.—Steam-power only.

A. 5 & 6.—All the windows in our works, with the exception of those in the picking-house building, open, and have in addition opening panes in at least every alternate window for the purpose of ventilation.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the foreman and by the heads of departments.

A. 8.—All our shafts are fenced off, and no other part of our machinery can be reckoned dangerous.

A. 9.—Many of our workpeople bring with them a change of clothes, but we have no dressing or washing rooms for their use.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; we are not aware of any of them having been previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—We do not think it does.

A. 12.—We are not aware of any change in the proportion of children employed under twelve years of age caused by recent alterations in machinery.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any of the children employed by us.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours and five minutes during five days of the week, and eight hours and thirty-five minutes on Saturday.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and ten hours.

A. 22.—All parts of our works must be carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twelve minutes per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half and five minutes.

A. 25.—We have at various times exceeded the usual hours of work to make up for time lost in consequence of stoppage of steam-engine, or breaking of machinery, or our workers having left their employment, at their own request, to attend meetings, &c.

A. 26.—We are of opinion that all excess beyond the regular hours of work is not only avoidable, but should be put a stop to.

A. 28.—As our hours of working never exceeded what they now do, we cannot from experience state the effect that a reduction in the hours of working would have on the cost of production.

A. 29.—The manufacturer who protracts his hours of labour beyond that of his neighbour has a decided advantage in so doing, inasmuch as he produces a greater quantity without increasing his capital invested in machinery or the wages which he pays, his capital invested in machinery remaining the same whether he works six or twenty hours daily.

A. 33.—We employ a day-set of hands only.

A. 37.—By a reduction of the present hours of labour we are of opinion that our trade would in the course of a very short period be entirely ruined, or our workers reduced to great misery, owing to the astonishing progress made in cotton-spinning throughout the other countries of Europe and in the United States of America during the last few years, where the trade is unfettered by legislative enactments, and many local advantages, such as low wages, cheap cotton, &c.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is about 70°, but it varies from 65° to 75°.

A. 39.—There is no portion of our works require a higher degree of heat than another.

A. 53 & 54.—With two exceptions, the whole of our workers leave for breakfast at nine o'clock A. M., and resume work in forty minutes thereafter, and for dinner at two o'clock, and again commence work at fifteen minutes to three, on five days of the week; on Saturday they leave for and return from breakfast at the same period as on the other five working days,



days, and continue at work till a quarter past three o'clock, when they leave for good and all.

A. 55.—The two exceptions above named are the spinning-master and engine-man; the former leaves the work for his meals immediately on the return of the other workers, and the latter takes his breakfast at the works, but leaves for dinner with the other workers.

A. 56.—By employing a person to clean and oil the steam-engine at the time for breakfast, the engine-man could take even that meal at home.

A. 57.—Threats of or dismissal from employment.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—We have not considered it necessary to give any positive instructions in this matter, as we believe no corporal punishments are ever inflicted or required.

A. 64.—No, never.

A. 65.—The workpeople do not live in our houses.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No, never.

A. 73.—So far as we know, the mills in our neighbourhood conform to the provisions of the Act, but in several places in England cotton-spinners avowedly do not.

A. 77.—We feel quite certain that the workpeople in this city and neighbourhood would at once give evidence, whether it pleased their employers or not.

A. 78.—We would suggest that all informations should be lodged on oath, and that fines should be increased to not less than 50*l.* for any breach of the law, one half to go to the informer, and that no child under eleven years of age be admitted as a worker in any cotton factory, and that one hour be allowed for breakfast and the same time for dinner; and that the hours be in all eleven and a half for five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday, making the total number of hours of work per week sixty-six and a half.

25th May 1833.

ROBERT DICK.

Lanarkshire.

Robert Dick.

#### ANSWERS of HENRY DUNLOP, Burgh of Calton.

No. 102.

Henry Dunlop.

A. 1.—In the burgh of Calton, neighbourhood of Glasgow.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The whole was erected in 1818, with the exception of a small addition made in 1828.

A. 4.—Steam-power only.

A. 5.—There are fifty-six windows in each flat, and each window has an opening pane; and in the picking-room the dust is carried off by means of fanners.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening panes of the windows principally; but there is a staircase at each end, which tend also to ventilate the rooms when the doors are open.

A. 7.—The opening panes are used at the discretion of all the persons employed, but the workers generally incline to keep the rooms warmer than they require to be.

A. 8.—The most dangerous parts of the machinery are either fenced off, or placed out of the reach of the persons employed.

A. 9.—There are no arrangements of the description here specified.

A. 10.—The rule is, that none under nine years of age shall be employed. None of the children have previously been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—The work might be carried on without any children under twelve years of age if a sufficient supply of children above that age could be procured.

A. 12.—There have been no alterations in the machinery to affect the employment of children under twelve years of age at this factory.

A. 13.—We employ no apprentices in cotton-spinning, but have generally two employed as machine-makers.

A. 14.—No apprentices from parishes.

A. 15.—There are none of the children lodged or maintained by the masters.

A. 17.—Twelve hours on five days of the week, and nine on Saturday; the average being eleven hours and a half each day.

A. 18.—They are employed the same number of hours as those above twenty-one years of age. There is no difference at any age.

A. 19.—Never above twelve hours and a quarter.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-seven hours and three quarters from 1st May 1832 till 30th April 1833. An accident happened to the steam-engine which occasioned the loss of eight days work.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and twenty-seven hours.

A. 22.—Have kept no account of partial stoppages, and therefore cannot answer this question.

A. 23.—Ten thousand nine hundred and eighty-four hours, being nearly eleven.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a quarter.

A. 25.—The regular hours of working were only exceeded to make up time lost for repairs of engine, and the extra time worked was not above four hours during the whole of last year.

A. 26.—It might be a hardship for masters as well as workers to be prevented making up, to a certain extent, time lost from unavoidable accidents.

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A. 27.



Lanarkshire.

Henry Dunlop.

A. 27.—The average number of hours of working was at one time half an hour longer than at present.

A. 28.—The cost of production is certainly enhanced by the reduction in the hours of working; but improvements have been made in the machinery and method of working, which have diminished the cost of production.

A. 29.—The inducement is to obtain a higher rate of profit, and that must be in proportion to the ability of the workers to continue their exertions. If the hours are too long, they must become inattentive in consequence of fatigue, and would make bad work.

A. 30.—It is difficult to ascertain to what extent the cost of production is increased by the limitation of the hours of work, because wages, which form one half of it, fluctuate from various causes; but the other branches, namely, charges and interest on capital, are certainly increased nearly in proportion to the diminution of the hours of work.

A. 31.—Relays of children could only in very few situations be procured, for it is sometimes difficult at present to find sufficient numbers for even one set.

A. 32.—A system of relays has never been tried at this factory, because the hours of labour were never too long for one set.

A. 33.—Have never worked during the night.

A. 36.—It would be a considerable advantage to those proprietors of factories who do not work during the night.

A. 37.—To enhance the cost of production and endanger our foreign trade, the extent of which depends upon our being able to sell cheap.

A. 38.—Spinning-rooms from 70° to 80°; carding-rooms from 70° to 75°. The lowest required for spinning, 70°; carding, 65°; picking, 60°.

A. 39.—The highest degree of heat required is 75° of Fahrenheit; and that only where the finest yarn is spinning.

A. 40.—One hundred and twelve hands.

A. 47.—No such processes.

A. 50.—The works, in the short days of winter, are lighted morning and evening with gas.

A. 53.—Forty minutes for breakfast, and fifty minutes for dinner.

A. 54.—A few occasionally take their meals in the factory.

A. 55.—Those who take their meals in the factory do so for their own convenience.

A. 56.—It would occasion some slight inconvenience only to those workers who lodge at a distance from the factory.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments are allowed by the manager.

A. 59.—Slight corporal punishments are inflicted occasionally by parents and overlookers upon children.

A. 60.—None, excepting such as were trifling.

A. 61.—Without the manager's sanction.

A. 62.—Only in two instances have had occasion to find fault with older workers striking children, and in one of these instances the mother was chastising her son.

A. 63.—No instructions in that respect have been given to foreman or overlookers; the practice of the work does not require any.

A. 64.—Never any such complaint.

A. 65.—The workpeople do not live in the houses of their employers, and there is no interference with them out of the walls of the factory. A missionary of the established church gives religious instruction in the factory once a week, and all the workers who choose may attend.

A. 66.—With very few exceptions the workers have been employed from childhood in cotton-spinning, and there is no marked distinction between them and the few who have been taken into employment at later periods.

A. 67.—There is no change in respect to health during the last ten years.

A. 68.—Have no processes particularly injurious to health, and therefore make no changes on that account.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—The mills in the neighbourhood conform strictly to the Act so far as regards the number of hours for employment, and, as far as they can, the ages at which children are admitted.

A. 74.—Have only heard of one instance of a proprietor being taken before a magistrate for working over-time.

A. 76.—The offence was admitted; it was making up time lost on account of an accident.

A. 77.—Have no reason to believe that they are.

A. 78.—I would suggest that the law should be rendered as simple as possible; that it should merely regulate the hours of work for children, and the earliest age at which they should be employed; and that agents should be appointed by government in various districts to see that the law was carried into effect. The penalties are at present sufficiently high.

HENRY DUNLOP.



## ANSWERS of W. HAMILTON, Glasgow.

Lanarkshire.

No. 103.

W. Hamilton.

- A. 1.—Calton of Glasgow, Barony parish, county of Lanark.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—Erected at one time, in 1825.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine of fifty horses power.  
 A. 5.—Ventilation by an opening pane in each window.  
 A. 7.—At the control of the workers.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Allowed to change their clothes in the flats.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age. Never employed before.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—Not aware of any material alteration in machinery since 1825.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Some orphans as per list. Have no means of ascertaining the latter part of the question correctly.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and fifteen minutes.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and seventy-nine hours.  
 A. 22.—All carried on at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty-two minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and fifteen minutes.  
 A. 25.—Once caused by the engine going wrong.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable, but for the loss sustained.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 29.—The only inducement is the extra production, thereby lessening the cost.  
 A. 30.—Never wrought more than twelve hours per day.  
 A. 31.—No objection, except what is stated at A. 34.  
 A. 32.—Never had occasion to try it.  
 A. 33.—Never employed night-workers.  
 A. 34.—The machinery would be kept in better order, and the work in general better done, by one set than two.  
 A. 37.—By a further reduction the produce will be lessened in nearly the proportion of time taken off, and of course the interest and profit upon sunk capital reduced to the same extent.  
 A. 38.—Usual temperature from fifty to eighty degrees; for spinning forty to seventy degrees; for weaving fifty to sixty degrees; for dressing seventy to eighty degrees.  
 A. 39.—Eighty degrees.  
 A. 40.—Ten people required.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as during day.  
 A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and the same to dinner, to all persons.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 57.—Fear of being turned off.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—Verbal instructions have been given not to inflict corporal punishments.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Difference in skill much in favour of those employed from infancy.  
 A. 67.—Have observed no difference since 1825.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is subject.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—Conform as far as we can judge.  
 A. 77.—Never had an opportunity of judging upon this question.  
 A. 78.—The present Bill is quite sufficient if properly enforced.

W. HAMILTON.

## ANSWERS of JOHN and WILLIAM CLARK, Glasgow.

No. 104.

J. & W. Clark.

- A. 1.—St. George's parish of Glasgow, county of Lanark.  
 A. 2.—Power-loom; cotton cloth only, of light fabrics.  
 A. 3.—The works have been erected at different times; first erection in 1822, the second in 1823, third in 1829, and fourth in 1832.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine of sixteen horse power.  
 A. 5.—First erection is ventilated by openings on the head of the side walls, the buildings being only of one story, and entirely lighted from the roof. The later erections are ventilated by openings on the highest part of the roofs or ceilings, all the length of the buildings. All of them can be opened or shut at pleasure. These ventilators are thirteen feet above the floor, which is of deals. No garrets. The work all on one floor.  
 A. 6.—The ventilation depends entirely on the ventilators described above.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the manager only, and for the purpose only of the comfort of the workers.

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T 2

A. 8.



Lanarkshire.

J. & W. Clark.

A. 8.—Dangerous parts of the machinery are out of the way or fenced off.

A. 9.—There are pegs on the wall of a part of the work appropriated for the purpose, upon which the workers hang their cloaks and hoods on entering the factory, and which they resume on leaving. There is a small apartment to which all have access, where there is a trough for holding water, with a steam-pipe into the same, to heat it when wished; also a pump for cold water. This convenience the work has always had. The mill is always swept three times each day, and the floor washed with hot water and soda every alternate Saturday. These arrangements have always existed in the works.

A. 10.—We employ none under twelve years of age. None have been previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—We do not require hands under twelve years.

A. 12.—No alterations that have taken place in machinery cause us to employ a greater or less proportion of children under twelve years.

A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—All the workers come from their own, their parents or guardians, dwelling-houses to the work, and are in no shape under our control, excepting during working-hours.

A. 16.—We do not lodge or maintain any workers, so that this question has no application to us.

A. 17.—Our work continues twelve hours each day, excepting on Saturdays, when it is nine hours.

A. 18.—Same time for young persons as adults, whatever age.

A. 19.—We never have wrought more than the twelve hours per day during the last year, or nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 20.—Three hundred days of work during last year.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours of work during last year.

A. 22.—All the departments of our work continue through the whole of the twelve hours.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half is the average of work for each day of the week during last year.

A. 24.—We have no sets of workers. All the workers continue their work the same length of time, viz. that fixed by the existing Act.

A. 25.—We have never exceeded the hours.

A. 27.—Previous to the present Act (called Mr. Hobhouse's Act) we wrought half an hour longer each day, and on Saturdays two hours and three quarters longer than at present.

A. 28.—We find that, by our hours being reduced, the cost of our cloth is enhanced.

A. 29.—The inducement for the manufacturer to be allowed to continue his work to what hours he judges right is simply to produce more cloth at the same expence of on-cost, viz. house-rent, capital vested in machinery, &c.

A. 30.—If a Bill were to pass to force us to stop our works entirely, the value of our buildings and machinery would be nothing. If we were reduced only to half the time we at present work, these buildings and machinery would be just half of the value we consider them at present. In the proportion to the reduction of the hours of working is the cost of the work on our goods increased.

A. 31.—We know no objection to relays. We consider that the best protection to young persons would be to prevent them from working entirely under (say) twelve years. Between that age and fifteen years to be allowed to work only six or seven hours, viz. half time of what adults would if unfettered by legislative enactment, so that we would be forced to have two sets of persons betwixt twelve and fifteen years of age. After fifteen years they should be free, except for night-work. Many of our best hands, and who make the largest wages, are not above fifteen years of age.

A. 32.—Relays would do well; but no young person, any more than adults, will take any less than full work. But if restricted by law to six or seven hours a day, we could then by relays go with adults whatever hours were found proper; but, as at present, we are obliged to reduce the hours of adults to the standard by law for young persons.

A. 33.—We employed a day and night set of hands about ten years ago, when all the factories in and about Glasgow were standing except our own. Each set wrought twelve hours, less the time for meals.

A. 34.—We would not think of working through the night now under almost any circumstances. We consider it in our business quite unnatural and uncalled-for in a competition with other countries, and should rather be glad to see it prohibited.

A. 36.—A prohibition of night-work in our trade we conceive could do no harm.

A. 37.—The more our hours are reduced we must of course produce just in the proportion less with the same invested capital, and having to compete with other countries who are unrestricted, we are just in so much a worse condition for that purpose. We conceive it very impolitic to curtail the hours of working in the way already done, and much worse to propose further restrictions, unless by at once reducing the hours of young persons to the half of that of adults.

A. 38.—We heat our work only to render comfortable the persons employed; the manager giving more or less heat by the steam-pipes erected for that purpose to suit the comfort of the workers, as they may wish him.

A. 39.—No degree of heat above comfort required.

A. 40.—No process that requires the heating of the apartment above comfort.

A. 53.—The time for meals is to all the workers three quarters of an hour to each for breakfast and dinner.

A. 54.



- A. 54.—They are all allowed and desired to go to their houses to meals.
- A. 55.—When they do not it is entirely a toleration to the worker.
- A. 56.—Every worker must be the better for going home to his meals rather than remain in the factory.
- A. 57.—No means are required to force obedience by the young persons; they know that they will be dismissed the work if refractory.
- A. 58.—No corporal punishments in the work.
- A. 62.—We do not think that any practice of corporal punishments takes place in the weaving factories in or near Glasgow.
- A. 63.—No instructions were ever given by us to inflict punishments.
- A. 64.—No complaint was ever made against us or (that we ever heard) against any power-loom establishment for punishments being inflicted.
- A. 65.—The workers do not live in houses belonging to us, but in houses rented from proprietors in the neighbourhood.
- A. 66.—We find that hand-weavers and their families are very soon capable of producing quantity and quality of cloth with older employed hands; we know no difference in regard to character.
- A. 67.—We know no difference in the general health for the last ten years; our work we consider to have been particularly healthy: when the cholera raged all around us we had only one case, and that of a person who had just newly entered to our employment.
- A. 68.—There are no injurious effects from any particular process in our manufacture, and consequently no selection or change of persons employed.
- A. 69.—We are entirely regulated by the present Act.
- A. 70.—We never were informed against.
- A. 73.—We believe the works on this (the north) side of the city conform very correctly to the present Act. We have never heard of a prosecution against any one in Glasgow.
- A. 77.—We do not think that any person would be deterred from giving information if there was room.

A. 78.—We conceive that any enactment that goes to the restriction of the hours of work in factories is an unfortunate interference, and in the case of weaving-factories, which are so exceedingly comfortable, quite unnecessary. We conceive that young persons ought to be protected in every situation of life, whether in or out of public works; but the method taken already, and which is contemplated to be further extended, is very injurious in its effects on trade. We think that other methods might be devised, such as a surveillance by public officers of the treatment of persons under fifteen years of age.

A. 79.—We would just remark, in conclusion, that however humane the motives are of those persons who already have been the means of restricting, or of those who propose further to restrict, the hours of work in factories, still we consider that such restrictions are an infringement on the boasted liberty of the subject in this country, though the only instance of such; and moreover fail to accomplish the object intended, inasmuch as there is nothing to prevent the workers in factories from taking in work into their houses, such as persons employed by hand-manufacturers work at, as clipping, winding, pirn-filling, &c., to be done after hours. We consider also that a great mistake has been made in the age to which the legislative care has been extended, viz. eighteen years. Our weavers between fifteen and seventeen years of age we consider as good as any who are further advanced, and they make wages on their own account equal to those who are older. We do not see the necessity of extending the protection to persons between fifteen and eighteen to be more necessary than to persons above twenty-one years of age.

JOHN & WILLIAM CLARK.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN KING, Glasgow.

- A. 1.—Glasgow, Lanarkshire.
- A. 2.—Steam-loom weaving factory, for the manufacture of cotton shirtings.
- A. 3.—The factory was erected in 1825, commenced working in June 1826, since which time it has been altogether employed for its present purpose.
- A. 4.—A steam-engine of thirty horse power.
- A. 5, 6, & 7.—In the square flats there is a hinged pane in the frame of each window, also one sashed window, and one in the centre fitted so as to be lifted out at pleasure. In the garret flat the windows are skylights, and open with hinges. The opening and shutting of the whole is entirely under the control of the workers.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are completely enclosed.
- A. 9.—No arrangements are made for washing within the factory. The workers reside within a short distance, which renders any preparation for that purpose unnecessary, as they can wash and clean themselves more conveniently in their own houses. Wooden pins are placed at the end of the flats for the girls to hang up their mantles and shawls; and as mantles are in general use, the workers in wet weather commence their work dry and comfortable.
- A. 10.—No general rule. On inspecting the list of the workers, I observe only two of them are under twelve years of age; neither of them were previously employed at any other occupation.

A. 11.—No.

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T 3

A. 12.

Lanarkshire.

J. & W. Clark.

No. 105.

John King.



Lanarkshire.

John King.

A. 12.—No alterations in the machinery have been made since the erection of the factory.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15 & 16.—All the children employed in the factory live with their parents or relatives, and are under their superintendence.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—All the workers attend the same hours.

A. 19.—Only sixty-five minutes of lost time was made up during last year; this was done on four separate days. On every other day the works were not kept on above twelve hours for five days of the week, and nine on Saturday.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days three hours and forty-five minutes.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty-four hours and thirty-seven minutes.

A. 22.—Every part of the work is regularly carried on during the whole day.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and two minutes.

A. 24 & 25.—None were ever kept at work longer than twelve hours, except as answered in A. 19.

A. 26.—In this factory there is no necessity for exceeding the regular hours of work. In case of any necessary stoppage the lost time may be made up in terms of the present Act.

A. 27.—From the commencement of the manufactory in 1826, the hours of work were twelve hours thirty-five minutes for five days of the week, and nine hours thirty-five minutes on Saturday. About three or four months prior to the passing of the present Act the hours were reduced to twelve hours for five days of the week, and nine hours forty-five minutes on Saturday, and since the Act was passed the hours have been in conformity thereto.

A. 28.—I found no decrease in the quantity; of course the cost of production is not enhanced.

A. 29.—No manufacturer can have any inducement to continue his work through the night with the same set of hands that were employed during the day, as the strength and spirits of the workers would thereby be entirely exhausted. Those who continue extra hours with the same hands, contrary to the existing law, do so for the purpose of obtaining an increased quantity of cloth, and thereby lessening the cost of production.

A. 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, & 36.—I offer no opinion as to these queries, as no extra hours are required in this factory, and I have had no information from any other quarter.

A. 37.—The workers in steam-loom factories, even the youngest of them, are perfectly able to work twelve hours a day without any diminution of energy, and therefore any further reduction of the working-hours would be followed by a decrease of produce in exact proportion to the time reduced. Consequently there would be an increase of expence to the manufacturer in producing that reduced quantity, and a loss of profit on the difference below the former average; and the effects would be equally injurious to the workers, as the amount of their wages would be reduced in the same proportion.

A. 38.—No heat is required in the weaving-flats during summer, and none in winter except for the comfort of the workers. The temperature in winter is kept up by steam-pipes, the regulation of which is left to the workers themselves.

A. 39.—The dressing-flat is the only part of the factory in which a high temperature is necessary, and the heat is regulated by the dressing master to suit the work. The temperature of this flat varies from eighty to ninety.

A. 40.—Eighteen.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and the same for dinner.

A. 54.—Every person leaves the works at the meal-hours, except a few females.

A. 55.—These females remain from choice, and are permitted by the manager to do so. No person is ever required to remain for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—In my opinion it would be conducive to the health and comfort of the workers, in all factories, were they regularly to go out to their meals.

A. 57.—No means are used to enforce obedience on the part of the young workers. The fear of losing their work is found to be sufficient inducement to ensure good behaviour.

A. 58 to 64.—No corporal punishments are sanctioned, and none have ever been inflicted.

A. 65.—They live in their own houses.

A. 66.—From having few very young persons employed I cannot speak particularly as to the difference of their skill and character, but I have found that those who have remained longest in the factory sustain the best character and are the most expert at their work.

A. 67.—I am not sensible of improvement or deterioration in the health of the workers since the commencement of the manufactory. I have, however, considered them in general healthy, and in confirmation of this opinion I affix a certificate which is as follows:—

“Glasgow, 27th May 1833.

“I certify of having acted as medical attendant upon the workers employed in Mr. John King's steam-loom factory, Ayton Place, for one year, ending in October 1830. During that period I found the workers in general particularly healthy, indeed fully as much so as the general population of this city. My services were not required for any of the workers under sixteen years of age; with the exception of a young boy who kept the factory gate, and who was attacked by a slight inflammatory fever.

“On Soul and Conscience,  
JAMES WILSON, Surgeon.”

“James Hardie, J. P.”

A. 68.



A. 68.—All the workers continue regularly at the employment for which they are engaged, as none of the processes are injurious to health.

A. 69.—Subject to the provisions of the present Act in every point.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—I believe that all the mills in the neighbourhood conform strictly to the provisions of the Act.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—I consider any other scale of penalties than those contained in the present Act unnecessary in Scotland. But in order more effectually to secure obedience to the law, I would suggest the appointment of district committees, consisting of occupiers of factories, to see that the provisions of the Act are complied with.

A. 79.—It is my decided opinion, that no further law to restrict the hours of labour in steam-loom factories ought to be made. It is unnecessary as it regards the younger workers, as those who are employed under twelve years of age are subjected to no bodily exertion, and it often happens that their time is not wholly occupied; while those further advanced, who may be employed in the weaving-flats, have for a considerable time the charge only of one loom, and are not entrusted with the management of two looms till they are fourteen or fifteen years of age. In all the operations attention is the principal requisite, and the youngest workers are equally capable of attending twelve hours each day as those at the age of twenty-one, without exhausting their strength or endangering their health. If a Bill should be passed to restrict labour in factories to ten hours a day, the capital which every manufacturer has invested in machinery will be reduced one sixth part in value; he will at the same time lose a sixth part of his annual profits, and his workers will be deprived of one sixth of their present wages. This must be the result unless attended by a corresponding rise in the price of goods and of workers wages, in which case such a law will assuredly operate as a tax on steam-loom cloth, for the encouragement of foreign manufactures.

JOHN KING.

Lanarkshire.

John King.

ANSWERS of ROBERT MARSHALL, parish of Gorbals, Glasgow.

No. 106.

Robert Marshall.

A. 1.—Parish of Gorbals, and county of Lanark.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving cotton only.

A. 3.—The weaving-mill was erected in 1822, and the spinning in 1823.

A. 4.—By steam-engine, calculated at twenty-five horse power.

A. 5.—An opening pane in the middle of each window, by which a current of air may be introduced.

A. 6.—On opening the pane.

A. 7.—Regulated by the workers at their respective windows.

A. 8.—All the great gearing is out of the way.

A. 9.—The girls in the weaving-mill do not change their clothes. Some of those employed, particularly in the card-room of the spinning-mill, change theirs. In both mills they have at all times free access to water either to drink or wash themselves, which has been the case ever since we took the works.

A. 10.—None below nine years; and had not to our knowledge been at any other trade.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 15.—None of the workers are lodged or maintained by us.

A. 16.—All the children from nine to twelve years of age live with their parents or relations, and some of them work along with them at the factory.

A. 17.—Regulated by the Bill passed in 1831, viz. twelve hours for five days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—All ages are employed as in answer to query No. 17.

A. 19.—Being regulated by Bill before mentioned, in making up lost time by necessary stoppages not more than thirteen hours, and never more than ten days at a time, Saturdays not included.

A. 20.—For one year ending the 1st May current three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-five hours.

A. 22.—All carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty-seven to twenty-eight minutes per day.

A. 24.—Not more than thirteen hours, and that only when making up time lost by repairs of engine or great gearing.

A. 25.—During the year the whole time made up was four hours and fifty-six minutes for the whole works; and the spinning-mill made up besides this, in February, ten hours, and in March ten hours; all for time lost by repairs of engine or great gearing.

A. 26.—Not avoidable, because we pay a very high rent and get no abatement for time lost.

A. 27.—Previous to passing the Bill in 1831 the weaving-mill wrought twelve hours and a half five days of the week, and eleven hours and a half upon Saturdays. The spinning-mill was regulated by a Bill passed in 1825, limiting the time to what Mr. Hobhouse's Bill now does.

A. 28.—Certainly we do, because our capital in machinery is less employed, it being impossible to turn that machinery to any other purpose.

A. 29.—Over and above the net wages paid to workers for piece-work, the general expence of

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Lanarkshire.

Robert Marshall.

of the factory, tear and wear of machinery, &c., fall to be charged upon the gross produce, therefore the less that produce is, the greater the average expence, the general or fixed expence of the factory being no way lessened by the working-time being shortened. In other words, if our produce be reduced from, say, one hundred to ninety-five, the latter must necessarily then bear the expence the former did, consequently the cost of production is enhanced.

A. 29.—There can be no inducement otherwise than perhaps the difficulty of procuring two sets of hands; but never having attempted this, cannot answer positively.

A. 30.—There is certainly an increase in the cost of production in all branches of our manufacture to the proportion of time reduced, because machinery is doing so much less work, and the interest on it and all fixed expences are consequently lost to the extent of the time shortened.

A. 32.—Never been tried by us, because our lease is for a given number of hours per day, and no more.

A. 33.—Never employed a night-set.

A. 34.—Because each worker may be thought best acquainted with his or her own work.

A. 37.—We think it very probable that a still further reduction of working-hours will be followed by a reduction of wages, because machinery will not otherwise remunerate the proprietors.

A. 38.—Sixty-five to sixty-eight is the usual temperature in the cotton-mill; the temperature of the weaving-mill is just that of the weather, except during the winter, when it is made comfortably warm by steam.

A. 39.—Eighty to eighty-two degrees the dressing-flat of the weaving-mill.

A. 40.—Ten men and five boys.

A. 50.—By gas in the mornings and afternoons, when necessary.

A. 52.—Unknown to us.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour between nine and ten for breakfast, and the same time between two and three for dinner.

A. 54.—Almost all.

A. 55.—For their own convenience entirely.

A. 56.—There is no reason why all do not leave the factory at meal-hours who choose to do so.

A. 57.—Threat of being turned off, conditional warnings away, and failing these, discharge them.

A. 58.—Not to our knowledge or belief.

A. 59.—By neither overlookers nor foremen.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—With us they do not; we have no houses, and they are so dispersed that we have no control whatever after they leave the mill.

A. 66.—The spinners are all brought up to the trade from their youth, and generally the weavers are so likewise.

A. 67.—We know no difference.

A. 68.—We do not.

A. 69.—We adhere strictly to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—To the best of our knowledge they conform to the provisions of the Act.

A. 74.—Never heard of one.

A. 79.—None; but it is our opinion that the less legislative interference there is in matters of trade between master and man, the better for both. With the working-hours as they are just now the cotton trade is very barely a saving trade, if it be even that; and we do not think, with working-hours still more shortened, that we shall be able to compete with other countries upon equal terms, where the hours of work are uncontrolled.

ROBERT MARSHALL.

No. 107.

Robert Thomson.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT THOMSON, Glasgow.

A. 1.—Gorbals (quoad Sacra), Lanark.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton on mules.

A. 3.—Our establishment has two factories, one erected in 1802, with an addition made thereto in 1823; the other in 1815.

A. 4.—Steam entirely.

A. 5 & 6.—No provision, except from the opening of windows or parts of windows; in the old factory there are one or two panes of glass that open in each window. In the new, every window opens from top to bottom, as in an ordinary house. In this house there are two staircases, broad passages, and high roofs, and the ventilation is excellent.

A. 7.—Every worker may open the window nearest him or her, at pleasure, and the foreman only interfering when the rooms get too hot.

A. 8.—All the parts that can endanger life or limbs are fenced off. We have never had a serious accident.

A. 9.—There is a place at each work where the adults are allowed, and the children ordered to clean their faces, hands, and feet. No specific place allotted for changing clothes, out-door coverings are put off in the rooms; there is a necessary in each flat, kept clean, and seldom offensive; in the old mill, those immediately opposite it, sometimes complain of



Lanarkshire.

Robert Thomson.

of the smell, but not oftener than the same complaint would be made of a water-closet in a dwelling house.

A. 10.—Nine years; some have been in printfields and other works which are not restricted by law.

A. 11.—It does not, so far as we (the proprietors) are concerned; we have no objections to a peremptory law excluding all under twelve; as it is, we must take them in earlier, otherwise would not fill the works.

A. 12.—They have reduced hands of all ages, except in the spinning department.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—It will be seen from the schedule that there are several orphans, but there are few, it will be noticed from same document, who do not live with some relative.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, except Saturday, nine hours only.

A. 19.—To make up lost time by accidents to the engine, &c., we have worked twelve hours and a half and thirteen hours for a day or two continuously, but not more than six days during the year, to the best of our belief.

A. 20 & 21.—In one mill we worked, during 1832, two hundred and eighty-nine days eleven hours, in the other two hundred and eighty-seven days six hours, counting twelve hours to the day, consequently in 1832 the total number of hours work was in one mill three thousand four hundred and seventy-nine, and in the other three thousand four hundred and fifty.

A. 22.—All are alike.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and six minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, except in case alluded to in A. 19.

A. 25.—In case of accidents to engine only.

A. 26.—Perfectly avoidable. We do not consider making up the time lost in one day during another a material point to an employer.

A. 27.—Not, except on Saturdays, during the recollection of the present proprietors. Before 1825, we worked twelve hours each alternate Saturday.

A. 28.—The reduction in time has been so small, and the improvements in machinery so great, that we are not sensible of any increased cost.

A. 29.—The inducement to work long hours is to lessen the cost of production.

A. 30.—The greater part of the machinery has a maximum of speed, and if it be driven for ten hours in place of twelve it will produce one sixth less; nearly one third of the cost of spinning a pound of cotton into twist is a fixed charge amounting to a certain sum yearly, consequently the greater number of pounds you produce your fixed charge is less on each pound, and your cost of production. It should be added however, that in many of the processes the workers do more in proportion to the time they are employed when working short hours, as we have experienced when working half or three quarter time.

A. 31, 32, & 33.—Never having worked extra hours, have never tried the plan; never have worked at night.

A. 34.—Our time being twelve hours, the children would object, or their parents for them, to work six hours only, because they would get half pay only.

A. 37.—It would increase the cost of production, even though wages were reduced.

A. 38 & 39.—We never wish the temperature to be over seventy degrees Fahrenheit, and no greater degree of heat is necessary. It is sometimes higher, from causes difficult or impossible to control, but in a general way is seldom above seventy.

A. 40.—Temperature the same throughout.

A. 47.—No maximum.

A. 50.—By gas after dark.

A. 53.—All the same. Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, same for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—Almost all. Those who do stay to take their meals in the works do it for their own convenience, and against our wishes. It ought to be mentioned, that some of the workers are occasionally detained five or ten minutes after the engine stops for breakfast and dinner, to clean or mend, which cannot be done while the engine is going. This, however, is not essential. In fact, it is a practice which the workers on piecework have introduced chiefly of their own accord. The workers, as a whole, have their full three quarters for breakfast and dinner.

A. 57.—No means but turning them away.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—Absolutely. We have turned men off for striking a child, but such cases rarely occur; we may add, almost never.

A. 63.—No written instructions; but they have orders never to allow a blow to be inflicted on any child; in fact, corporal punishments are not practised in cotton factories in this district, to the best of our knowledge.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—They do not in towns; we do not know of any instance where they do in Glasgow.

A. 66.—Nearly the whole have begun as children, either with us or elsewhere; we are not aware of any difference between the very few we employ who have come from other employments and the others.

A. 67.—We are not sensible of any difference.

A. 68.—The only process that can be more injurious than the others is the pulling-house, where

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where eight or ten persons are employed; it is the only place where dust and flyings cannot be avoided; they are higher paid than the others, and are seldom willing to change.

A. 69.—Under Hobhouse's Bill.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—It is our belief that in this district the law is adhered to strictly, generally speaking.

A. 74, 75, & 76.—We believe we have heard of two instances of informations, but cannot say so of our own knowledge, neither do we know the result.

A. 77.—It is our belief that the workpeople in this district are as independent of their masters as they can be in the relation in which they must stand. We think, however, that no one in employment will come forward without some reluctance against his employer, from the natural fear of losing his work.

A. 78.—In a general way, we do not think it possible by legislative enactment to make the situation of the factory-workers much better than it is; as a body, we believe them to be better off than any other class holding the same status in society. If there is to be further legislation, however, our opinion is, that the proposed penalties under Lord Ashley's Bill will never be enforced, exactly for the reason that the punishment of forgery by death (and other crimes which might be enumerated) has been found impracticable. There is no enactment now in existence so severe as the power of imprisoning a master for twelve months; it will never be enforced, and if it were, the result would be the shutting up of his works during his incarceration. In our own case, should such a misfortune occur, we must shut up our works, and this would infallibly deprive two thousand persons of their daily bread. We think small penalties, rigorously and summarily enforced, (if there are to be penalties,) would answer better; and for the purpose of carrying these into effect we think a magistrate (stipendiary) for each district should be appointed, who should sit one day a week to hear all complaints, and should be able to convict without appeal. The hour of sitting might commence at three o'clock on Saturday, when the people are all idle.

A. 79.—Our opinion is, that no change should be made in the present law so far as cotton factories are concerned. The concern to which I belong have a weaving factory employing one hundred and forty persons, besides the two alluded to above; but as it has only been begun by them within six months, and is not yet in full operation, I am not qualified to answer queries in this branch, and have therefore restricted my answers to the two spinning factories.

18th May 1833.

ROBERT THOMSON.

No. 108.

Messrs.  
MacLellan & Turner.

ANSWERS of MACLELLAN and TURNER, Chief Town, Glasgow.

A. 1.—County of Lanark, parish Govan.

A. 2.—Power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—Used first for its present purpose in 1812, and built all at one time.

A. 4.—By steam, fourteen horse power regular.

A. 5.—Opening panes in windows to admit air.

A. 6.—Opening panes.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—The workers are allowed to take in cloaks or mantles, and to wash themselves.

A. 10.—The youngest person at present employed by us is twelve years of age now, so far as we know.

A. 11.—None.

A. 12.—We have made no recent alterations in our machinery, but our speed is increased.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—One, lodging with her brother.

A. 16.—Yes, the foreman or manager.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty hours and three quarters.

A. 22.—All at one time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours six minutes.

A. 25.—None.

A. 26.—We have had no excess.

A. 27.—One hour each day.

A. 28.—The cost is not greater than formerly, owing to our having increased our speed.

A. 29.—We never had two sets of hands, nor wrought night-hours.

A. 32.—We have not tried it.

A. 36.—We think it would produce a good effect.

A. 37.—We consider the present Time Bill very good; but any further reduction of working hours would be injurious to the employers, and materially lessen the wages of the workers.

A. 38.—In weaving we have no forced heat further than is required for the comfort of the weavers.

A. 39.—Eighty degrees.

A. 40.



- A. 40.—Eleven, all males.  
 A. 47.—No process of our manufacture continued during night.  
 A. 48.—No persons of any age.  
 A. 50.—By gas in winter evenings and mornings.  
 A. 52.—We think they must be bad.  
 A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast and the same time for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 56.—We think it refreshing to the workers to go out to meals.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal from works.  
 A. 58.—Never, on any account.  
 A. 62.—Strictly forbidden, and we believe never any instance occurred in our work.  
 A. 63.—No written instruction; but our foreman is ordered to use every worker well, and not to inflict corporal punishment upon any account.  
 A. 64.—None whatever.  
 A. 65.—We have no houses for our workpeople.  
 A. 66.—We prefer workers who have been taken in at later periods to those who commenced in infancy, as the steadiest workers are those who began work betwixt the ages of fourteen and eighteen years.  
 A. 67.—We cannot state that there has been any difference in the health of our workers for the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—We never alter our workers.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—We believe they do.  
 A. 74.—We do not know of any.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason for thinking so.  
 A. 78.—The present Bill, when strictly enforced, is quite sufficient.

22d May 1833.

MACLELLAN &amp; TURNER.

Lanarkshire.

Messrs.  
Maclellan & Turner.

ANSWERS of ALEXANDER ALLEN, for John Miller, Wellington Factory, Glasgow.

No. 109.

Alexander Allen.

- A. 1.—Lanark county, Govan parish, Govan Street, Hutchesontoun, now within the city of Glasgow.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving, the one made to balance the other, so that all the yarn spun is wove.  
 A. 3.—The old mill, a fire-proof building, was erected in 1814-15, the new erection in 1825; they were employed at all times for the same purpose.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine.  
 A. 5.—Windows are suspended on sash-weights, open at pleasure; in the garret the sky-lights move on hinges.  
 A. 6.—Does depend on the windows or doors.  
 A. 7.—Persons may open their own windows, yet it would be improper to say that one could at all times keep a window open; there is never any questions.  
 A. 8.—Larger wheels are fenced.  
 A. 9.—In some of the departments, and indeed most of them, people may put off part of their clothes, and put on others, and indeed do so; there is a constant supply of water to be had, and flagons to carry it to the various passes.  
 A. 10.—Nine years, according to the Act of Parliament; few are taken in at that age; we seldom know if they have been employed before; those at or above nine seldom are.  
 A. 11.—The spinners require such as rove-piecers, which a very weak child may do; some other parts, as packing cops, can be done without injuring a child; they learn the other departments early.  
 A. 12.—If the throstle-frames come into general use, more children will be employed.  
 A. 13.—We do not.  
 A. 17.—We conform to the Act, and never work above twelve hours on the five days, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—There is no difference made; indeed it does not well appear how it can be made. No spinner can work without piecers, nor can one part of a work go, and the other stand.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and one half.  
 A. 20.—Working-days in a year, three hundred and thirteen; stopped, fair, fasts, New Year, eight days and a half; repairs on engine fourteen days and a half; reduced time nine days and three quarters; making in all, days wrought, two hundred and eighty and a quarter; any former year the stoppages for repairs never exceeded three or four days.  
 A. 21.—Hours wrought, three thousand two hundred and twenty-three; lost time made up, three hours and a quarter; making in all three thousand two hundred and twenty-six hours and a quarter.  
 A. 22.—All regularly carried on in general; the only exception is, that when one department gets a-head it must stop till the preparation come up to it.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and eighteen minutes.  
 A. 24.—The twelve hours upon five days of the week, and nine upon Saturday, appointed by Act of Parliament, have never been exceeded during last year but twice, at one time for

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three



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Alexander Allen.

three days, and at another for four days; the works were continued during twelve hours and a half. See A. 21.

A. 25.—In consequence of the engine being stopped during the usual working hours for repairs.

A. 26.—Working beyond the regular hours is avoidable in all cases except the mechanics, who are sometimes employed in after-hours for repairs.

A. 27.—Previous to the passing of the last Act of Parliament for regulating the cotton factories, the time wrought was twelve hours and a half for five days of the week, and from ten to ten hours and a half upon Saturday.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—It does not appear that either children or adults could continue to work through the nights. The practice of night-work is little known here.

A. 30.—If the hours be limited, the quantity produced must also be diminished; if the day-wages and general charges be not reduced, the increase of cost seems certain.

A. 31.—The objection to a change of hands on the same machinery is quite plain; every one knows that it requires a little practice to work on a machine which the person has not been accustomed to; two sets of hands never do so well.

A. 32.—Not here, the regular hours only being wrought.

A. 33.—Not employed here.

A. 37.—That the probable effects would be to raise the value; the same capital is laid out in buildings and machinery; the general charges cannot be reduced to the same proportion, and the day-wages, if not reduced, will also operate, so that it must either injure the worker or manufacturer.

A. 38.—60°, weaving, the lower the better; 65° to 70°, spinning; 75° to 80°, dressing.

A. 40.—Winders, warpers, and dressers. Weaving department about thirty.

A. 41.—None at extra hours, beyond what has been stated in A. 27.

A. 50.—In ordinary cases, with gas from the Glasgow Company.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast and the same to dinner for all mill-workers; mechanics an hour to each.

A. 54.—They have liberty to do so unless mechanics, who get an hour after, or cleaners, who sometimes work in the meal-time, and go to meals after.

A. 55.—Mechanics work because they may do any thing when the machinery stands; cleaners too may get at places which they could not reach when the machinery is moving.

A. 56.—Here the meals are all taken out; no encouragement is given to sending food to the workers.

A. 57.—They are turned away, and others tried.

A. 58.—No allowance is granted for such by the proprietor; if any do it, he or she must consider themselves responsible for the consequences.

A. 59.—Parents may, if they please.

A. 62.—Never forbid it; so seldom heard of it that it did not seem to require prevention.

A. 64.—There has been one; but the case was dismissed as vexatious, and urged on by ill-will. The person was acquitted, and paid one shilling as court dues.

A. 65.—There are some houses belonging to the proprietor, but the inhabitants are at the same liberty as in any other property. No interference with domestic arrangements is used.

A. 66.—It is generally found that those who begin young learn best, but it is also found that some old hands get careless; there are so many other qualifications in a good hand that it is difficult to point to individuals, nor from the constant change of hands do we always know how long they have worked.

A. 67.—Making a deduction from the cause of intemperance, it should seem the difference is not great; cannot state any other cause.

A. 68.—Never do make such changes.

A. 69.—Have always conformed to the Sixty-nine hours Act since it was passed.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—Think they are not; some are always ready to look out for opportunities of finding fault.

30th May 1833.

ALEXANDER ALLEN.

No. 110.

John Somerville  
& Sons.

## ANSWERS of JOHN SOMERVILLE &amp; SONS, Glasgow.

A. 1.—Parish of Govan, county of Lanark.

A. 2.—The weaving of stout domestics.

A. 3.—The present works were built in 1832, and were set agoing on the 15th December last.

A. 4.—Steam-power solely.

A. 5.—Yes, the opening of windows, which, being made to open and shut like those in dwelling houses, always create an excellent circulation.

A. 6.—It depends entirely on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated chiefly by the manager, but any worker may open or shut the windows if found too cold or warm.

A. 8.—Yes, they are all fenced off.

A. 9.



Lanarkshire.

*John Somerville  
& Sons:*

A. 9.—We have no arrangements connected with the changing of the clothes of the workers at entering, or the putting on of additional clothes on leaving the mill. They nearly all live in the vicinity of the work, and we leave it to their good sense and the state of the weather to regulate the quantity of clothing. There has always been a well, besides a collection of steamed water within the premises, where they have opportunities of washing themselves. The walls of the factory are whitewashed annually, and the floors are cleaned several times every day.

A. 10.—The lowest age is nine years. The children have been employed at no other trade previous to entering the factory.

A. 11.—We have a very few below twelve years, for the purpose of giving in yarns. The work is done sitting, and is not at all fatiguing.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—We have several young persons in our employment who have no parents; the youngest are fourteen and seventeen years, and are under the care of relations; the others are either under the care of relations, or have arrived at a sufficient age to take care of themselves.

A. 16.—No other superintendence but that of the master when engaged in the work.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

A. 18.—They all work twelve hours.

A. 19.—Never more than thirteen hours, and that has occurred very seldom, the extra hour being occasioned by making up lost time.

A. 20.—The works were destroyed by fire last year, and were carried on for a very short period.

A. 22.—The different parts of the works are all carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Nine hours on Saturday, and twelve hours on the other days.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours, but the instances were very rare, being caused by accident.

A. 25.—In consequence of something unforeseen going wrong with the engine and great gearing.

A. 26.—We consider it unavoidable. From the present construction of machinery some parts will go wrong and create a stoppage, notwithstanding the greatest diligence and attention.

A. 27.—At one period we wrought the weaving department twelve hours and a half, but reduced them to twelve hours, in accordance to the wishes of the workers, being previous to the passing of the last Act.

A. 28.—We cannot say that the reduction of half an hour in working has made any very material difference in the cost of production.

A. 29.—We cannot conceive what inducement a manufacturer could have to work extra hours or during night without a change of hands, as without new hands the labour must be very unprofitable.

A. 30.—We have not found any material increase on the cost of production from working half an hour less. We think there is little profit in working more than twelve hours on account of workers getting fatigued; at the same time we have no doubt but that if the working hours are reduced to ten or eleven hours a considerable increase in cost will ensue.

A. 32.—Having never wrought more than thirteen hours on any one day, and that seldom, we did not require relays or change of hands.

A. 33.—Have never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 37.—A further reduction of the working hours will be detrimental to the working classes as well as to their employers. To compensate for the decrease of produce and increased expence in the cost of production consequent to further limitation, and to be enabled to compete with foreigners (who are under no restrictions), the masters will be compelled to reduce the wages of the workpeople, and thereby curtail their comforts, and create poverty and much dissatisfaction.

A. 38.—In all parts of the work, except that where dressing of yarns is carried on, the temperature is the same as in dwelling houses.

A. 39.—In a part of the factory, where the process of dressing yarns is conducted, the temperature may sometimes be as high as from eighty to ninety-two.

A. 40.—Sixteen men.

A. 46.—No processes of our manufacture are indispensably continuous for twenty-four hours.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 52.—We cannot give an opinion on the effects of night-work, from never having wrought our factory during night.

A. 53.—From forty-five to sixty minutes.

A. 54.—About one fourth on an average may remain in the mill.

A. 55.—They are all at liberty to go away. When they take their food in the mill it is to save themselves the trouble of walking home for it. Of course it is entirely to suit their own convenience.

A. 56.—As far as health is concerned, we do not think it would have any good effect. The time occupied in meals is very short, and when the weather is dry they generally walk about the neighbourhood, and enjoy themselves in the open air.



Lanarkshire.

*John Somerville  
& Sons.*

A. 57.—That of giving them a fortnight's warning to leave the factory, if found disobedient or careless.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Yes; we never were informed, and do not believe there ever was an instance of corporal punishment having been inflicted in our work.

A. 63 & 64.—No.

A. 65.—We have no dwelling houses of our own for the workpeople.

A. 66.—Our works having only been in operation since 1830, we cannot answer this question from want of the necessary experience.

A. 67.—From the same reason as given to the previous question we must decline stating any thing positive connected with the improvement or deterioration of the health of the workpeople; but it is our impression, and the firm opinion of Mr. M'Bride our manager, who has been connected with factories for upwards of thirty years, that from the measures adopted by masters in having the mills well ventilated, walls whitewashed, and floors regularly cleaned, as well as from a growing taste on the part of the workers themselves, their character has very much improved, as regards personal comfort and cleanliness, and that their general health is better than any other class of workpeople.

A. 68.—No; on account of having no processes in the work that have injurious effects.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never; have always obeyed the laws.

A. 73.—They all conform, as far as we know.

A. 77.—No; they have a regular committee for the purpose of receiving evidence against masters in the event of their infringing the Act.

JOHN SOMERVILLE and SON.

No. 111.

*Alexander Couper.*

ANSWERS of ALEXANDER COUPER, for Couper, Maitland, and Co., Inner High Church.

A. 1.—Inner High Church, Lanark.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving cotton goods by power.

A. 3.—The weaving-mill was erected and first employed in 1824, and the spinning-mill was erected in 1825, and commenced working the following year.

A. 4.—Thirty-six horse power steam-engine.

A. 5.—In the spinning-mill there is a portion of each window that opens and shuts at pleasure; and in the weaving-mill, which is constructed of one floor on the ground, there are ventilators on the roof, and three doors in the side-walls, which are opened when necessary, and cause a general circulation of fresh air.

A. 6.—On the openings and doors, as above stated.

A. 7.—In the weaving-mill the ventilation is regulated by the foreman, and in the spinning-mill by the pleasure of the workers.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts of machinery are fenced off which can possibly be done, and we have had no accident of any consequence.

A. 9.—Since we commenced work our spinning and weaving mills have been kept both clean and well aired, and there is always in each floor a plentiful supply of fresh spring-water for drinking, and the workers always put on some additional clothing in cold weather in going or coming from their work.

A. 10.—We have five children ten years of age, and who have been employed at no other trades, two of whom are employed by their parents.

A. 11 & 12.—We do not require any children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have thirteen orphan children whose ages average sixteen years, seven of whom live with their relations, and the remainder in lodgings, who are occasionally visited by their relations and guardians.

A. 16.—They are of course under the superintendence of those with whom they live, as stated in A. 15.

A. 17.—Twelve hours every lawful day except Saturday, and only nine on that day.

A. 19.—Not in any case more than twelve hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eighty hours.

A. 22.—All parts are carried on at one time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours twenty-five minutes per working day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—Never in any case.

A. 26.—It is quite avoidable, except in making up lost time. Authorized by the present Act.

A. 27 & 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—To reduce the cost of his manufacture.

A. 30.—In our weaving department we have experienced the cost of production has increased in exact proportion to the time reduced.

A. 31.—We are not aware of any objection, provided one set works so long as to enable them to gain wages sufficient for their support.

A. 32.—We are not aware that it has been tried; and if it was, the wages would be too small to support the worker.

A. 34.



A. 34.—If two sets of hands were employed under the present Act, they could not support themselves, which would force them to evade the law by working in two mills in one day.

A. 35.—We have no night-work.

A. 37.—In the first place there would be an immediate reduction of wages, and also of any profits that exist at present. Secondly, it would give to our foreign rivals another advantage over us to the many already obtained, besides holding out a stimulus both to the master and operative to evade the laws.

A. 38.—We do not require any more heat than is necessary for the comfort of the workers, except in our dressing department, which is usually about 80°.

A. 39.—80°.

A. 40.—Twenty-five hands.

A. 50.—We are lighted by gas during the legal working hours when dark.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 52.—We have no night-work.

A. 53.—Breakfast from nine o'clock till a quarter before ten o'clock; dinner from two o'clock till a quarter before three o'clock.

A. 54.—They all leave together.

A. 57.—Dismissal from employment if incorrigible.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 66.—We universally prefer those that have been brought up in our works.

A. 67.—During our experience we cannot say that we have observed any alteration.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—To the best of our knowledge, all the mills in our neighbourhood conform to the provisions of the present Act, similar to ourselves.

A. 74.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—We can suggest no penalty, as we consider that any law on this subject is an improper interference, as the youngest persons in our works can manage their own affairs, and do so with as much correctness as the oldest. For instance, our piecers, the youngest in our employment, (but whose wages are paid by the spinners,) turned out lately, and would not work another day till their wages were advanced, from which we think that they are more capable of regulating their treatment and hours of labour than any law can.

A. 79.—We shall be happy that our mills be inspected, and answer any further questions.

ALEXANDER COUPER.

Lanarkshire.

Alexander Couper.

#### ANSWERS of A. STONACH & Co., Burnside Mill, Glasgow.

No. 112.

A. Stonach & Co.

A. 1.—St. John's parish, Glasgow, county Lanark.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and preparing.

A. 3.—Year 1811 and 1822.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—Opening in the windows.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows by the workpeople.

A. 7.—By the workers themselves.

A. 8.—All are fenced off.

A. 9.—They are all required to come cleanly, and as well clothed as circumstances will permit.

A. 10.—We employ none under ten years of age.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—We do not think it has.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—We have only three orphans in our employ, and none of them under sixteen years of age, and they either live with their relations or in lodgings.

A. 16.—Generally their relations.

A. 17.—We regularly adhere to twelve hours for five days in the week, and nine on Saturdays, for all ages.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and ninety-one hours.

A. 22.—All at one time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours for five days and nine on Saturday.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—Only in making up time caused by the stoppage of the engine, &c. from accident or other repairs.

A. 26.—It is not avoidable, as machinery, such as steam engine and main gearing, will get out of repair.

A. 27.—Not since the passing of the different acts for regulating factories.

A. 28.—If we wrought longer hours with the same set of hands we would produce a greater quantity, and the cost would be considerably less.

(APP.—A. 1.)

U 4

A. 29.



Lanarkshire.

*A. Stonach & Co.*

A. 29.—It enables them to produce a greater quantity with the same outlay of capital in machinery and building, &c., and in many cases the same wages paid to the workpeople, which enables them to undersell those who strictly adhere to the Act.

A. 30.—From the same reasons as stated above the limitation of the hours of working must increase the cost of production, particularly in the preparation, interest of capital, &c.

A. 31.—We know of no objection, but as we never wrought extra hours do not require them.

A. 32.—As we never work extra hours, have never tried it, but think it practicable for such as do to have two sets of hands under twelve years of age.

A. 33.—We have no night-work.

A. 36.—We would consider it an advantage to the trade.

A. 37.—First, from the consequent fall of wages; second, the cost of producing being enhanced, as stated in A. 30. America and other nations will undersell us, as they have no restriction in the hours of labour.

A. 38.—The heat is regulated by the workers themselves.

A. 39.—It requires all the same.

A. 50.—No night-work, but when light is required gas is used.

A. 51.—Same as with day-light.

A. 53.—Forty-five minutes for breakfast, and same for dinner.

A. 54.—The whole leave the works at meal-hours.

A. 55.—If any remain it is to suit their own convenience, as we do not allow it.

A. 56.—We consider it for their own advantage.

A. 57.—Reprimand or dismissal.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—We do not allow corporal punishment, and never had any complaints of its being inflicted.

A. 65.—None.

A. 66.—We find those employed from infancy generally more useful; but in general character we know no difference.

A. 67.—We cannot say that we know any change.

A. 68.—We have no injurious process, and do not require to change.

A. 69.—It has always been.

A. 70.—We were once informed against under the Act of 1825, by the Association of Operative Spinners, for having wrought half an hour too late on a Saturday; but as we had not exceeded the nine hours, the information was withdrawn.

A. 73.—As far as we know, they do.

A. 77.—We do not think so.

A. 78.—We would suggest proper legal enactments to enforce the present law on all parties, and to employ no children under twelve years of age.

31st May 1833.

ANDREW STONACH.

Perthshire.

No. 113.

*A. Stevenson.*

## PERTHSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER STEVENSON, Stanley Mills, Auchtergaven.

A. 1.—Stanley Works, parish of Auchtergaven, county of Perth.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, power-loom and hand-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The works became the property of Denniston, Buchanan, & Co. about ten years ago; the Brick Mill was erected about fifty years and part of the East Mill about thirty-three years ago; the other part of the East Mill and all the other buildings were erected by the present proprietors.

A. 4.—The power employed is water, and regular; some interruptions have occasionally happened in consequence of excess of water, repairs to the water-house, and the like; the whole of the water-wheels may be estimated at about two hundred horse power, or rather more.

A. 5 & 6.—With the exception of the mechanics shop and the room above it, which have places that can be thrown open in the centre of the window-frames, the whole of the windows in the works have sashes that are hung, and can be let down at pleasure; the garret windows or sky-lights can be opened to admit fresh air when necessary.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the overlookers of the different departments, and any of the workers have it in their power to admit fresh air opposite to the machine they work at, if they consider it necessary.

A. 8.—All the dangerous exposed parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—The whole of the floors of the rooms in the throstle-mill are washed with hot lime and water every week; in the other parts of the works the floors are washed, part once every fortnight and part once every month, with warm water and ashes; the ceilings and side-walls of all the rooms are whitewashed once a year; we are of opinion that in cotton and other factories the washing of the floors frequently has as great a tendency to promote health and cleanliness as the whitewashing of the ceilings and side-walls. The greater part of the female



female workers change some part of their clothes when they commence work, and in each room there are buckets of fresh water where the workers may wash if they find it necessary.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—Some of the machines and parts of machinery are so constructed that children of nine to twelve years of age will work with more ease than those of a greater age.

A. 12.—The improvements in machinery have not, in our opinion, rendered necessary the employment of a greater proportion of children under twelve years of age, but rather the contrary; we have reason to believe that thirty years ago the proportion under twelve years was greater than at present.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Refer to the list of workers; some of the orphans therein referred to were sent to the works by the kirk session of Perth, and are looked after by their overseers; we do not take any charge of any of them.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, and nine hours on Saturday. The mill-hours are the same to all ages; it could not be otherwise, as the whole of the different processes or branches must go on simultaneously.

A. 18.—Twelve hours, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half, and nine hours on Saturday. The reelers have occasionally, when their work fell much behind, worked thirteen hours in the day. The reels are not driven by power, but are worked by women; it has been the practice in some mills to give out the yarn to be reeled in the reelers houses. The lappers and bundlers of yarn have also, under the same circumstances, occasionally worked thirteen hours in the day; this work has no connexion with the water-power.

A. 20 & 21.—An abstract of the time-book for the last twelve months is annexed hereto, which will meet these queries. (*See p. 162.*)

A. 22.—All the different parts of the works are carried on at the same time.

A. 24.—No difference between children and grown-up people.

A. 25.—Making up loss of time occasioned by excess of water.

A. 26.—If the time lost is not worked up, the workers would get no wages for the time so lost; the interest of proprietors would be affected, so far as the diminished production might be estimated.

A. 27 & 28.—The usual hours of working have always been the same; say twelve hours, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 29.—We have no experience in the matter; but it must be obvious that the spinner or manufacturer who works the same machinery day and night doubles the production from the same sunk capital, and of course is enabled to bring his goods into the market with more advantage than those who work their machinery only during the day.

A. 30.—If the hours of work were to be diminished, the production would in most cases be diminished in proportion, and of course the expence of production increased.

A. 31.—We are of opinion that in country mills fresh sets of children could not be procured, but if it were otherwise, all the wages they would get for three or four hours work could not support them.

A. 32.—No, it was never considered to be necessary.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—The mills were never worked during the night.

A. 36.—The prohibition of night-work in factories would place proprietors on an equal footing with each other, and benefit the trade in general.

A. 37.—We are of opinion that if the working hours were reduced, we shall suppose to ten, it would in most cases occasion a reduction of wages in proportion, say one sixth part; and the proprietors of factories would be placed in a worse situation than they are at present, inasmuch as the sunk capital would be the same, and the production reduced one sixth part.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is from fifty-five to sixty-five degrees.

A. 39.—The highest is from seventy-five to eighty degrees, but only where warps for webs are dressed.

A. 40.—About twenty.

A. 46, 47, & 48.—None of the processes work more than twelve hours per day, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 50.—With gas for about six months in the year.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast and the same for dinner; we understand that the workers prefer this to half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—The workers leave the works at meal-times; if any have their victuals sent to them in the works, it is to suit their own convenience.

A. 57.—The same as is commonly used by parents to children, and what is practised in public schools.

A. 58.—No.

(APP.—A. 1.)

X

A. 62.

Perthshire.

A. Stevenson.



Perthshire.

A. Stevenson.

A. 62.—Nothing of the kind was ever contemplated by either of us.

A. 63.—No; misdemeanors are punished by turning the offenders away.

A. 65.—Most part of them live in the houses of their employers; the houses are occasionally whitewashed at the expence of the proprietors, who use every means in their power to enforce cleanliness; and employ servants to clean the streets of the village. The proprietors have erected at their own expence and endowed a chapel of ease, in connexion with the church of Scotland, where the young people under fifteen years of age are accommodated gratis; the grown-up people pay 5s. a year seat-rent. They provide also a school-house, allow the teacher a yearly salary and a free house, restricting him to a low rate of fees. There is a day-school, and a night-school for the young people employed during the day in the works. There is also a Sunday-evening school, directed and superintended by the minister of the chapel, and usually attended by between three and four hundred young people.

A. 66.—Boys who come to the works at the age of nine to twelve years generally make more expert workers when they grow up than those who commence at a more advanced age.

A. 68.—Very rarely, if ever; changes from one process to another sometimes take place in the way of promotion.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 78.—We do not consider any legislative enactments to be necessary, where proprietors of factories act in obedience to the existing law, for the regulation of cotton-works.

A. 79.—It is in our opinion an erroneous idea to suppose that as much might be produced in ten hours as is now done in twelve; the regularity in cotton factories is now so great, particularly in the processes of spinning, that any diminution of time would occasion a corresponding diminution in production.

20th May 1833.

ALEXANDER STEVENSON.

## 1. STANLEY MILLS. — Time wrought from 23d April 1832 till 20th April 1833.

| Fortnight                              | Hours. |     |     |     |     |   | Hours. |     |     |     |     |   | Total Hours. |
|----------------------------------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|--------------|
| From 23d April till 5th May, inclusive | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 7th May till 19th May - do.            | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 21st May till 2d June - do.            | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 4th June till 16th June - do.          | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 18th June till 30th June - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 2d July till 14th July - do.           | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 16th July till 28th July - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | —   | 12  | 9 | 126          |
| 30th July till 11th Aug. - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | —   | — | 114          |
| 13th Aug. till 25th Aug. - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 27th Aug. till 8th Sept. - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 10th Sept. till 22d Sept. - do.        | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 8 | 137          |
| 24th Sept. till 6th Oct. - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 8th Oct. till 20th Oct. - do.          | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 22d Oct. till 3d Nov. - do.            | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 5th Nov. till 17th Nov. - do.          | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 19th Nov. till 1st Dec. - do.          | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 3d Dec. till 15th Dec. - do.           | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 17th Dec. till 29th Dec. - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 31st Dec. till 12th Jan. - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 14th Jan. till 26th Jan. - do.         | —      | 9   | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 123          |
| 28th Jan. till 9th Feb. - do.          | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 8   | 7   | 9 | 129          |
| 11th Feb. till 23d Feb. - do.          | 12½    | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 9 | 12½    | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 12½ | 9 | 143          |
| 25th Feb. till 9th Mar. - do.          | 12½    | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 9      | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 135½         |
| 11th Mar. till 23d Mar. - do.          | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 25th Mar. till 6th April - do.         | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |
| 8th April till 20th April - do.        | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 12     | 12  | 12  | 12  | 12  | 9 | 138          |

ALEX. STEVENSON.



## ANSWERS of DANIEL M'LAURIN, Blackford.

Perthshire.

No. 114.

Daniel M'Laurin.

- A. 1.—Parish of Blackford, county of Perth.  
 A. 2.—Manufactures wool into cloth, blankets, &c.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1802, and enlarged in 1825.  
 A. 4.—Water-power.  
 A. 5.—No distinct or specific plan for ventilation, it not being necessary.  
 A. 6.—The workers have the power of opening windows or shutting them at their pleasure.  
 A. 7.—Is under the control of the workers generally.  
 A. 8.—Any part not requiring to be open is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None of the arrangements here mentioned are adopted, the workers houses being quite at hand.  
 A. 10.—Nine years and upwards; none were at other trades.  
 A. 11.—It does require children under twelve years, as they are got for less wages, and suit better; older would require to stoop to their work, and are not so active.  
 A. 12.—No more are required in my line.  
 A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices, as I find journeymen more agreeable.  
 A. 15.—Have none but who are under the guardianship of their parents.  
 A. 16.—They have superintendence besides their master.  
 A. 17.—The number of hours in my mill is eleven each day, and all persons, young and old, work the same.  
 A. 18.—Same as above stated.  
 A. 19.—Never make any variation of the hours of labour.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-five days.  
 A. 21.—I have no record of the hours.  
 A. 22.—The whole is carried on together.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours bring the full time, the average will not be above ten hours, as I do not work up extra for stoppages.  
 A. 24.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 25.—Never exceed the regular hours except during repairs, and then the children are not employed.  
 A. 26.—I consider it quite avoidable in all spinning factories beyond the regular hours, and conceive it would be an advantage to the trade if none were permitted, as it gives unprincipled masters an undue advantage.  
 A. 27.—The hours here has ever been the same.  
 A. 28.—If the wages were the same, and the hours of labour reduced, the cost of production would be more.  
 A. 29.—Greedy avarice of unprincipled men to get the most they can for the least possible payment.  
 A. 30.—I have no experience here.  
 A. 31.—The increased expence it would occasion is the only objection.  
 A. 32.—I think the woollen and cotton trade would be much improved if no extra hours or night work were permitted, although I am aware some difference of opinion exists on that head.  
 A. 33.—I have tried night-work, but never found it profitable, and have discontinued it long ago.  
 A. 36.—I think it would greatly benefit the trade by preventing so much over-production, by which the markets are glutted with goods.  
 A. 37.—If the hours were shorter than eleven working hours, being the specified time, as the average (owing to stoppages that cannot be avoided) will not exceed ten hours, a reduction of wages will take place.  
 A. 38.—From sixty-five to seventy-five degrees the best, and kept as near to that as possible.  
 A. 39.—Not higher than the above.  
 A. 40.—None than already stated.  
 A. 41.—None. Hours in summer from six in the morning to seven in the evening, allowing two hours for meals; and seven to eight in winter, and never later, but getting repairs done.  
 A. 46.—None are of necessity continuous in the spinning and weaving line.  
 A. 50.—The machinery department without the weaving with candle.  
 A. 51.—None but what is through the day.  
 A. 52.—As my work does not go through the night, I cannot state the effects.  
 A. 53.—One hour to breakfast and one to dinner.  
 A. 54.—They all leave the work, excepting those who get it sent for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—None but the fear of dismissal.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 62.—All punishment is strictly prohibited.  
 A. 65.—All live in their own and parents houses.  
 A. 66.—They are more active and understand the business better in all woollen-mills.  
 A. 67.—I have found the operatives very healthy.  
 A. 69.—I know of no Act.



Perthshire.

*Daniel M'Laurin.*

A. 73.—So far as I know, my neighbours were equally ignorant as myself with regard to any Act.

A. 74.—Not that I know of.

A. 75.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 76.—Evidence could easily be obtained if required.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—None but the fear of having others substituted in their place will ever, in my opinion, prove effectual; and I should suppose eleven hours to be better than ten, as, owing to the necessary stoppages which will occur, the average will not be above ten hours work.

DANIEL M'LAURIN.

## ANSWERS of DAVID GRIMOND, Blairgowrie.

No. 115.

*David Grimond.*

A. 1.—Situated in the parish of Blairgowrie, county of Perth.

A. 2.—Flax-spinning.

A. 3.—Part of the work was erected in the year 1815, and another part in 1820.

A. 4.—Propelled by a water-wheel of six horses power. The supply of water is very irregular in the drought of summer and in the frost in winter.

A. 5.—No distinct provision.

A. 6.—Entirely by opening part of the windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by any person employed at the work.

A. 8.—All which are thought dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—No use for this question, as my workers can be in their own houses a few minutes after the work is stopped.

A. 10.—I do not want to employ any below twelve years of age, but at times their parents wish to get some employed as young as ten years, but it seldom occurs.

A. 11.—Not younger than ten years.

A. 12.—None.

A. 13.—Young girls are sometimes taken in to learn spinning for the term of two years, and during that time they are paid according to their expertness at their work.

A. 14.—I believe that in Scotland the practice of apprenticing from parishes is unknown.

A. 15.—All children employed at my work are maintained and lodged with their parents.

A. 16.—None with me, but their parents.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day.

A. 18.—No difference of hours as to age.

A. 19.—Only thirteen hours per day, excepting making up for lost time.

A. 20.—I work six days per week, except on sacramental occasions and other holidays.

A. 21.—The above question answers this.

A. 22.—Every part of the work is carried on at the same time; it cannot be managed otherwise.

A. 23.—Thirteen hours per day.

A. 24.—They all work the same hours.

A. 25.—For making up lost time.

A. 26.—Because the workers would not be entitled to their wages, which they do not like to want.

A. 27.—Never more than thirteen hours per day, except when making up for lost time.

A. 28.—I believe it will not be the case in general, unless a considerable reduction takes place in the workers wages.

A. 29.—This question is fully answered before this inquiry.

A. 30.—I have had no limitation of time, and of course cannot answer this question; at the same time I think that it will be severely felt both by master and servant.

A. 31.—I have no occasion for an extra set of children.

A. 32.—I have never had an occasion to employ two relays of children.

A. 33.—I employ no night-hands.

A. 34.—I conceive it not to be my interest to work hands at night, and of course do not employ them.

A. 37.—If this restriction of the hours of labour be restricted to ten hours per day, the effects of this will be a corresponding reduction of wages, and a proportionable reduction of the masters remuneration of his capital sunk and his yearly rent.

A. 38.—I have never ascertained the temperature of my work, but no artificial heat is required, and the workers are at perfect liberty to regulate the temperature by opening and shutting the windows without the least control.

A. 39.—No artificial heat is required.

A. 40.—I generally employ twenty-one hands.

A. 41.—I never work during the night.

A. 50.—Lighted by oil with patent lamps.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast and the same for dinner; the houses being contiguous to the mill, no more time is required.

A. 54 & 55.—All at one time, for their own convenience.

A. 56.



- A. 56.—I know of none.  
 A. 57.—I have no means but by the overseers attention to them, and I find it sufficient.  
 A. 58.—No corporal punishment allowed by me.  
 A. 62.—I never allowed it, and of course could never have forbidden it.  
 A. 64.—None occurred.  
 A. 65.—My workpeople in general live with their parents, and are under their parents superintendence.  
 A. 66.—I find the young persons, through the course of time, to be the best workers.  
 A. 67.—There have been no cases of bad health among my people; since the commencement of my work there has not been one death amongst them.  
 A. 68.—I make none.  
 A. 69.—I am not aware of any Act of Parliament affecting flax-spinning mills.  
 A. 73.—I have no knowledge about it.  
 A. 74.—Never on the flax-spinning concern.  
 A. 76.—Never heard any thing regarding this.  
 A. 77.—I shall be most happy that my workers give any evidence that may be required.  
 A. 78.—I can suggest no other plan than this,—do not legislate on the subject, but leave the business to be settled betwixt master and servant.  
 A. 79.—I have to observe, that if the Ten Hours Bill is to be carried into effect, it will be complete ruin to the flax-spinners in Scotland, and particularly to those propelled by water.

DAVID GRIMOND.

## ANSWERS of JAMES GRIMOND, Oak Bank Spinning Mill, Blairgowrie.

No. 116.

James Grimond.

- A. 1.—Parish of Blairgowrie and county of Perth.  
 A. 2.—Flax and flax-tow spinning.  
 A. 3.—The mill built in 1825, and working commenced in March 1826; additional machinery has periodically been placed in the mill since the commencement of the work.  
 A. 4.—By water-wheel; the power is equal to eighteen or twenty horse power; working very irregular and precarious, especially from frosts and floods.  
 A. 5.—No distinct provision.  
 A. 6.—It depends on opening windows, which are opened at the discretion of the workers, uncontrolled by any manager.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous machinery fenced off as far as practicable.  
 A. 9.—The workers are allowed to go out *ad libitum*, and there are small houses adjoining the work; no change of clothes is necessary, the work being clean; some of the workers, however, have frocks which they wear over their clothes while in the mill; they are allowed to wash when out if they think proper.  
 A. 10.—I have employed a few at the age of nine years, but very few under, and these only when urged to do so by their parents, and when others of the family of maturer years were at the work; I employ none under twelve years of my own choice, and do not wish them younger; none of these young persons have been at other trades previously.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—I know of no difference in this respect.  
 A. 13.—No, except for one year, to learn them to spin; this is by a verbal agreement, and they receive payment according to their work and merits.  
 A. 15.—I have no orphans at my work; the parents, unless employed at the work, do not visit them there.  
 A. 16.—Requires no answer, excepting as already stated.  
 A. 17.—The usual number of hours is thirteen each day.  
 A. 18.—All ages work the same number of hours.  
 A. 19.—For one day my workers wrought sixteen hours. This was at their own request, to enable them to attend at the elections, and for two days afterwards they wrought none. Lost time is never made up excepting at the request of the workers, and which is often not more than half made up, while full wages are paid.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and six days have been paid for.  
 A. 21.—I have paid as for three thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight hours, although these have not truly been wrought, as stated in A. 19, as I keep no account of time lost not made up and paid for.  
 A. 22.—All parts are carried on at the same time.  
 A. 23.—The average is thirteen hours, in so far as the workers have been paid for time, but the average would be much less if an account of lost time paid for were kept. Besides, there is a loss of one quarter of an hour daily by the workers coming too late in the morning and at meal-hours, and not coming together, but each at his own convenience, of which no account is kept.  
 A. 24.—Answered in A. 19. I may here add, that except on the one day referred to my work has seldom been kept on for more than thirteen hours and a half, and this only at the request of the workers.  
 A. 25.—Answered in A. 19 partly, and also preceding fairs and festivals, and subsequent to frosts and floods. The stated hours are never exceeded except at the request of the workers.



Perthshire.

James Grimond.

A. 26.—Any excess beyond the stated hours is certainly avoidable; but in cases of frosts or floods it would be desirable to be allowed to make up the stated number of working hours, though later in the evening of the same day, which is not provided for in Lord Ashley's Bill.

A. 29.—The inducement appears to be gain or profit; but I have not practised this, except, as above stated, at the request of the workers.

A. 30.—My stated hours having been always the same, I do not feel myself qualified to answer this question.

A. 31.—I know of no objection to relays at stated hours where night-work is practised.

A. 32.—Never required relays.

A. 34.—I have not considered it to be for my interest to work two sets of hands.

A. 36.—Having never had night-workers, I cannot speak as to the effects of its being prohibited.

A. 37.—The effect would be a decrease of wages to the worker, a diminution of profits and a bar to our competing with foreigners in the same branch of trade.

A. 38.—My work is wrought at its natural temperature.

A. 39.—No artificial mode of heating is used.

A. 40.—I usually employ about sixty hands in the mill. I also employ from sixteen to twenty hecklers, who do not work in the mill. Are all adults, and are paid by piece-work; and are not restricted to stated hours.

A. 46.—No continuous process necessary.

A. 50.—By patent oil-lamps.

A. 51.—By the windows, the same as during the day.

A. 52.—Not experienced in this.

A. 53.—Breakfast at nine and dine at two in summer, and are allowed one hour to breakfast and half an hour to dinner. In winter the work is not commenced till after breakfast, and the same time is allowed for dinner as in summer.

A. 54.—All are at liberty to leave, but some from choice take their dinner in the mill.

A. 55.—When the workers take dinner in the mill, it is not for my convenience, but their own.

A. 56.—It would make no difference in my work.

A. 57.—Remonstrance, and when that fails of effect, dismissal; I have no other means to enforce obedience.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—Expressly prohibited.

A. 63.—I have given instructions to my manager and overseers to inflict no punishment whatever on children: these instructions were verbal.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Several of the workpeople live in houses which are my property, but in families over whom I can exercise no control; the others generally live with their parents in the village of Blairgowrie.

A. 66.—I do not consider there would be any difference if they entered to the work at twelve years of age; but if they entered only for the first time at an older age, say eighteen or nineteen, in many instances they would not become such expert workers, especially in spinning.

A. 67.—I know no difference; they are generally healthy.

A. 68.—No change is practised, nor is such change considered necessary, in flax-mills.

A. 69.—Not in so far as I know.

A. 77.—I do not believe my workers would be afraid to give evidence for or against me.

A. 78 & 79.—I consider all legislative interference betwixt master and servant unnecessary and impolitic, and that it would cause much jarring betwixt them which does not now exist; but on the contrary, in so far as I know, both parties are contented and happy. I have no hesitation in stating it as my opinion, that if Lord Ashley's Bill is passed into a law, it will prove ruinous to spinners, especially to those whose mills are propelled by water, their working hours being so contingent from frosts and floods. If an Act is to be passed on the subject, it should provide for these contingencies; and also be simple in its nature, prohibiting children under twelve years from being unduly wrought at mills, or perhaps prohibiting them from being introduced to mills at all under that age.

16th May 1833.

JAMES GRIMOND.

No. 117.

Thomas Gillies.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS GILLIES, Dunblane.

A. 1.—At Springbank, near Dunblane, in the parish of Dunblane and county of Perth.

A. 2.—Manufacturing of woollen yarns, principally for Scotch carpeting and woollen shawls, and weaving same and other coarse cloth, such as plaidings, blankets, &c. &c.

A. 3.—The work commenced about twenty-six years ago. Considerable additions were made in 1819, 1823, and 1832.

A. 4.—Water; twenty-four horse power; quite regular.

A. 5.—The works are ventilated at the pleasure of the workmen, by opening doors or windows when they please for their convenience.

A. 8.—Yes, they are.

A. 9.



A. 9.—No arrangements are made for changing of clothes or putting on additional ones on leaving the manufactory, but a house is allowed for the children to wash themselves at pleasure.

A. 10.—Rarely under nine years of age. I am not aware of any being employed at any other trade beforehand.

A. 11.—Yes; the work being light, they are more capable of performing it at nine or ten than those of maturer years.

A. 12.—In this there has been no alteration at my works.

A. 13.—No apprentices have ever been employed.

A. 15.—All the children lodge with their parents or relatives.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, excepting Saturdays, which are ten.

A. 18.—All work the same hours; the work could not go on otherwise.

A. 19.—Never more than twelve hours, except part of the carding-engines, which have wrought about thirteen hours for two months, the children attending, which are paid extra.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days or so.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred and eighty hours.

A. 22.—All parts of the work proceed together.

A. 23.—About eleven hours and twenty minutes.

A. 25.—The reasons which caused me to exceed the usual hours are stated in my answer to Q. 19., and is devoted to the carding of wool for country purposes, so as not to interfere with regular hours of the workmen.

A. 26.—It may be avoided by not doing the work, or encroaching upon the workmen's hours.

A. 27.—Not unless for some special purpose, and then only a few days.

A. 28.—It must follow as a matter of course; when the quantity produced is less its value increases.

A. 29.—I have never done this, neither am I aware of its being done in this neighbourhood in any of the woollen-mills.

A. 30.—There is no prohibition on the woollen manufacturer.

A. 31.—Were it necessary, there could be none.

A. 34.—I have never found it necessary to employ more than one set of hands.

A. 35.—I have never wrought during the night.

A. 37.—A reduction of the wages of the workers, and the quantity produced by the same machinery lessened, in consequence of which the value raised thereby, rendering it more difficult to compete with the foreign manufacturer.

A. 38.—Heated in winter for the comfort of the workers; in summer no extra heat.

A. 39.—There is no part of the work requires such a process.

A. 49.—Have none.

A. 50.—Oil during winter.

A. 51.—I only work till eight o'clock at night.

A. 53.—From nine to ten for breakfast, and from two to three for dinner.

A. 54.—They are at liberty to go.

A. 55.—If they stay, it is to suit their own comfort.

A. 57.—If gentle discipline does not do, they are dismissed from the work.

A. 58.—None but what is referred to above, which deserves not the name of corporal punishment.

A. 59.—What is referred to is by the men with whom they work.

A. 60.—Never by my commands.

A. 63.—None; but if they are obstinate in doing their work they are turned off.

A. 65.—All the workers live in their own or relations houses.

A. 66.—It is obvious that those employed in a manufactory from infancy should be better acquainted with machinery than those going into one at a more advanced period; however, this must greatly depend on the talents of the individual.

A. 67.—The workpeople at my mill enjoy generally good health, and I cannot say there is any difference. For this see description list.

A. 68.—Have no process of the kind.

A. 69.—I am aware of no Act regarding woollen factories, which renders it unnecessary for me to answer the remaining queries; however, I beg to state that I am not aware of the children in my own work, or in any other woollen mills with which I am familiar, being any thing but well used.

THOMAS GILLIES.

Perthshire.

Thomas Gillies.

#### ANSWERS of ROBERT HASTIE, Dunning.

No. 118.

Robert Hastie.

A. 1.—Dunning, Perthshire.

A. 2.—Woollen-yarn manufactory.

A. 3.—About twenty-seven years ago.

A. 4.—Water; irregular; very much so in drougthy summers.

A. 5.—Nothing but windows.

A. 6.—Entirely on the doors and windows.

A. 7.—Yes, and free to all.

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A. 8.



Perthshire.

Robert Hastie.

- A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—About eleven years of age, and have not been previously employed.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Their parents visit them twice or thrice a year if distant, but those who live in the vicinity see them almost daily.  
 A. 16.—Yes.  
 A. 17 & 18.—About twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours only.  
 A. 20.—Every lawful day when there was no stoppage from machinery going wrong.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand hours.  
 A. 23.—About twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—About ten hours.  
 A. 25.—Not at all.  
 A. 26.—Yes, entirely avoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The love of gain.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 31.—None.  
 A. 34.—No true interest in night-work.  
 A. 37.—Ten hours work, exclusive of one to each diet, is my practice, and I have no experience otherwise.  
 A. 38.—The common temperature of the atmosphere.  
 A. 39.—Just common temperature.  
 A. 53.—From nine o'clock to ten in the morning for breakfast, and the hour from two P.M. to three o'clock for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Yes, all.  
 A. 56.—No meals are taken in my manufactory.  
 A. 57.—Kind demonstration; hire.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 65.—The married people live in houses of their own; the unmarried live with me.  
 Admonition and good example.  
 A. 66.—Better experience.  
 A. 67 & 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—I suppose so.  
 A. 70.—No, it was impossible.  
 A. 73.—I know nothing of the practice of other mills.  
 A. 78.—True piety, uprightness, urbanity, &c.

ROBERT HASTIE.

No. 119.

James Smith.

## ANSWERS of JAMES SMITH, Manager of Deanston Cotton Works.

A. 1.—Deanston Cotton Works, situated in the parish of Kilmadock, Western District of the county of Perth, the property of James Finlay and Company, Glasgow, and under the immediate management of James Smith, one of the partners of the Company.

A. 2.—Iron-founding, machine-making, cotton-spinning, and power-weaving.

A. 3.—The first part of the works being what is called the "Large Mill," with "Little Mill," was erected in 1785, and has ever since been employed as a cotton factory, with an interval of six years from 1802 till 1808, when the works were stopped, and the population nearly all dispersed. The works were re-established under the present company in 1808. The buildings for foundry and machine-shop were built at various times from 1811 to 1825. The new mill at present in progress filling with machinery for preparing and spinning cotton was built in 1829.

A. 4.—The power employed consists of three water-wheels of about seventy horse power each, which is pretty regular, but may occasionally in very dry seasons have an under-supply of water during two or three weeks. There is also a smaller water-wheel which is chiefly employed in turning for the machine-makers.

A. 5, 6, & 7.—All the windows are of the sort called the "Scotch windows," having two moveable sashes; the upper one, comprehending about half the area of the window, is used for ventilation, and adjustable by a catch, or by being hung by balance-weights, and the extent of opening is regulated by the superintendent of the apartment, who has instructions to have his room at all times well aired. In cold dry weather it is difficult to keep the rooms properly aired, as the people feel the currents from the windows irksome, and they generally prefer for their own comfort and feeling a close atmosphere in such weather; besides, in the weaving departments the cold dry air increases the breakage. In the new mill an additional provision for ventilation has been made by having vents in each pillar or abutment of the building, having a communication at the ceiling and floor of each apartment, and terminating in the open air at the top of the building. In the dressing-room, where there is considerable heat and moisture, a fanner is constantly kept in motion to discharge the hot and loaded air. The room in which the first process of cleaning the cotton is performed



Perthshire.

James Smith.

formed is completely ventilated and freed from dust and flue by fanners attached to the machines, and which blow the whole to the external air.

A. 8.—All parts considered dangerous from their nature, or from the risk of the people coming in contact with them whilst following their occupations, are fenced off.

A. 9.—In the old mill there is a small apartment attached to each room where there is a plentiful supply of water for washing, and where the people shift their clothes and lay aside their cloaks, and they have generally little boxes near their machines where they keep their outgoing clothes, and they have slippers or dry shoes for shifting in wet weather, and are in the cold season provided with cloaks, mantles, or warm shawls to protect them from the external air, which arrangements have always existed more or less, but have been of late years more improved. The only arrangements to insure personal cleanliness are general instructions to the overlookers to admonish those who are not inclined to be cleanly, and by exciting emulation amongst the associates.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, hardly any of them having been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—The nature of the work requires the employment of children under twelve years of age, because some parts of it are more conveniently performed by children of the size at that age, and because, unless children of such age were employed, they would acquire habits of idleness, and their parents in general could ill spare the money they earn. By this early employment they are fitted for more lucrative situations as their age and strength advance. Children from nine to fourteen years do not suffer in health or growth from such employment; those brought up about the establishment are able to read well before they enter to work, and after beginning to work their education is extended by attending an evening-school four nights a week after work hours.

A. 12.—The recent improvements in spinning machinery certainly tend in some degree to the greater employment of children under twelve years of age, but the extension of power-weaving has created a demand for a higher-aged class, say from fifteen to thirty.

A. 13.—No apprentices are employed in the cotton factory, but a few in the foundry and machine-making.

A. 14.—No parish children are received as apprentices, as no such class exists in Scotland. The apprentices employed as above are chiefly the children of the workpeople or of some of the working classes in the neighbourhood, and are generally above twelve years of age before they are engaged, although most of them have been previously employed in the cotton factory.

A. 15 & 16.—A few orphans are casually left, either by persons employed about the establishment, or by poor persons in the neighbourhood; they are boarded with respectable persons, educated at the school of the establishment, and are looked after by the manager, and occasionally by some of their relatives.

A. 17.—Twelve hours daily, excepting Saturday, when they work nine only.

A. 18.—Twelve hours daily, excepting Saturday, when they work nine only, and no difference is made at any age.

A. 19.—For thirteen hours, which was wrought for five days only, to make up time lost by accident to wheels. Lost time is seldom wrought up, and if so, it is always at the option of a majority of the workpeople themselves.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-one hours.

A. 22.—Occasionally small parts of the work which are short of produce to supply other parts have been wrought for an hour, and always at the free option of the workpeople.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half nearly.

A. 24.—There is no difference of the time of employment of children and grown people.

A. 26.—Extensive working beyond the regular hours is certainly avoidable under proper regulations, especially at an old-established factory; yet a little occasional working in that way is convenient for the general progress of the work, and especially in starting new machinery, when the different parts cannot be got forward together.

A. 27.—About twenty-five years ago twelve hours and a half per day were wrought; at that period the time was reduced to twelve, at the desire of the people, and continued so till the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Act of 1825, since which the spirit of the Act has been strictly complied with.

A. 28.—When the hours were at first reduced from twelve and a half to twelve, and latterly to sixty-nine hours per week, by Sir Robert Peel's Act, the cost of producing a given quantity was in some degree enhanced by the diminution of produce; but the gradual advancement which has been taking place in produce from the various machines for many years past in a short time obscured the loss by diminished time, and the produce in all departments was as high the year following the introduction of that Act as at any former period; no alteration having been made either in the day's wages or piece-work prices, the cost of production was not of course enhanced, but the exertion of the people was no doubt increased.

A. 29.—The only inducement to the manufacturer to have his work continued for longer hours than is allowed by law is that of increasing his produce, whereby his interest on sunk capital and general expences, which are not thereby increased, fall lighter upon an increased produce; and his profits, if any, are proportionally increased.

A. 31.—As children under twelve years of age have generally been found to enjoy health and cheerfulness, relays have not been thought of; but there can be no doubt that working

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by such relays might be accomplished, although it is probable that the individuals so employed would have less money for their labour, and which would press hard upon themselves, and their families are much aided in their living and education by the employment of the members above nine and under fourteen years of age. In many cases widows with their children are by this means saved from starvation, for the pittance of parochial relief allowed in Scotland is very inadequate to their support.

A. 32.—Extra hours have never been wrought here in such a way as to require a relay of young hands.

A. 33.—During the years 1829 and 1830, in consequence of a deficiency of power previous to the erection of the present improved water-wheels, the throstle-spinners and power-weavers were employed during the whole night, but which night-work was continued longest with the throstle-spinners, as that employment is best suited for night-work. At this time all hands under sixteen were employed during the day, and none but the older hands during the night. The people did not like the night employment so well, and several of the more delicate seemed to suffer in their health. No difference could be discovered in their professional or moral conduct. They began to work at half past six in the evening, and stopped at ten for half an hour to take a refreshment, and again at two in the morning for a similar purpose. They left off working at five in the morning. The quantity of work produced was not proportionally so great as by day-work, and the prices allowed for the work done were higher.

A. 35.—In the night-work related in A. 33. throstle-spinners and power-weavers wrought during the night for some time alternately fortnight about, but the throstle-spinners wrought steadily throughout the whole of the winter months.

A. 36.—We have no night-work.

A. 37.—There can be no doubt that any material farther reduction of the working hour would diminish the produce, and consequently the wages of the workpeople and the profit<sup>s</sup> of the proprietor, but more especially the latter, as the interest of sunk capital, and many heavy charges incident to such establishments, and not diminishable by shorter hours of working, would press heavily on the diminished produce; and as the item of cost arising from such charges amounts to as much as the item arising from wages, the loss to the manufacturer would be considerable. If any law shall be enacted so diminishing the working hours, the generally decreased produce by the whole trade may cause a temporary deficiency of supply to meet the existing consumption, and wages and profits may thereby be kept up for a time, but the facility of extension will soon meet the demand, when wages and profits may probably fall. Were the consumption in the trade confined to our own country, no just or benevolent person would grudge moderately diminished hours of working to the working classes, giving them thereby a proportion of the benefits arising from the generally improved system of society; but as the manufacturers of this country are now met by a serious competition in several foreign countries where labour is unrestricted, and living, and consequently wages, are lower, and especially in America, where the raw material is brought cheaper to the manufactory by a sum amounting to one half of the whole wages paid in this country, there is serious reason to apprehend that we could no longer continue to maintain our ground in foreign markets, to which at least two thirds of our produce is exported, and even our home market would be liable to invasion by foreign goods, were it not for the legal protection. The artizan of this country if oppressed, can easily emigrate and transfer his skill and labour to aid the manufacturers of a foreign country; but the buildings and machinery of the manufacturer must remain to waste in uselessness, and the numerous ramifications of the community depending on the cotton trade, whether as artizans or agriculturists, would suffer in one common ruin.

A. 38.—The usual temperature in the preparation, spinning, and weaving departments is 65° of Fahrenheit; and the temperature is regulated, more with reference to the comfortable feelings of the people, than from the nature of the processes carried on.

A. 39.—The highest temperature ranges from 78° to 86° of Fahrenheit, and this in the dressing-room only, where it becomes necessary to promote the evaporation of the moisture of the paste on being put upon the yarn. In this department one hundred gallons of water are evaporated daily, and a fanner is kept in motion at one end of the room for the purpose of throwing off the moist and heated air. The hands in this room are generally as healthy as in any other apartment of the works; asthmatic people have often been benefited by living in its atmosphere, and a number of young children constantly employed in the apartment enjoy good health, and many who wrought there in their youth are now strong grown people.

A. 40.—Twenty-seven hands.

A. 50.—By gas, the works having been so lighted for one thousand hours last season.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast and half an hour to dinner to all classes, excepting the mechanics, who have an hour to each meal.

A. 54.—Those persons who live in cottages adjoining the works go home to their meals, and some of those from a distance have their meals at the cottages; the whole number living in that way is one hundred and ninety-four. One hundred and eighty of the people reside half a mile from the works, and three hundred and sixty-one one mile, and a few at distances of from one and a half to two miles, amounting altogether to five hundred and forty-one who have their meals carried for them to the works, and which they take generally within the works



works. In fine weather they take a walk in the open air for a quarter of an hour after their meals.

A. 55.—Altogether for the convenience of the workpeople residing at a distance, as they could not undergo the travel and exposure to weather necessary to enable them to take their meals at home, and to spend a whole hour in idleness about the works they do not like; they therefore applied to be allowed only half an hour for dinner, getting half an hour sooner from their work in the evening in lieu thereof.

A. 56.—If they could be so taken at their homes by having all the people to reside near the works, the advantages in health, comfort, and economy would be considerable. Methods of supplying them from a general soup-kitchen at the works have been tried, but they have always preferred having their food from their own homes, even carried and cold.

A. 57.—The only means are persuasion, and occasionally slight fines, holding out dismissal as the sure fate of those who repeatedly disobey. In cases of great obstinacy dismissal for a few weeks or months generally works a cure, and the employment of praise to those that do well more than blame to the negligent is inculcated to the overseers. Those conducting themselves with propriety, and being careful and expert in their business, are the first to be promoted to better situations.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—In the course of twenty-five years two or three cases of corporal punishment have come to my knowledge after their inflictions, and in every case the person so inflicting was pointedly reprimanded and admonished.

A. 63.—The overlookers have always been informed that no corporal punishment would be allowed on any account whatever, and children and grown-up people entering the works for the first time are always told, that if at any time they shall consider themselves ill-used or oppressed, they will receive instant consideration and redress, if found proper, on application to the foreman, and failing their satisfaction with his judgment, will be heard by the manager.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—One hundred and eighty-four of the workers live in houses adjoining the works belonging to the proprietors, where attention is paid to promote domestic cleanliness. No public-house is allowed in this village, but ale and porter are allowed to be sold in one shop. A general observation of their moral conduct is exercised, all deviations from correct conduct are taken notice of, and incorrigible characters entirely removed. A person is employed to keep the streets, dungsteads, necessaries, &c. in order, and he exercises a general superintendence over the people, especially the children, who are prevented by mild and gentle means from committing any serious mischief. One hundred and eighty of the workers reside about half a mile distant in houses rented by the proprietors, and subset to the people. No public-house is allowed here, but shops for the supply of all necessary commodities are encouraged in both places; the conduct of the people is watched over in the latter as well as in the former place. Three hundred and seventy-one of the workers live chiefly in the village of Doune, which is about a mile distant, and in this village, containing about one thousand five hundred inhabitants, there are about twelve public-houses, being rather a large number for such a small place; but this is rendered somewhat necessary to accommodate the public at the great cattle fairs held there. The same general watchfulness is kept over the people residing there, but as they are less under immediate control, it is more difficult to preserve them all so strictly correct either in domestic cleanliness or in moral conduct. Premiums have sometimes been given to those who kept the cleanest houses, but the general mode of inducing improvement is by occasional visiting, and by bestowing praise upon those who keep the most cleanly houses.

A. 66.—It has generally been found that those who have been taken into the work at an early age prove more skilful, not only in their particular occupation, but they can more easily turn their hand to any of the employments; they are also more steady and industrious in their habits, but it is fair to state that many have come in at later periods of life, even at from twenty to thirty years of age, and have become skilful steady hands.

A. 67.—During the last ten years the health of the people has upon the whole improved, arising chiefly from the population having been in a more comfortable state as to lodging and sustenance. When we have had any accession of population in consequence of extension, we have generally more sickly people amongst the new comers for a year or so, as they are generally sickly when they come.

A. 68.—There are no processes carried on here particularly injurious to health; the people generally choose for themselves such employments as best suit their desires, their health, and their wants as to money; and this is in some degree regulated by the interests of the proprietor, who selects those best suited for the different employments. Every overlooker is allowed to select his own workers, and on the other hand every worker is allowed to engage with the overlooker he may like best. If individuals are found not to have health in any particular employment, they are allowed, and sometimes even induced, to exchange to some employment more suited to their state. Leave is always given, when it can be done with propriety, to take a day, a week, or even a month's recreation, and if they feel unwell or unfit for their work an assistant is always allowed them.

A. 69.—The works are strictly subject to the provisions of the present Act, with the exception of the half hour to dinner instead of a full hour, as explained in A. 55.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—There are no cotton-mills within fourteen miles; there are some small woollen-mills

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James Smith.



A. 1.

Perthshire.

James Smith.

mills which are not subject to the present Act, and where long hours are wrought, and very young children, sometimes as low as six years old, are employed.

A. 77.—Some workpeople may be afraid to give evidence displeasing to their masters; but there are always plenty with minds sufficiently independent to lead them to state the truth on all points, and they are upon every occasion admonished to speak the truth, being at the same time told that no improper feeling towards them will be allowed to exist on account of what evidence they may have given.

A. 78.—I can suggest nothing better than the present law, with a modification allowing shorter time for meals in country situations, where it may be necessary, with the option of the people. The same should, however, be made to apply to all trades carried on in factories, and the appointment of special officers to watch over the observance of it in different districts would be of great benefit to the people, and the respectable classes of manufacturers.

JAMES SMITH.

No. 120.

David Rattray.

## ANSWERS of DAVID RATTRAY, Bramble Bank.

A. 1.—Parish of Rattray and county of Perth.

A. 2.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 3.—The whole work was erected in 1828 and 1829.

A. 4.—Propelled by a water-wheel of eight horse power; irregular in time of floods and frosts.

A. 5.—No distinct provision than what is stated in answer to the following question.

A. 6.—The mill is ventilated by drawing the windows on one side, and by ventilating panes on the other.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the foreman or any other person at the work at pleasure.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are all fenced off where this can be done consistently, and I conceive little or any danger of accidents happening.

A. 9.—No particular arrangements, as the nature of flax-mills do not require the changing of clothes; if at any time any of the girls choose to wash themselves during work-hours they may do so at the river side without being found fault with, as there is none of the doors of my mill locked in work-hours.

A. 10.—I have not been in the practice of employing children under twelve or thirteen years of age, except in a very few cases where I have been solicited by parents employed at the work to take some in under that age, against my inclination and profit; however this has very seldom occurred. None of them have been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—Does not require any under that age.

A. 12.—Any recent alterations in machinery have not rendered necessary the employment of children under that age, nor am I at all willing to employ them at that age.

A. 13.—I have no apprentices; I at times employ girls to learn the spinning, with a verbal understanding that they are to remain at my work for some time after learned; during the time they are learning they are paid according to merit.

A. 15.—The workers I employ are all lodged with their parents in houses from me beside the mill, except a few who have an apartment to themselves, also beside the mill and my dwelling house; there is no such thing as parents or guardians visiting them in time of work; it is not at all considered necessary.

A. 16.—No actual superintendence further than what is stated in answer to the last question.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day is the stated time for work, except Fridays fourteen hours, and Saturdays twelve.

A. 18.—No difference is made as to age.

A. 19.—Fifteen and one half hours is the longest time in any one day that my mill has been worked, and this was done at the request of the workers, for the purpose of them getting away sooner when they had any object in view, such as election days or the like.

A. 20.—From the first of January 1832 to the thirty-first December 1832 inclusive, three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—The whole number of hours employed in working the mill were three thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight.

A. 22.—Every part of my work is carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—The average number of hours is thirteen per day.

A. 24.—Only one set of workers employed.

A. 25.—This is answered by question nineteen.

A. 26.—An excess beyond the regular hours is the choice of the workers, for the purpose of keeping whole their wages,

A. 27.—Never done so.

A. 28.—As I have never done so, can give no answer.

A. 29.—I am not aware of the inducements of those who are in those practices; I do not practise it myself except as mentioned in A. 19.

A. 30.—I decidedly think, that to reduce the hours of work, the cost of production would be increased.

A. 31.



A. 31.—There is no need of a change of hands in my mill, as my extra hours of working are so very trifling.

A. 32.—Never required to adopt the practice.

A. 33.—Never work night-work, nor require any arrangements amongst workers for that purpose.

A. 34.—Because I always considered one set of hands sufficient.

A. 37.—My opinion is, that to reduce the hours of work would enhance the value of the production, and thereby prevent the British manufacturer from competing with foreigners in a foreign market, and may therefore be the mean of taking machinery to other countries.

A. 38.—Never ascertained the temperature of my mill; no artificial heat is required.

A. 39.—No artificial heat is required; a cold temperature is best for flax and tow spinning.

A. 40.—I generally employ twenty-eight or thirty hands, exclusive of hecklers.

A. 46.—No process; it is not required but in the ordinary hours of the day.

A. 50.—By patent lamps and lanterns filled with oil.

A. 51.—None, except by the windows, as before explained.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine A.M., and from two to half past two for all classes.

A. 54.—All leave the work at meal-time.

A. 57.—I know of no means but by making complaints to their parents.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment is allowed to be inflicted by any person at my work.

A. 60 & 61.—If such punishments have been inflicted, it was without my knowledge or sanction.

A. 63.—I have given instructions to my foreman, that whatever offences are committed by the workers, such as disobeying orders or leaving their work without leave asked and granted, to keep a state of such conduct on a slate, so as I may have an opportunity of exacting satisfaction such as the nature of the offence requires.

A. 64.—No such complaints have been lodged against me or any of my overseers, so far as I know.

A. 65.—The workpeople have free houses from me, as stated in A. 15; those who have parents I take no charge of, but for the few who have not their parents beside them, they are furnished by me with clean bedding-sheets once a month, and I enforce domestic cleanliness so far as in my power.

A. 66.—Those who go young to our employment become more proficient in skill about our business than those who go old; as for general characters, there are exceptions in all classes; however, I know nothing against the most of my workers, and the most of them have been about mills since they began to work for their living; can state nothing against their character in general.

A. 67.—I do not think that the health of the people is any ways deteriorated within the last ten years, but if any thing improved, as the mills are in general kept more clean than in those times, and the flats being higher gives room for more ventilation; however I never considered our employment unhealthy, and my reason for this is, that I have been employed about spinning-mills of various dimensions for upwards of thirty years; and I must say that I never saw many cases of real distress by sickness or otherwise, and I challenge any one who has the same experience as I have had, to say if it is not a rare thing to see even a single death happen among the workers employed at flax-spinning mills.

A. 68.—I make no selection, as they are all generally healthy.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any Act affecting our mills at present in Scotland.

A. 77.—I shall not be displeased with any evidence my workers give, if it be truth.

A. 78.—I have nothing to suggest on that point.

A. 79.—The only observation I have to make with reference to the present inquiry is, that any legislative interference betwixt master and servant is quite uncalled for amongst the workers so far as I have any thing to do with them; they all appear to be satisfied, and I am also decidedly of opinion, that instead of improving the morals of children and others employed, shortening the hours of labour would rather tend to increase immorality; my reason for thinking so is, that where so many are collected together, there is no doubt some amongst them whose morals are greatly immoralized already, and are not likely to improve by having more time in their own hands; but, on the contrary, it may have a tendency to lead those of tenderer years along with them to such vices as they may be addicted to themselves.

13th May 1833.

DAVID RATTRAY.

Perthshire.

David Rattray.

#### ANSWERS of DAVID CARMINOCROSS, East Haugh Spinning-mill, Rattray.

No. 121.

David Carminocross.

A. 1.—Parish of Rattray and county of Perth.

A. 2.—Flax-spinning.

A. 3.—The mill was converted into a spinning-mill in 1828.

A. 4.—By water-power, being five horse-power, or thereby; very irregular from frosts and floods, so that the work is sometimes stopped for three or four days at a time.

A. 5.—No distinct provision.

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A. 6.



Perthshire.

David Carminocross.

- A. 6.—It depends on opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—It is regulated by the workers.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workers all lodge about thirty yards from the mill, and no spare rooms are required; they are allowed to go out of the work at all hours when they wish.  
 A. 10.—I never had but one person under twelve years of age at my work.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 15.—No orphans.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours besides meal-hours.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a half in making up time for two holidays.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days and a half.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and seventy-one hours.  
 A. 22.—No difference; all carried on at one time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and nine tenths.  
 A. 25.—Preceding fairs and festivals, which the workers desire to attend. Two holidays are allowed and paid for without making up; two additional holidays are required, which they make up by extra hours, to have their pay full.  
 A. 26.—It is no doubt avoidable; but when the workers request to be allowed to go away they offer to make up the lost time by extra hours, which understanding should not be disturbed.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The inducement is gain; but I have not practised, excepting as above stated at the request of the workers.  
 A. 31.—No objection to relays, and practised them for two months in summer of 1828.  
 A. 32.—Only tried for two months, as above stated.  
 A. 33.—The night-set commenced at eight in the evening, when the day-set retired, and wrought till six in the morning, having half an hour for refreshment at twelve at night, and wrought in all nine hours and a half; the day-set wrought as above stated.  
 A. 34.—I now prefer using a day-set only for the ordinary hours.  
 A. 35.—No relays now.  
 A. 36.—No night-work now; it was unprofitable, and I relinquished it.  
 A. 37.—The effect would be a reduction of wages to the worker, a diminution of my profit, and a bar to our competing with foreigners in the same branch of trade.  
 A. 38.—Flax can be wrought at any temperature, and no artificial mode of heating is adopted.  
 A. 40.—Fifteen or sixteen hands in the mill.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 47.—No such process required.  
 A. 50.—By patent oil-lamps.  
 A. 51.—None, except by the windows, as before explained.  
 A. 52.—I knew no difference, having only continued the practice for two months.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast at nine and dine at two; half an hour allowed for each meal.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 57.—Premiums for good service, remonstrance and dismissal for bad.  
 A. 59.—By none, so far as I know.  
 A. 63.—Instructions given to stop them from working till investigated by myself; these instructions were verbal.  
 A. 64.—No such complaints have been brought.  
 A. 65.—The adults live in houses belonging to me, and the children in my own family, and on Sundays undergo the same discipline as my own children.  
 A. 66.—I have observed no difference.  
 A. 67.—No difference; all are healthy.  
 A. 68.—This is unnecessary in my small work.  
 A. 69.—No.  
 A. 74.—I know of no such instance.  
 A. 77.—I do not believe they are afraid to give evidence.  
 A. 78.—I consider all legislative interference unnecessary, especially in flax-mills propelled by water-power.

15th May 1833.

DAVID CARMINOCROSS.

No. 122:

Alexander Dick.

## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER DICK, Haugh Mill, Rattray.

- A. 1.—Parish of Rattray, county of Perth.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning entirely.  
 A. 3.—All erected in 1825.  
 A. 4.—Water-wheel about eighteen horse power, and subjected to interruptions from floods and frosts.  
 A. 5.—None, except the windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated at the discretion of every person in the work.  
 A. 8.—Yes, they are.

A. 9.



- A. 9.—Nothing particular, except ventilation.
- A. 10.—I have no person under ten years of age, except one; I do not like any hands under twelve; none ever were at any other trade to my knowledge.
- A. 11.—Not at all; no children, in my opinion, should be taken into spinning-mills under twelve years of age.
- A. 12.—None required under twelve years of age.
- A. 13.—None.
- A. 15.—I do not lodge and maintain any of my people; they all live with their friends.
- A. 16.—Any children I have live with their relations.
- A. 17.—About twelve hours and a half, except Saturdays, and twelve hours on these days.
- A. 18.—The same for all.
- A. 19.—One day last year (the day before the celebration of parliamentary reform) fifteen hours.
- A. 20.—1st May 1832 to 1st May 1833, five holidays, exclusive of Sabbaths.
- A. 21.—Not exceeding four thousand hours, to the best of my knowledge.
- A. 22.—None required. (See A. 26.)
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and three quarters, as near as I can calculate.
- A. 25.—For a prospective holiday and the celebration of parliamentary reform.
- A. 26.—It was the choice of them all for making up for the day above stated, and unavoidable with five of the hands in the preparing flat; for about two months lately they worked the breakfast hour.
- A. 27.—Once about six years ago worked during the night for two or three weeks.
- A. 28.—I cannot answer this question; I did so merely to hasten the execution of an order for yarns, and I made no calculation.
- A. 29.—I have no night-work.
- A. 30.—Too complicated a question for me to answer; it is a question relating to political economy, and should be well considered in all its bearings.
- A. 31.—I work no extra hours, except sometimes for unforeseen detentions.
- A. 32.—Never required any.
- A. 35.—No night-work.
- A. 37.—This is a question of political economy, and a very complicated question to follow it out in all its consequences.
- A. 38.—Never tried it; windows allowed to be opened at the pleasure of every one in the work.
- A. 39.—A cold damp atmosphere is the best suited for flax-spinning.
- A. 40.—I employ about fifty.
- A. 47.—No process required.
- A. 50.—Oil-lamps.
- A. 51.—None except windows, as before described.
- A. 52.—I can give no opinion as to this.
- A. 53.—In winter, breakfast before they come to work, and dine at two P. M.; in summer, breakfast at nine A. M., dine at two P. M.
- A. 54.—All at liberty to leave the work.
- A. 57.—Sometimes a slight fine, sometimes a slight corporal punishment, if it can be called so.
- A. 58.—Very rarely indeed.
- A. 59.—By overseers or manager, but very rarely required.
- A. 60, 61, & 62.—Yes; it cannot be called corporal punishment. We have no trouble with our people, they are all very peaceable, and require almost no chastisement or punishment of any kind whatever; I hold my workers to be generally a pattern for sobriety and general good behaviour.
- A. 63.—No instructions.
- A. 64.—Never.
- A. 65.—None of them live with me.
- A. 66.—They should learn young to become expert workers; I like none under twelve years of age.
- A. 67.—I cannot answer this question; I never paid particular attention.
- A. 68.—No selection required.
- A. 69.—I have no knowledge of this.
- A. 78.—Spinning-mills propelled by water-power are subjected to being stopped from the effects of floods and frosts, and to place them in the same situation as mills propelled by steam-engines by any legislative enactment would be an act of great injustice to the proprietors. My hands, in winter, all prefer taking their breakfast and beginning to their work with daylight, and work proportionably later in the evening; I believe they would consider it a great hardship to be obliged to begin to their work at half past five or six o'clock in the winter mornings.

Perthshire.

Alexander Dick.

15th May 1833.

ALEXANDER DICK.



Perthshire.

No. 123.

William Fife.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM FIFE, Keath Mill, Rattray.

- A. 1.—Situating on the Water Erech, parish of Rattray, and county of Perth.
- A. 2.—Solely flax and tow spinning.
- A. 3.—The first erection was in 1823-4, set a working July 1824; addition to the work built in 1828, set a working March 1831.
- A. 4.—By a water-wheel of twelve horse power; the only stoppages by floods and frost.
- A. 5.—No distinct provision.
- A. 6.—Entirely by the opening of the windows, which are hung in the preparing flat; in the spinning flat the corner panes are out, and boards to shut and open at the pleasure of the workers; no other means.
- A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by any of the workers; they may open or shut at pleasure.
- A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off where it can be done consistently with its being worked.
- A. 9.—No arrangements, as the workpeople are at liberty to go out of the work when necessary; no check-locks on the doors; there is no need for shifting their clothes; it was never practised with me.
- A. 10.—In some cases children are taken into works as low as nine or ten years of age, but the masters would rather want them than have them.
- A. 11.—The nature of the work requires no person under twelve years of age, although boys of ten years of age are quite sufficient for some parts of the work.
- A. 12.—I believe any alteration in machinery has not affected the employment of hands of any particular age.
- A. 13.—I never employ apprentices, but I frequently take in girls to learn spinning, upon a verbal understanding with their parents that they are to remain at the work for eighteen months, and to be paid as they become expert and useful.
- A. 14.—I never had apprentices.
- A. 15.—None of the children are regularly visited at the work either by their parents, natural or legal guardians; those of them who have parents or guardians live with them; I have no orphans.
- A. 16.—No actual superintendence, excepting what is stated in answer to the preceding question.
- A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day except on Saturdays, on these days twelve hours only; but as the workers wish to get away earlier on Saturdays we work longer on Friday, when the work is stopped at five o'clock P. M. on Saturdays.
- A. 18.—The same hours as the above, except those in the preparing flat, who work about ten and eleven hours per day only.
- A. 19.—Fifteen hours and a half generally on Friday all winter, as the mill is not lighted on Saturdays.
- A. 20.—From the 1st January 1832 to 31st December 1832; the total number of days the mill was wrought was three hundred and seven.
- A. 21.—From the 1st January 1832 to 31st December 1832, the total number of hours 3,939.
- A. 22.—Every part of the work is carried on at the same time, except the preparing flat, which sets sooner at night, as they do not require to work so long.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and five eighths nearly per day, from the 1st January 1832 to 31st December 1832.
- A. 24.—This question is answered in A. 19., fifteen hours and a half per day.
- A. 25.—When the mill was stopped for an hour or two with a flood in the river, or frost; when stopped a day or days no time for that is made up, the workers prefer wanting their wages, and so I do.
- A. 26.—Any excess beyond the regular hours is the workers own choice, except in what the former question answers.
- A. 27.—I believe I have never done so otherwise than stated in A. 17.
- A. 28.—I am not prepared to give an answer or opinion to this question.
- A. 29.—I have never worked my mill beyond the regular hours, except to the extent already stated in A. 25.
- A. 30.—My opinion is, that to reduce the working hours must increase the expence of production.
- A. 31.—I never saw any occasion for a set of fresh hands, as I never worked the mill longer than the ordinary hours.
- A. 32.—I never have tried two sets of hands, and I think it would be difficult to get two sets in the country situations.
- A. 33.—Never had occasion to work but one set of hands; no night-work.
- A. 37.—In my opinion, it would open a door for perpetual discord betwixt master and servant, when, under the present system, in perfect unison.
- A. 38.—No artificial heat used; never ascertained the temperature.
- A. 39.—No artificial heat required.
- A. 40.—I generally employ forty hands.
- A. 46.—No process; it is not required; it is all done during the ordinary working hours.
- A. 50.—By patent oil-lamps.

A. 51.



A. 51.—By the windows; no other.

A. 52.—I have no experience of this more than the day-labour; the hands seem equally cheerful and lively. At my work the mill does not start before daylight in the morning, and we work out our thirteen hours.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine A. M. for breakfast, and from two to half past two for dinner, that is the time for about nine months of the year; three months in winter, say from the 1st of November to the end of January, all the workpeople take breakfast before they come to the work, as the mill never starts before daylight A. M.

A. 54.—They are all at liberty to leave the work at meal-times. As there are some of the hands that come from the villages too far a distance to go backwards and forwards to their meals, they get boiling water in the kitchen at breakfast-time, and their parents or some of the younger branches of the family bring their dinner to them.

A. 55.—They all leave the work, as above stated in A. 54.

A. 56.—I wish none to stop at meal-times in the mill; they are at liberty to go to the kitchen to take their meals when their parents or others bring them.

A. 57.—I have never used any other means than advice; when that would not do they must leave the work.

A. 58.—None to my knowledge.

A. 59.—I never had any complaints from any of the workers.

A. 62.—Strictly forbidden any corporal punishment; the workers are all directed to give me their complaints, and the overseers directions are, if they cannot manage the workers without corporal punishment, they must leave the work.

A. 63.—The overseers of their respective flats are instructed to tell me if any of the hands are refractory; I then make inquiry, and whoever is in the fault they must promise to behave better for time to come, or leave the work.

A. 64.—One case, December 1831, before the justices of the peace, against one of the overlookers, which they decided in his favour; no other case since the mill started.

A. 65.—Some of the families live in the houses, also some of the workers. I do advise them to keep cleanliness and good order, but no further. I furnish clean bed-clothes to the workers who live in the bothy.

A. 66.—Workers employed in spinning-mills, at least in some departments of it, require to go in when young, say ten or twelve, to learn to be proficient; when they enter to the work when old, they seldom become so expert as those who had gone young.

A. 67.—I do not think the health in this place of the country has deteriorated any with the workpeople, to the best of my knowledge.

A. 68.—None, as I consider there is very little difference of the work.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any Act of Parliament for flax-spinning mills.

A. 77.—I am sure, for my own workers, they are not afraid to give evidence, and I do not think any of the others are afraid, as they have no cause.

A. 78 & 79.—I have nothing to suggest. I consider any legislative interference betwixt master and servant bad; I will also take the liberty to say that the provisions of Lord Ashley's Bill would be ruinous to water-mills, and where the workers have a distance to come to their work in a country place they cannot be disappointed with daylight in the morning in winter, whereas if they have to rise by six o'clock and come to their work a lonely road, wading through dirt and snow in a dark morning, they cannot be in a good state for work, and I believe there would not be a possibility to get hands to do that here.

15th May 1833.

WILLIAM FIFE.

Perthshire.

William Fife.

## RENFREWSHIRE.

### ANSWERS of JOHN WHITE, Eaglesham.

A. 1.—Parish of Eaglesham and county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Carding, drawing, roving, and spinning.

A. 3.—Erected partly in 1819 and in 1826. Used for its present purpose since 1819.

A. 4.—Water-power, in general regular; extent, thirty-five to forty horse power.

A. 5.—By opening panes, which have been found effectual.

A. 6.—Wholly on the opening panes.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—All that are considered dangerous.

A. 9.—No particular arrangements, such as apartments for changing their clothes. It is only some of the females who think of changing their upper garments. All have it in their power to wash themselves when necessary.

A. 10.—Nine years. We are not aware that any of them have been previously employed at any other trades.

A. 11.—Not particularly.

A. 12.—Not as far as we are aware.

A. 13.—No.

(APP.—A. 1.)

Z

A. 14.

Renfrewshire.

No. 124.

John White.



Renfrewshire.

John White.

A. 14.—Not applicable.

A. 15.—No worker lodged or maintained by us. In the case of orphans they are generally under the care of relations. If we know of it, we would not employ orphans who had no relations to take charge of them, and it is only under particular circumstances when we do employ orphans.

A. 16.—Their relations generally.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

A. 18.—Twelve hours. No difference at any age.

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and one days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty-nine hours.

A. 22.—All carried on at one time.

A. 23.—For five days of the week the average of each day was eleven and one half hours, and nine hours on each Saturday.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—Never.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.—Yes, previous to the Factory Bills, say twelve hours and a half during six days of the week.

A. 28.—We do.

A. 29.—To lower the cost of production, and with the view of realizing more profit. Without a change of hands we cannot see how night-work can be carried on.

A. 30.—Yes, in all the branches, the extent nearly in proportion to the limitation of the hours of working. In the spinning department the late reductions have not been greatly felt, as the spinner could exert himself to make it up; but if a farther reduction takes place he could not. In preparation hands, &c. we consider every limitation of the hours are in exact proportion on the cost to that limitation.

A. 31.—We know of none (if the extra hours are equal in duration to the ordinary hours), only we disapprove of night-work.

A. 32.—We are not aware that it has, except in the case of night-work. A fresh set of hands for a few extra hours would not be profitable.

A. 33.—We never wrought at night; if we did, two set of hands would be necessary. The practice is, where night-work is carried on, that the night-set come in when the day-set leave their work.

A. 34.—We conceive it to be our interest to work only one set of hands, because we could not find people to work six hours for the half they would work twelve hours, and although we could it is not necessary. Two sets in twelve hours would not produce more than one, and would give much trouble to us, besides confusion and irregularity.

A. 35.—As far as we know, they do work uniformly by night. A contrary practice would not do, at least we think so.

A. 36.—As we never wrought at night, we cannot tell the effects that a prohibition of night-work would have.

A. 37.—To increase the cost of production; and the grounds for this opinion is, that we can produce more in twelve hours than in any shorter period, and because the items which constitute the oncost remain the same whether we produce much or little; and if the wages are not reduced in proportion to the hours, the effects will be still more felt on the cost of production.

A. 38.—Generally from 65° to 70°; our aim is to keep the apartments comfortable, and no more; we consider this as low a temperature as our work would do at.

A. 39.—Nothing above 70°; a moderate dry summer heat we find sufficient, but when the atmosphere is damp a little steam is necessary in the mornings even in summer.

A. 40.—All the hands work in the same temperature.

A. 50.—By gas, when required, during the usual hours.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 52.—We should think night-work unnatural, and in so far its effects on the habits of the persons employed must be injurious.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and the same for dinner.

A. 54.—All, with the exception of two or three individuals, and they are allowed the usual time for meals when the other workers come in.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—All the meals are taken out of the factory; each individual repairs to his own house for this purpose.

A. 57.—Finding fault with any impropriety of conduct, and after two or three reproofs, if this is ineffectual, the person is dismissed.

A. 58.—Not with our knowledge or consent. Parents prefer gentle correction to dismissal, and sometimes this is had recourse to, but we cannot and we do not approve of it.

A. 59.—No person is allowed to use corporal punishments.

A. 63.—Only verbal; our mind is well enough known on this subject.

A. 64.—We do not recollect of more than one or two complaints having been made to us, and in no case were proceedings taken before magistrates against us or our overlookers.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—In some particular kinds of work there is no great difference in those employed from



from infancy and those taken in at later periods. We however in general prefer the worker who has been employed from infancy, and we may say in some departments that it is almost necessary they are so. As to the general character, there is no marked difference. We cannot adduce any instance as to the difference in skill or character of the two classes, as in general our people have either been brought up with us from children, or where they came from to us.

A. 67.—We think the health of the people is much the same for the last ten years.

A. 68.—We select the persons best fitted for each kind of work; no change of these persons has been made in consequence of the injurious effects of any process. The only place where this might be an advantage is at the machine where the cotton is cleaned, and we have thought of adopting it, or of trying a more perfect way of ventilation in this particular place.

A. 69.—Strictly so, to the best of our knowledge.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 76.—No case having come under our notice, we cannot speak to this.

A. 77.—We really do not know how the workpeople would act in this case, or whether the fear of displeasing their masters would prevent their giving evidence; in the nature of things they must feel to do so, and other means ought to be adopted.

A. 78.—The penalties cannot be too high if the individuals are able to pay them. We know of no better means for securing obedience than enforcing the law.

JOHN WHITE.

Renfrewshire.

John White.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES LANG, for M<sup>c</sup>Nab & Co., Greenock.

No. 125.

James Lang.

A. 1.—West parish Greenock, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Flax and hemp spinning, weaving of sailcloth and other fabrics by power and hand-spinning, and laying of cordage.

A. 3.—Rope-work purchased by the present company in November 1828; the factory erected in 1828 and 1829; the adjoining buildings for stores, warerooms, &c. &c., were built in 1830 and 1831.

A. 4.—Water-power, the most regular in Great Britain; fifty horse power.

A. 5.—The upper half of the windows are hung on balance-weights, and regularly opened to admit a free current of air for the health of the workers.

A. 6.—The ventilation of our factory depends entirely on the lowering upper half of the windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is strictly attended to by the overlookers.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have a room appropriated for the females to change their clothes; it is heated in the winter season by a stove; they are allowed the privilege of a large bleaching-green and other accommodations for washing, and have abundance of good soft water. Bleaching-green, &c. &c., since the commencement of work, and room built about two years ago.

A. 10.—In the factory we have no children under twelve years of age, and only one boy between eleven and twelve years of age in the rope-walk; as far as we can learn, none of the children have been at any other trade.

A. 11.—We do not think it would be of any advantage to us to employ children under twelve years of age in our factory.

A. 12.—As we have no children under twelve years of age in our factory, we cannot say.

A. 13.—Only two in the rope-walk; none in the factory.

A. 15.—A few of the workers whom we employ are orphans; we do not lodge or maintain any.

A. 17.—The rope-walk hours are ten hours each day; the factory hours are twelve hours for five days of the week, and ten hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—The same as above; we make no difference.

A. 19.—For two nights during last year the workers employed preparing and spinning rope-yarns for cordage were engaged sixteen hours of the twenty-four.

A. 20.—Three hundred days and two hours in the factory.

A. 22.—We have endeavoured to carry on all the different departments of our work regularly.

A. 23.—About twelve hours for five days, and ten hours for the remaining day of the week in the factory, and ten hours per day in the ropewalk.

A. 24.—The children in our factory have been kept to work about twelve hours; those in the rope-walk about ten hours per day.

A. 25.—When we exceeded the usual number of hours, it was to meet our engagements in the fall of last year and in the spring of this year, but the workers were paid over-time.

A. 26.—The proprietors of works should endeavour to avoid all departures from the regular number of working hours; they may however be under the necessity of working over-hours in order to meet their engagements when any breakage of machinery or other unforeseen circumstance takes place to interrupt their work.

A. 27.—It is about eighteen months since we made up some lost time, say about twenty-four hours, and to do this we worked the manufactory one hour longer in the evening.

A. 28.—As we have had no practical knowledge, we cannot answer this query.

A. 29.—We have not done it in our work.

(APP.—A. 1.)

Z 2

A. 30.



Renfrewshire.

James Lang.

- A. 30.—We never have made the trial.  
 A. 31.—We do not believe this would answer.  
 A. 32.—We have not wrought with children extra hours. Our privilege of the water-power is restricted to twelve working hours.  
 A. 33.—We never had a night-set of hands.  
 A. 34.—We consider one set of good workers sufficient for a well regulated factory.  
 A. 35.—We never worked our manufactory during the night.  
 A. 36.—We consider the prohibition of night-work would be most beneficial both to the employers and employed.  
 A. 37.—Provided all manufacturers were restricted to the same hours, we do not think it would be attended with any injurious effects.  
 A. 38.—We can work our machinery at any temperature.  
 A. 49.—We have none to state, as we have no process that requires it.  
 A. 50.—By gas in the winter season.  
 A. 52.—We do not employ night-workers, therefore cannot answer this question.  
 A. 53.—To ropemakers and mechanics one hour for each meal to the workers; within the factory forty minutes for breakfast and fifty for dinner.  
 A. 54.—As we stop the machinery during meal-hours, all the workers are at liberty to leave the factory. Those who do not choose to go home have a room appropriated for their accommodation.  
 A. 55.—During the winter season a great many of the workers remain during meal-hours for their own comfort and convenience. Their numbers vary according to the state of the weather.  
 A. 56.—This alteration does not apply to our work.  
 A. 57.—They are threatened with a fine, reduction of wages, and dismissal; and should these prove ineffectual they are discharged from the work.  
 A. 58.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned by us.  
 A. 59.—Our overlookers have frequently received strict orders never to inflict corporal punishment.  
 A. 60.—Not with our knowledge at the time.  
 A. 61.—Not with our prior or subsequent sanction.  
 A. 62.—We have strictly prohibited (verbally) corporal punishments; and being informed of one instance of infliction, have taken steps to prevent its recurrence.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—We have no dwelling houses for the workers, with the exception of one for a man and family who reside within the premises, for their protection during the night.  
 A. 66.—As we have only been a short time in operation, and have employed none from their infancy, we cannot state particularly their improvement in skill and general character.  
 A. 67.—It is now more than three years since we employed females at our factory, and we find in general they have improved in health. This we ascribe to the healthy situation of our work, and the enforcement of habits of cleanliness.  
 A. 68.—We have not as yet considered it necessary to do so, as none of our workers have suffered from the work at which they have been employed.  
 A. 69.—It is not.  
 A. 73.—There are no mills in our neighbourhood subject to the Cotton Act.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason whatever to believe our workers are afraid.  
 A. 78.—We would suggest that no factory should work more than ten hours a day under a severe penalty vigorously enforced, that there should be no distinction made between children and adults as to the number of hours they work; and let it be distinctly understood that an enactment should be passed, that all proprietors who supply mills with water or steam-power shall make a deduction of the rent in proportion to the alteration in the number of hours of work.

JAMES LANG.

No. 126.

John Freeland & Co.

## ANSWERS of JOHN FREELAND and Co., Houston.

- A. 1.—Parish of Houston, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Spinning cotton-wool into cotton-yarn.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1790; additions made in 1825 and 1827; never applied to any other purpose.  
 A. 4.—Water-power only, generally regular; water-wheel from thirty-five to forty horse power.  
 A. 5.—No special mode of ventilation considered necessary. Work stands in an airy situation.  
 A. 6.—Windows only, opening at pleasure.  
 A. 7.—By the overlookers or the workers.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangement, water being at the command of workers; workers shift their clothes at pleasure; overlookers pay general attention to cleanliness of workers.  
 A. 10.—Nine to ten years of age. A few connected with weaving.  
 A. 11.—No; some parts of the work are as well done by children under twelve years as older.

A. 12.



- A. 12.—Cannot say, having made no alteration in our work.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of the children in our work are maintained by us.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours during five days of the week, nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-five hours.  
 A. 22.—Work begun and stopped simultaneously.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—Excess of water or scarcity of water.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable, by not working up lost time for reason stated in A. 25.  
 A. 27.—Yes, twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—Increase of profits.  
 A. 30.—Reduction in hours of labour tends to increase cost of production, the lesser quantity bearing all charges of manufacture, viz. interest of capital, managers, clerks, &c., and day-workers wages.  
 A. 31.—Never have employed two sets of hands.  
 A. 37.—Either such a reduction in the present rate of wages as would tend to curtail the workers comfort, or make the loss on the manufactured article so great as might lead to bankruptcy, the rise on the price of yarn acting as a premium to foreign countries, and rendering competition with them nearly hopeless.  
 A. 38.—Sixty-six to sixty-eight degrees of heat.  
 A. 39.—Seventy to seventy-two degrees.  
 A. 40.—From fifty to sixty.  
 A. 41.—Not once.  
 A. 50.—Coal-gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as during day.  
 A. 52.—Have no experience of night-work.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast from quarter past nine till ten, dinner from quarter past two till three.  
 A. 55.—Twelve cleaners, who clean and oil parts of the machinery that would be dangerous when the work is going; when the work starts these persons are allowed the same time to each meal as the rest of the workers.  
 A. 56.—All the workers go home at meal-hours.  
 A. 57.—The observation of overlookers, or turning them off for obstinacy or disobedience.  
 A. 58 & 59.—No, except a slight tap of the hand is considered such, given by the overlookers.  
 A. 62.—Yes, but have never had occasion to interfere.  
 A. 66.—In general the workers have been employed from their youth.  
 A. 67.—Are not aware that the general state of health has either materially improved or deteriorated during the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—Have no occasion.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—They do, as far as we know.  
 A. 78.—The present laws are sufficient if duly put in force.  
 A. 79.—None, except earnestly imploring parliament to weigh well their measures ere they make such an important alteration.

JOHN FREELAND &amp; CO.

Renfrewshire.

John Freeland & Co.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM STEVENSON, Houston.

No. 127.

William Stevenson.

- A. 1.—Crosslee, parish of Houston, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Part erected in 1794, and part erected in 1824.  
 A. 4.—Water-wheel of about sixty horse power; regular, except in very dry seasons.  
 A. 5.—By the windows.  
 A. 7.—Left principally to the discretion of the workers.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is a supply of water in the work, and it is left to the discretion of the workers to use it or not, as also the changing of clothes, opportunities for doing so being allowed.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; very few have been employed at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—It is more for the benefit of the families than from necessity that children under twelve years are employed, because if not employed until twelve years, many families would be unable to support themselves.  
 A. 12.—There is not much alteration in our works.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—The principal part of the children are under the care of parents, and there are a few orphans who live with relations, as mentioned in list.

(APP.—A. 1.)

Z 3

A. 17.



Renfrewshire.

William Stevenson.

- A. 17.—The greater part are employed sixty-nine hours per week, a few seventy-two.  
 A. 18.—All persons under eighteen years of age are employed sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 19.—Sometimes our work has been partially on for thirteen hours and a half, owing to the supply of water not being sufficient to drive the whole at once, or to some cause of that kind, although no person under eighteen has been employed more than twelve and a half.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred and six days.  
 A. 21 & 22.—Cannot be ascertained exactly.  
 A. 23.—Sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half when making up time, as allowed by the present Act.  
 A. 25.—Either when making up time lost by want of water, or other causes, as allowed by the present Act.  
 A. 26.—It is unavoidable in the case of mills driven by water.  
 A. 29.—The lessening of the cost of production.  
 A. 30.—Yes; the cost of production has been increased, although not quite in proportion to the diminution of time, on account of the general expenditure and interest on capital being more on the quantity produced.  
 A. 31.—The objection to relays would be the difficulty of getting children on these terms, as they would be unable to support themselves on account of the smallness of wages.  
 A. 32.—No, because never required.  
 A. 37.—The effects of a still further reduction in the working hours would be an increase in the cost of production, or a reduction of wages that would be extremely hurtful; especially to those who earn small wages, as without this reduction we could not compete with foreign countries.  
 A. 38.—About 50°; but no particular heat being necessary, it is regulated by the comfort of the workers.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 53.—Forty-five minutes for breakfast and the same for dinner to all.  
 A. 54.—All leave the work.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Except very slightly, but without any prior or subsequent consent.  
 A. 63.—My instructions are to dismiss, and not to punish.  
 A. 65.—About one third of the workers live in houses belonging to their employers, and the others live in houses under their control, and therefore cleanliness is strictly attended to; and there is a week-day and Sabbath school where the children are taught to read gratuitously, and the other common branches of education at a moderate rate.  
 A. 66.—We do not find much difference after they have been some time at the work.  
 A. 67.—There has not been any deterioration of the health of those employed in the factory or of their families. The following is last year's bill of mortality of this village, containing about five hundred souls, two hundred of whom are employed in the factory; among the latter there has been no deaths:—Under one year old, four, of whom two were twins about a week old; from one to five years old, two; from five to twenty years old, none; from twenty to forty years old, one; from forty to fifty years old, one; above sixty years old, three; eleven deaths in the whole.  
 A. 68.—No, there being no particular injurious processes.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 73.—I believe they do.

WILLIAM STEVENSON.

No. 128.

James Brown.

## ANSWERS of JAMES BROWN, Linwood Cotton Works, Kilbarchan.

- A. 1.—Kilbarchan parish, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Spinning of cotton yarn.  
 A. 3.—Three fourths of the works were erected in 1805, and the remainder in 1824.  
 A. 4.—Fifty horse power required; driven generally by water, but in drought or in floods we have an engine of twenty horse power to assist, which is for the most part sufficient.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The ventilation of our factory depends wholly upon the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—It is controlled at the discretion of persons employed.  
 A. 8.—We consider all the dangerous parts of our machinery fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have no specific arrangements, but the workers change their clothes on entering and leaving the factory; they are also allowed soap and water to clean themselves.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age; many of them have been employed drawing to weavers previously for a year or two.  
 A. 11.—It is not absolutely necessary.  
 A. 12.—No alteration that we are aware of.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours per day, and nine on Saturdays.  
 A. 18.—All work the same time.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days and a half during 1832, having stopped six days and



and a half, two days at New-year's day, two parish fasts, and one government fast, and one day and a half at a procession and a fair.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty-four hours.

A. 22.—In floods, when short of power, a proportionate part of the work stands until it abates.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, but never exceeded nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 25.—Making up lost time by want or excess of water.

A. 26.—We consider it avoidable.

A. 27.—For many years after 1805 we worked twelve hours and a half each day, Saturday included.

A. 28.—Certainly, the cost is enhanced.

A. 29.—To cheapen the cost of production.

A. 30.—As the interest on sunk capital, &c. is the same, whatever may be the hours of work, the cost of production must be increased in all branches by the shortening of time.

A. 31.—Never having worked longer than twelve hours and a half in any one day, we did not consider it necessary to have a relay of hands.

A. 32.—We never tried it.

A. 33.—No night-work.

A. 36.—The effects we conceive would be beneficial.

A. 37.—If any further reduction of working hours take place, we are of opinion that we would thereby be rendered more unable to compete with the foreign manufacturer; it would also prove injurious to the workers by the necessary reduction of wages which would follow.

A. 38 & 39.—Seventy degrees.

A. 40.—All alike.

A. 53.—Forty-five minutes for breakfast and forty-five for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58 & 59.—Not allowed.

A. 63.—Those instructions are that they shall be dismissed.

A. 65.—Some of our workers live in our houses, but the greater part are accommodated otherwise; we don't find it necessary to interfere with their domestic arrangements; the poorer children are taught to read at our expence.

A. 66.—Almost all our workers have been engaged in cotton-spinning from infancy, and we prefer employing such to instructing adults.

A. 67.—We do not know of any material alteration.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—In general, we believe, they conform to the Act.

JAMES BROWN.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES FINDLAY, Kilbarchan and Houston.

No. 129.

James Findlay.

A. 1.—Parishes of Kilbarchan and Houston, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning only.

A. 3.—First erection about the year 1798, two thirds; second erection, in the year 1823 one third.

A. 4.—Water power, regular.

A. 5.—Yes.

A. 6.—Ventilation by opening a pane of glass in the windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all the adults.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—None are required.

A. 10.—Nine years of age.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—Not in our works.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Under the guardianship of their parents always.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—No difference of time.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-five days.

A. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred and seventy-six hours.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Average number, ten hours.

A. 24.—Twelve and a half hours.

A. 25.—After stoppage for want or excess of water.

A. 26.—It is avoidable.

A. 27.—Yes, half an hour longer.

A. 28.—Certainly.

A. 29.—Cannot say.

(APP.—A.1.)

Z 4

A. 30.



Renfrewshire.

James Findlay.

- A. 30.—In all branches, and in proportion to the diminution of hours.  
 A. 31.—Cannot say.  
 A. 32.—It has never been required.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—None.  
 A. 37.—It throws an additional expence on our manufacture.  
 A. 38.—About seventy-four the temperature.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 53.—From a quarter past nine till ten o'clock A.M., and from a quarter past two till three o'clock P.M.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal from the works.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 67.—There is no difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No, never.  
 A. 73.—I believe they do.  
 A. 78.—I consider the present Act perfectly sufficient, if put in force, for cotton factories.

JAMES FINDLAY.

No. 130.

John Buchanan.

ANSWERS of JOHN BUCHANAN, for Fultons, Buchanan, and Company, Proprietors, Lochwinnock, Renfrewshire.

- A. 1.—Lochwinnock, Renfrewshire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Two thirds of it erected forty-three years ago, and one third about ten years since.  
 A. 4.—Steam and water, generally regular; forty-five horse power.  
 A. 5.—House is ventilated by opening the windows.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Any of the workers may open the windows for ventilation, but the overlookers attend to it, and see the rooms properly ventilated.  
 A. 8.—All parts that are considered dangerous are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—All the workers are and have always been required to appear clean, both personally and as to their clothes, but any arrangements as to pulling off and on their clothes are left to themselves.  
 A. 10.—Ten years. We believe at no other trade.  
 A. 11.—Not necessarily; but some of the work being very light, the wages paid are proportionally low, and on that account the proper number in some places above twelve years might not always be got.  
 A. 12.—Considerably less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We lodge and maintain none.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 18.—Under twelve years, ten hours five sixths; above twelve, twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-five hours.  
 A. 22.—When short of water last summer the steam-engine was kept at work from five in the morning till nine in the evening, and the workpeople divided into three classes, and worked alternately; this continued only a short time, and was in consequence of repairing a dam-breast.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours above twelve years of age; under twelve, ten hours five sixths.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—We consider that no person who understands business will continue at work more than twelve hours per day, and that a change of hands on the same machinery is always attended with injury to the machinery.  
 A. 30.—We have no experience.  
 A. 31.—If extra labour is constant and of much extent, relays or fresh sets of hands might be got where there is abundance of population; but where over-time is occasional, and only to the extent of an hour or two per day, sufficient inducement could not be afforded for two sets of hands to attend.  
 A. 32.—No, we never had occasion for them.  
 A. 36.—Having no night-hands, we could not be affected.  
 A. 37.—An immediate proportional reduction of the wages of all the day-hands, which, in our opinion, would be attended with the very worst consequences to that class of people. Few of them could afford it, and many of the families connected with them would be thrown upon the parish; their wages we consider are as low at present as they ought to be, or as they could live upon, but the proprietors must either stop their work and allow themselves to be ruined, or resort to some method to counteract the loss of one sixth of their produce, and the reduction



Renfrewshire.

John Buchanan.

reduction of wages is the only way left them. We also have no doubt that it would have the effect, in a short time, of reducing most materially the wages of the operative spinner, for it is giving a large premium to the foreign manufacturer, and enhances the price of our goods so much as would effectually prevent the introduction of our manufactures into their markets. Our markets would then be in a state of constant glut, which is certain to reduce wages,—witness the hand-loom weaver. If the hours are reduced to ten per day, we expect that cotton-twist will be imported from the United States of America before a few years are expired.

A. 38.—Seventy degrees, lowest sixty-five degrees.

A. 39.—Seventy degrees; the temperature through the whole works is required to be from sixty-five to seventy degrees, and is kept as regular as possible.

A. 50.—We have no night-work, but during winter the works are lighted with gas morning and evening.

A. 51.—Same as during day, by opening the windows.

A. 52.—We have no experience.

A. 53.—Fifty minutes for breakfast between nine and ten, fifty minutes for dinner between two and three.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—They are discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—No, for we never knew of any punishment being inflicted.

A. 63.—Instructions were necessary, as we never knew of any punishments being inflicted.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—An evening school is established for the benefit of the children employed in the factory, where they are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and a day-school for the benefit of those under ten years of age, whose parents or guardians are employed in the factory. Every child in the factory can read, and almost all can write.

A. 66.—The skill of those who have been employed from infancy is generally allowed to be superior to that of those taken in at an advanced period of life, but their moral character we consider the same.

A. 67.—We consider the health of the people employed in this factory has always been as good as that of any class of people in the neighbourhood, but do not know any difference during the last ten years from what it was formerly.

A. 68.—No, we have no occasion for it.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—We have, once.

A. 71.—No, the information was false.

A. 72.—Information was given that we had infringed the Act in several particulars, but it was not the fact, and was not proved against us.

A. 73.—They do, as far as we know.

A. 78.—We consider it very improper to allow any part of the penalties to go to the informer; if he is a proper character, he will inform for the benefit of the children, and not for the reward; but let there be a public inspector appointed by government in every manufacturing district, paid by a small tax on the moving power, whose business shall be to give information of every one who contravenes any of the provisions of the Act, and let the penalty go to the parish.

A. 79.—We do not consider twelve hours per day too long for children of twelve years of age and upwards, and we consider it most dangerous to the trade of this country to interfere and restrict the hours of labour as is now proposed. If parliament considers that the age of nine years allowed by the present Act is too young, let the age be restricted to ten or eleven or twelve, or even fourteen, but on no account interfere further with the hours of labour; but we think all night-work ought to be done away with, no lost time made up on any account, whether the power is water or steam, and the twelve hours should be worked between five in the morning and eight in the evening.

These are the regulations under which our factory is conducted, and not a child under ten years of age is employed in it, and the children between ten and twelve are employed ten hours and three quarters per day. We employ nearly three hundred and sixty people; and we venture to say, notwithstanding all that has been urged to the contrary by either interested individuals or by those who know nothing of the subject, that our people are as healthy, comfortable, and happy, better fed, better clothed, and better educated, and as moral and religious as any other class of people, agricultural or otherwise, that is to be found in the country.

If the hours of labour of persons under eighteen years of age are reduced to ten per day, the distress it will cause will be fearful, for all those persons will be discharged, and the work performed by older people, and the factories still kept at work twelve hours per day. These children must then look for other employment, and most of them will probably resort to hand-weaving, where they will be employed as draw-boys at harder work in a more uncomfortable and less healthy situation, the hours longer, and the wages much less.

JOHN BUCHANAN.



Renfrewshire.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM WRIGHT &amp; Co., Lochwinnoch.

No. 131.  
William Wright  
& Co.

- A. 1.—Parish of Lochwinnoch, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Spinning cotton from the wool into yarn.  
 A. 3.—Erected wholly between the years 1789 and 1794 for a cotton factory, and has never been applied to any other purpose.  
 A. 4.—Water-power only; twenty to thirty horse power.  
 A. 5.—The work stands in an open airy situation; no special mode of ventilation considered necessary.  
 A. 6.—By windows only, which are made to open at pleasure.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker in each department, and generally at the pleasure of the workers.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangement, but water at discretion is to be found in all the different apartments; the workers shift their clothes at their pleasure, either at entry or dismissal, and the overlookers are expected in a general way to see that cleanliness of person is attended to.  
 A. 10.—Ten years, during a few of which they may have formerly acted as draw boys or girls to hand-loom weavers.  
 A. 11.—Not necessarily, but a part of the work can be done by children under twelve years of age as well as by older ones.  
 A. 12.—Cannot speak generally; the alterations with us have not materially changed in either way the proportion of children employed under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of the children in this work are either lodged or maintained by their employers.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours during five days of the week, and nine upon Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The same as those above twenty-one years.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand three hundred and twenty.  
 A. 22.—The whole work is begun and stopped simultaneously.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—At no time have the regular hours of work been exceeded.  
 A. 26.—All extra working may be avoided by not making up such time as may be unavoidably lost from want of water, breaking of machinery, or other similar occurrences.  
 A. 28.—Having at no time worked for a longer or shorter period than at present, have no experience.  
 A. 29.—We can conceive no other motive but the increase of his profits.  
 A. 30.—Any reduction in the hours of labour must tend to increase the cost of production, the lesser quantity produced having to pay the same expenditure for rent, interest on capital, wages to day-workers, and salaries to clerks and managers, &c.  
 A. 31.—We have no experience of such working.  
 A. 33.—Never had occasion to employ more than one set of hands.  
 A. 37.—Either such a reduction in the present rate of wages of all employed as would materially interfere with their comfort, or such a blow to the already very inadequately remunerated manufacturer as but few would be able to withstand; as a smaller quantity of goods would undoubtedly be produced, some enhancement of price might be probably obtained, but it appears very questionable indeed if any the smallest rise in price would not at once give such an additional advantage to the manufacturers of foreign countries as would render competition nearly hopeless.  
 A. 38.—About 68° of Fahrenheit; much lower would not answer well.  
 A. 39.—Seventy-two.  
 A. 40.—About one hundred and seventy.  
 A. 41.—Not once.  
 A. 50.—With oil.  
 A. 51.—Same as through the day.  
 A. 53.—The breakfast-time is from nine to ten minutes before ten A.M., and the dinner-time from two P.M. to ten minutes before three o'clock P.M.  
 A. 54 & 55.—All at pleasure, except eight cleaners, who generally clean and oil parts of the machinery that cannot be got at when the work is going, but who get the same time, say fifty minutes, for each meal immediately after the mill starts.  
 A. 56.—The people employed in this work go all home for meals.  
 A. 57.—The observation of overlookers, and turning them from the work if obstinate.  
 A. 58.—No; if a slight slap with the palm of the hand is not considered such, when given by overlookers.  
 A. 62.—Never knew of any case that required interference.  
 A. 64.—Nothing of the kind has taken place.  
 A. 65.—The workers do not live in houses belonging to their employers.  
 A. 66.—All the workers have been so employed from their youth, except a few, who are now pretty far advanced in the decline of life.

A. 67.



A. 67.—We are not sensible that the general state of health has either materially deteriorated or improved during the last ten years.

A. 68.—Yes.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Yes, once.

A. 71 & 72.—Was not convicted.

A. 73.—They do, so far as we know.

A. 74.—We have heard so.

A. 76.—So far as we know, it was.

A. 77.—No, if the masters are intentionally guilty.

A. 78.—The present penalties are certainly sufficiently numerous, and may be made abundantly vexatious; and were those proposed to be inserted in the new Bill enacted, we do not think that the business of cotton-spinning could be carried on; while we are convinced that proprietors of cotton or other factories will generally endeavour to have their machinery made as free from danger to those about it as possible, it is perfectly certain that no care and consequently no law can prevent the occurrence of accidents.

A. 79.—If it be found really necessary for the legislature to interfere in regard to the subject, we are of opinion the only enactment should be a clause to prohibit entirely the employment of children under a certain age, say ten years, and to limit the hours of labour for young persons to eleven hours in any one lawful day under certain penalties, leaving the master and workers or the parents or guardians of workers to make such other necessary arrangements as may best suit the circumstances of the case. In legislating upon such a subject it is obviously necessary that the law should be perfectly plain; interfere between the employer and employed as little as possible; and above all be strictly enforced, that those who wish to obey the law may not be put upon a worse footing than they who would break it.

WILLIAM WRIGHT & Co.

Renfrewshire.

William Wright  
& Co.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM KEELY junior, one of the Partners of the Busby Company,  
Busby Works, Mearns.

No. 132.

William Keely jun.

A. 1.—At Busby, parish of Mearns, and county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton-wool and weaving of cotton-cloth.

A. 3.—In the month of June 1781 cotton was first spun here in what is called the Old Mill; about forty years ago another mill was built called the New Mill, since which several additions have been made to these works, particularly in the summer of 1823.

A. 4.—Water-power, and pretty regular; new mill-wheel twenty-eight to thirty horse power, old mill-wheel twenty-two to twenty-four horse power.

A. 5.—The windows are all cased and made to lift up.

A. 6.—By the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the foreman in spinning-flats, and by the workers at discretion in preparation and weaving flats.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—The workers reside so near the works that it is deemed unnecessary to have any apartment for changing their clothes; in wet weather the girls all wear cloaks.

A. 10.—To our knowledge, none are admitted below nine years of age, and none have been employed at any other trade, as far as is known.

A. 11.—The nature of the work requires children under twelve years, because the child at twelve would require more wages than can be afforded to one at nine years; besides, in many cases at twelve the child is rather large for the nature of the work.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery require a less proportion, particularly in water-frame spinning.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—There are three orphans employed.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and on Saturday nine hours.

A. 18.—Twelve, and no difference is made.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days, fifty-two of which nine hours per day.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixteen hours, or thereby.

A. 22.—The works are carried on all at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours for Saturday.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—Making up time for repairs on machinery and irregularity of water.

A. 26.—It can be avoided; the workers, however, prefer making up lost time to a reduction on their weekly income.

A. 27.—Prior to the passing of the Twelve Hour Act these works wrought twelve hours and three quarters.

A. 28.—Certainly, other things being the same.

A. 29.—The inducement to work long hours generally is to increase the production, and thereby to diminish the cost of each pound or piece produced; at times there may be the additional inducement of large contracts which the masters may be anxious to execute within certain periods.

(APP.—A. 1.)

A a 2

A. 30.



Renfrewshire.

William Keely jun.

A. 30.—The cost of production will always, in our trade, be increased by any limitation of the hours of working, and it is my opinion that any limitation of the hours from the present rate would be attended with an increased cost more than equal to the difference of hours in all branches of our trade.

A. 31.—Relays or fresh sets of children was never tried here.

A. 32.—The population of the village being limited relays, or change of hands cannot be tried here.

A. 33.—Night-work was never tried here, at least not for a very long while.

A. 37.—The effects of a farther reduction of the working hours would, by increasing the cost, add much to the embarrassments already experienced by masters, and would eventually prove most injurious to the cotton trade of this country. The tendency of such a measure, in my opinion, is to transfer the cotton trade to other countries.

A. 38.—In spinning flats the temperature is from 60° to 70° of Fahrenheit's thermometer, and in preparation and weaving flats such a temperature as the workers feel comfortable.

A. 39.—In the dressing of yarn for weaving the temperature may sometimes be rather above 66°, but never exceeds 75°, and the workmen are all above twenty years of age.

A. 40.—Twelve men.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—For each meal three quarters of an hour for every worker.

A. 54.—All the workers leave the works at meal-times.

A. 57.—For improper conduct on the part of the children dismissal from the works, which they think the most severe punishment that can be inflicted.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 63.—To all overlookers, verbally.

A. 65.—In most cases the workers live in the houses of their employers. Their moral improvement is cared for by the establishment of Sabbath and weekly evening schools, by the regular attendance of a clergyman, who makes regular visitations to their houses, and who preaches to them twice every Sunday. The clergyman is paid by the masters. Their domestic cleanliness is under the superintendence of the foreman, who visits the houses periodically.

A. 66.—Those hands who have wrought from infancy are incomparably better workers than those taken in at a later period of life, and so far as can be ascertained equally healthy.

A. 67.—We think there is some improvement, which may be owing partly to the lower prices of food, and partly to an increased attention to enforce temperate and orderly habits amongst the workers.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never to our knowledge.

A. 78.—I am of opinion that it will not be easy to maintain a strict obedience to legislative enactments; that I conceive must depend in a great measure on the state of the labour market, or the proportion which the demand for labour may at any time bear to the number of workers seeking employment; and it must ultimately become a matter of bargain between employers and workers, understood if not expressed.

A. 79.—I have only to observe, that in my opinion all restrictions on trade tend to injure it, and especially where factories are concerned, and thereby to lessen the amount of employment, and that must of course eventually prove injurious to the interests of children and others of the working classes.

29th May 1833.

WILLIAM KEELY jun.

No. 133.

Charles Dunlop.

## ANSWERS of CHARLES DUNLOP, Neilston.

A. 1.—Neilston parish, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in 1792.

A. 4.—Water-power very regular, equal to about thirty horse power.

A. 5.—There is a specific provision for the ventilation of picking-room by means of fanners; other parts are ventilated by opening of windows and of doors.

A. 6.—The provision for ventilation of picking-room does not depend on opening of windows, the dust from that room being carried off by fanners driven by the water-wheel.

A. 7.—Principally by the foreman and overlookers, and partially at the discretion of the workers.

A. 8.—The water-wheel is fenced off; the other parts of the great gearing are not fenced off, because from their situation not considered dangerous. The small machinery requires to be left open for cleaning and oiling.

A. 9.—There are no specific arrangements for this purpose, but the overlookers are instructed to enforce a certain degree of cleanliness.

A. 10.—Nine years. They very seldom have been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age, but from nine to twelve they are capable of doing certain parts of the work.

A. 12.



Renfrewshire.

Charles Dunlop.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not affected the employment of children at this work.

A. 13.—None, excepting one or two as machine-makers.

A. 14.—No apprentices from parishes.

A. 15.—None of the children are lodged or maintained by their employers, but are all under the guardianship of their parents or relations.

A. 17.—Twelve hours on five days of the week and nine on Saturdays, the average being eleven hours and a half each day.

A. 18.—The duration of the hours of work is the same for persons of all ages.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and fifty minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty hours and a half.

A. 22.—The whole work is carried on at the same time, excepting in cases of floods in the river, and other accidental causes.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and sixteen minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and fifty minutes.

A. 25.—To work up time lost on account of floods, and occasionally for time lost by accidents having happened to great gearing, also sometimes, at the request of the workers, to make up what was lost by partial stoppages for holidays.

A. 26.—It is impossible to prevent stoppages from accidental causes, and it would be a hardship for all not to be allowed to work up lost time to a certain extent.

A. 27.—Prior to the limitation of the hours imposed by Act of Parliament we usually worked seventy-two hours per week, being on an average twelve hours per day.

A. 28.—The cost of production, *ceteris paribus*, will always be enhanced by a reduction in the hours of working.

A. 29.—The inducement on the part of the manufacturer is to obtain a higher rate of profit, and on the part of the workers to obtain higher wages.

A. 30.—At this factory, where the average of the yarn spun is about number 50<sup>s</sup>, if the hours of working were reduced one sixth part, while wages remained the same, the cost of production would be increased about fourteen per cent.; but if wages fell proportionably, the cost of production would then only be increased about seven per cent.

A. 31 & 32.—At mills situated in the country relays of children could not be procured. It is even sometimes difficult to procure a sufficient number for one set.

A. 33.—Never during the last twenty years has a night-set been employed.

A. 36.—An universal prohibition of night-work would place the trade on a more equal footing than the present.

A. 37.—To increase the cost of production, and thus endanger our foreign trade, on which we principally depend.

A. 38.—Spinning-rooms, 68° to 72° Fahrenheit; carding-room, 65° to 70; picking-room, 60° to 65°; lowest temperature for spinning, 66°; lowest temperature for carding, 60°; lowest temperature for picking, 55°.

A. 39.—Highest degree of heat required for any part of this factory is 72°.

A. 40.—Seventy-five to eighty.

A. 50.—The works are lighted during the winter, in the mornings and evenings, by gas.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 53.—Forty minutes for breakfast and the same for dinner for all classes of workers, by the request of the workers.

A. 54.—All the workers, except seventeen, leave the works at meal-times.

A. 55.—Those who do not leave the works have their victuals brought to them for their own convenience.

A. 56.—It would occasion inconvenience to those who live at a distance in bad weather.

A. 57.—The usual method of enforcing obedience on the part of the children is to threaten them with dismissal.

A. 58.—Light corporal punishments are sometimes inflicted on negligent or mischievous children in the same manner as in schools, but very seldom.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 60.—The foreman has sometimes been requested by parents rather to punish their children slightly than to dismiss them.

A. 61.—Slight corporal punishments have, in a few instances, been inflicted with my sanction, in so far as I have not found fault afterwards with the persons who inflicted it.

A. 62 & 63.—The punishments are so extremely slight that I have not thought it necessary to take any steps for their prevention, believing them to be requisite where so many children are employed together.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—About one hundred and forty of the workers live in the houses of their employers, and these are required to keep their houses clean. For their moral and social improvement, the proprietors afford gratuitously elementary education to all their workers.

A. 66.—We consider any difference in skill and general character to be in favour of those who have been employed from infancy.

A. 67.—Know no difference in this respect.

A. 68.—The workers sometimes change from one department to another, and no objections are made except on the score of incapacity.

(APP.—A. 1.)

A a 3

A. 69.



Renfrewshire.  
 —  
 Charles Dunlop.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Have never been informed against.

A. 73.—So far as I know, they conform to the provisions of the Act as regards the time of working, and the age at which children are employed.

A. 78.—I would suggest that the law should be made as simple as possible, that it should merely regulate the hours of work for children under fourteen years of age, and the earliest age at which children should be employed. The present penalties are sufficiently high, if a public prosecutor were appointed to see the law carried into effect.

A. 79.—In so far as this neighbourhood is concerned, I believe that the clamour raised against the employment of children in cotton-mills is totally unwarranted. That the children so employed are as healthy and as well taken care of as any children in the same rank of life, and better than the generality. That no cruel treatment exists; and that any law which would materially diminish the time of working would ultimately produce the most injurious consequences to the workpeople, and tend to draw the trade out of this country.

CHARLES DUNLOP.

No. 134.  
 William Craig.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM CRAIG, for Broadley Mill Company, Neilston.

A. 1.—Parish of Neilston, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The original spinning department erected and set on about the year 1791; the weaving, with an addition to the spinning, was erected in 1827, and set on in 1828.

A. 4.—Water-power only; regular supply; about thirty horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—The ventilation depends chiefly on the opening of windows, &c., which are constructed for that purpose.

A. 7.—By the overlooker or tenter of each department.

A. 8.—Yes, all that are considered dangerous.

A. 9.—As to change of clothing, this is left optional on the part of the workpeople; but strict measures for promoting and enforcing habits of personal cleanliness are resorted to. A public washing-place is erected in the lobby, where several ewers of pure water and soap are gratuitously furnished, and open to all who wish or may require washing: this measure was introduced in February 1832.

A. 10.—Nine years. I have known a very few of these to be previously engaged at a printfield as tearers.

A. 11.—Yes, a few; because the work to be done is so very trifling and light, that children at or above twelve years will not give attendance for the small wages afforded, and therefore could not be had; besides, they cannot so conveniently go about the work as a smaller child.

A. 12.—I consider a less number.

A. 13, 14, 15, & 16.—No apprentices ever employed.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and five minutes, and eight hours and thirty-five minutes on Saturdays.

A. 18.—All ages subject to the same hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, and that only on one day, the 24th August 1832; never before or since that time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days and two thirds.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and four hours.

A. 22.—The whole of the works, spinning and weaving, are set on and stopped at the same time every day.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 25.—At various times a few minutes, occasionally by accidents to the machinery, sometimes by mistake in shutting too early the water-slucies, and frequently loss of time at the particular request and for the gratification of the workpeople.

A. 26.—I do not consider it wholly unavoidable, but to all parties in so small proportions I consider it preferable, though I have generally given the workpeople their choice.

A. 27 & 28.—No, never but as at present.

A. 29.—I conceive such a practice gives him an advantage over the honest adherent to existing laws by increasing his production at a disproportionate expence.

A. 30.—Our working hours being regular I have not found this from experience; however I conceive limitation in the hours of working must increase the cost of production in proportion generally to the lessening of the working hours; but this, I think, will vary in different circumstances and situations.

A. 31.—I see no objection provided they could be obtained.

A. 32.—Never been tried here, having no wish to extend beyond the limits prescribed by the existing Act of Parliament.

A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—No night-work.

A. 37.—If all manufacturers at home and abroad were put on an equal footing, and subject to the same restrictions in hours of labour, I could apprehend no very bad effects; but while the British manufacturer has to compete with those of the continents of Europe and America, and in the same market, who are unrestricted, we must suffer in proportion to these



these restrictions on our production. To the operative the effect is obviously an immediate reduction in his earnings in proportion to the lessening of his working hours.

A. 38.—About sixty degrees of Fahrenheit.

A. 39.—Seventy to seventy-five or eighty degrees, varying as the state of the natural atmosphere.

A. 40.—Twelve hands.

A. 50, 51, & 52.—No night-work; only in the winter season oil is used for lighting.

A. 53.—One hour and a half is allowed, but at the especial and unanimous desire of the workpeople only one hour and twenty minutes are taken, which enables them to leave the work so much earlier in the evening.

A. 54.—All, nearly.

A. 55.—A very few do occasionally remain about the work, but these entirely for their own convenience or amusement.

A. 56.—All are perfectly free to go home to their meals.

A. 57.—The alternative, prompt obedience, with quiet orderly conduct, or dismissal at a moment's notice.

A. 58 & 59.—Never by any one.

A. 60 & 61.—Never.

A. 62.—Strictly prohibited; never heard of any instance.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions only, amounting to complete prohibition of chastisement by corporal punishment, on any individual, at any age, or for any offence however aggravated.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—A number of them do live in the houses of the employers, and are under the daily observation of the master, who uses every means to induce and enforce cleanliness in person and dwellings, by regularly cleansing common sewers, whitewashing interior walls, and encouraging ventilation.

A. 66.—In regard to the spinning, carding, and mechanical departments, I consider it indispensable to a good workman that he has been brought up from the first stages connected with it, and from an early age; as to the other branches of employment, it is of little consequence, these varying chiefly according to the several capacities of the individuals. Among their characters I cannot discriminate, they being much similar.

A. 67.—Having been in possession here only four years and a half, no decided change in this respect is to me perceptible.

A. 68.—Yes, always, when required from declining health, and often when the motives are merely pecuniary, provided the person is capable of any other species of work; they at all times get a preference if their former character entitles them to such.

A. 69.—Yes, with the exception of the regulations referred to in A. 17. and A. 53.; these are optional on the part of the workpeople, and adopted at their particular request, giving them a little more time on Saturdays to go to a distant market for provisions, &c.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—I believe they do conform.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—No, the present are sufficient if regularly acted upon.

1st May 1833.

WILLIAM CRAIG.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN GRAHAM, Neilston.

No. 135.

John Graham.

A. 1.—Neilston, Renfrewshire.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—First employed for present purpose in 1800, when it was erected, and it was considerably enlarged in 1824.

A. 4.—Water, pretty regular; about thirty-five horse power.

A. 5.—None but the use of doors and windows, under the control of the overseers.

A. 6.—Answered above.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—There are no arrangements of the description alluded to, although a few of the workers are in the practice of partly shifting their clothes, and also of washing themselves on leaving and returning to their work.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age; none of them have been previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—Not absolutely.

A. 12.—No difference in that respect.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—No orphans or other children employed, lodged, and maintained by the proprietor of the work.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty-one hours.

A. 22.—All departments of the work are carried on at the same time, steam-heating excepted, which is commenced a few hours previous to the starting of the work.

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A a 4

A. 23.



Renfrewshire.

John Graham.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—Only when time was lost from scarcity of the water from which power is obtained, or from breakage in the great gearing.

A. 26.—It is avoidable by subjecting master and worker to the loss of the time lost from such causes; but such occasional loss, if not made up by working extra time, would occur although the allowed regular working hours were limited to one half of the present number.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To diminish the general charges on his establishment by an increased production.

A. 30.—Working as many hours now as at any former period, I have no experience.

A. 31.—Where extra hours to a great extent are required, such as fifteen, eighteen, or twenty-four hours, there can be no objection in any case, and an absolute necessity in the extreme cases, for a relay of hands, where such can be procured; but where extra hours are required only to the limited extent required in this work, (see A. 25.) a relay of hands for these hours could not be procured, and would not be desirable.

A. 32.—It has not been tried at this work, because there are, comparatively speaking, no extra hours required here.—See A. 25.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—None upon my work, the supply of water for power being limited to the day.

A. 37.—An increase of cost from diminished production, which would ultimately prove injurious to the cotton trade; but that effect might be retarded by the comparative redundancy which would be thereby for a time occasioned in the supply of cotton wool, and by the enhancement in the price of cotton yarns, which the diminished production of yarns, if suddenly introduced, would have a tendency to produce in the market. I am also of opinion that a considerable reduction in the regular working hours would force all manufactories having the opportunity so to do to work night and day with a shift of hands.

A. 38.—There has been no thermometer kept at this work; but from a trial made this week, the highest temperature in any of the departments was seventy-six degrees Fahrenheit, and the lowest seventy degrees. It is believed the usual average is under seventy degrees, and a higher is not deemed necessary for any of the departments, all requiring about the same temperature.

A. 50.—There is no night-work, but gas is used in the mornings and evenings when dark.

A. 52.—I have no experience.

A. 53.—Forty-five minutes to breakfast and forty-five minutes to dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Dismissal and the fear of it.

A. 58.—It is believed not, none being permitted, and no complaint having been made on that score.

A. 60 &amp; 61.—Yes, but not for many years.

A. 63 &amp; 64.—None.

A. 65.—The greater part live in houses belonging to me. No control is used farther than dismissal, or the fear of it, in the event of egregious misconduct. The only arrangement to enforce cleanliness is to have the houses whitewashed twice a year.

A. 66.—Those employed from early youth, as compared with others employed from a later period in life, are generally more skilful, in point of character equally good, and in point of education generally superior.

A. 67.—I am inclined to think the health of the workers generally, within the period referred to, is improved, they having adopted improved habits of living as regards temperance, food, and clothing.

A. 68.—Yes.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 77.—I believe they would not be afraid of giving evidence against their masters in any matter of moment.

A. 78.—The Act at present in force having been acted up to in all essential matters at this work, and as far as I know in similar works in this neighbourhood, I do not think that further provisions are required to secure obedience to it in this neighbourhood; but I think that the provisions of any Act would be best enforced by rendering it imperative on the sheriff or chief magistrate of each district to annually perambulate the works situated therein, to investigate, by an examination of workers and otherwise, as to the obedience given to the Act, with power summarily to inflict the present or an increased scale of penalties, such penalties to be increased on repetition of offence; the power of voluntary information against offenders, as by the present Act, to be continued.

A. 79.—My opinion is, that any alteration to be effected by a new act should be limited to children above nine and under twelve years of age, who might be allowed to be employed each day a number of hours not exceeding two thirds of the number of hours allowed under the Act at present in force; and no further alteration seems to be required, excepting as stated in A. 78.

JOHN GRAHAM.



## ANSWERS of THOMAS MITCHELL, for Mitchell and Norris, Neilston.

Renfrewshire.

No. 136.

Thomas Mitchell.

- A. 1.—Parish of Neilston, shire of Renfrew.
- A. 2.—Spinning of cotton-wool only.
- A. 3.—The entire part of the factory where the operation is carried on was burnt in 1812 and rebuilt in 1813, at which time it was applied to its present purpose.
- A. 4.—Water-power only, regular; about thirty-six horse power.
- A. 6.—The provision depends on opening the windows. In every window of sixteen panes there is one thirteen by eight inches that opens; the workers have the power of opening and shutting these panes at all times; if they are inattentive to this, the overlooker is instructed to attend to it.
- A. 8.—All the parts of the machinery usually considered dangerous are fenced off.
- A. 9.—The workpeople are all allowed to change, and put on additional clothing before leaving the work.
- A. 10.—The age allowed by the law, viz. nine, is the lowest that we employ children. We are not aware of any children in our employment having been otherwise engaged before.
- A. 11.—Not necessarily, although, to limit them to this would be a serious loss to their parents.
- A. 12.—We have not understood that the recent alterations in machinery have made any change in this respect.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—We have not any children in our employment who are orphans.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours, except on Saturdays, when they are only employed nine hours.
- A. 18.—There is no difference made in this respect for different ages.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours, and that only for fewer than ten successive days in the case of an accident having happened to the water-wheel.
- A. 20.—We have not been in possession of the work for a year, so that we cannot answer this question; we only entered 1st September 1832.
- A. 22.—All parts of the work are carried on at the same time.
- A. 26.—We consider excess beyond the regular hours avoidable, although with occasional inconvenience and loss.
- A. 27.—Never.
- A. 28.—We have had no experience of this.
- A. 29.—We believe the inducement for such over-working to be the power of ruinously underselling the fair manufacturer.
- A. 31.—The difficulty, we might rather say the impossibility, of procuring two sets of children, especially in country works such as this is.
- A. 32.—We have never worked extra hours, except according to A. 19, which is within the limits of the Act.
- A. 33.—We have never employed night-workers.
- A. 36.—We think beneficial generally.
- A. 37.—We consider a reduction of the hours of work to the extent proposed by Mr. Sadler's Bill would be injurious in a high degree to the employer, and ruinous to the comfort of the employed in consequence of the great reduction of wages that must inevitably take place, as there is not profit from which the prodigiously increased cost of production could be taken. In any modification of Mr. Sadler's Bill the tendency would be the same.
- A. 38.—The usual temperature is from 66° to 76°, but in many parts of the manufacture 66° would do.
- A. 39.—We do not consider above 76° at all necessary in ordinary cases.
- A. 40.—About one hundred and ten.
- A. 41.—Never, except mechanics repairing an accidental damage. They are all above twenty-one years of age.
- A. 47.—Twelve hours is all the time we are allowed by the present Bill, which we abide by.
- A. 48.—All ages, male and female.
- A. 50.—With oil-lamps and glass tops.
- A. 51.—Same as through the day.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for each meal; we are aware that this is not according to the letter of the statute, but it is the wish of the workpeople, in consequence of their houses being almost at the door of the factory. We stop half an hour earlier, which enables the children and others to give more day-light to education and recreation.
- A. 54.—All are allowed to go home for meals, and almost all avail themselves of it, indeed we may say all.
- A. 57.—Dismissal from their employment.
- A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.
- A. 59.—If at all, by parents.
- A. 62.—The case has not come before us, but we would certainly forbid it.
- A. 63.—No instructions have been given, because no complaint of ill-usage has been made.
- A. 64.—No.
- A. 65.—The workpeople live in our property. There is a school for eighty scholars, a schoolmaster
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Renfrewshire.

Thomas Mitchell.

schoolmaster provided and paid by us; the school-room, fire, and light free. We keep the outside of the houses clean and tidy, and encourage them to keep the inside so also.

A. 66.—Those employed from early life are the most expert workmen.

A. 68.—This is seldom necessary, but it has been done more than once in this factory.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—As far as we know they do, as to hours of work, and age of children employed.

A. 77.—We have no experience to guide us in answering this.

A. 78 & 79.—We deem it very unjust, that while all the cases of hardship and cruelty stated in evidence before the committee applied to and took place in wool and flax works, which are not under the present Act, the cotton trade, against which, especially in Scotland, nothing of the kind was proved, or so far as we know even alleged, should be subjected to a measure which in our humble opinion would prove so injurious to our interests, and ultimately so ruinous to the comfort (in consequence of reduced wages), and of course to the respectability of our workpeople. We would therefore give it as our opinion that all factories whatever be brought under the regulation of Hobhouse's Act, the penalties raised so as to make conviction more certain; and if this measure does not produce the desired effect, we will willingly give our consent to any farther regulations that may conduce to the comfort of the workpeople themselves.

THOMAS MITCHELL.

No. 137.

James Orr.

ANSWERS of JAMES ORR, for James Orr & Co., Crofthouse Mill, Neilston.

A. 1.—Parish of Neilston and county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Preparing and spinning of cotton-wool.

A. 3.—The first erection was in 1803, and employed spinning in 1806; the second erection in 1818, and employed in 1819.

A. 4.—Water-power, pretty regular; about forty horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—An opening pane of glass in each window.

A. 7.—Every worker regulates it for himself, but if the foreman should see an improper use made of it he checks it.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Nine years; I do not think any of them have been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—I do not think it does, but it would be a hardship on parents to restrict them to that age.

A. 12.—I am not aware of any such alterations.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—All the children employed at these works lodge with their natural guardians or parents; the three orphans stated in the list live with a sister, and a married brother looks after them.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days each week, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—All ages employed as in A. 17.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, being one hour extra for lost time, but the regulation now is twelve hours and a half when time is made up.

A. 20.—Three hundred and one days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and sixty-one hours and a half.

A. 22.—It is carried all on at the same time.

A. 24.—Thirteen, and then only in making up time.

A. 25.—For any little irregularity in the water, or breaking of shafts.

A. 26.—The only way to avoid it is not to work any lost time, but upon which there is a difference of opinion.

A. 27.—Yes, before any legislative interference with regard to hours.

A. 28.—Enhanced in proportion to the time reduced.

A. 29.—It lessens the cost of production in so far as regards interest on stock, insurance, rent, and feu duty, manager and foreman's wages, and many other charges.

A. 31.—Two sets of hands would not answer without you were working the factory day and night, as by employing two sets of children for twelve hours, or an occasional half hour for extra time, you could only give them half wage, which would not support them.

A. 32.—I am not aware of it having been tried; my reasons for not doing so are given above.

A. 33.—Never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 36.—I do not approve of night-work in a factory; I think a prohibition of it would do good.

A. 37.—In consequence of foreign competition we would require to reduce the wages so much as the reduction of the time enhanced the cost of production, otherwise we would lose our export trade.

A. 38.—About 70° is the usual temperature.

A. 39.—We do not require it higher than 70°.

A. 41.—Never worked during the night, excepting mechanics working at any broken machinery.

A. 46.



A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Oil and candles in the morning and evening.

A. 51.—The same as in day-light; we do not work during the night.

A. 52.—I think it must hurt their morals.

A. 53.—One half hour to each meal; this is done at the request of the workers; the difference of time allowed by the Act is given them at night for education.

A. 54.—They all leave their work at meals.

A. 55.—A few who come from a distance prefer taking it in the work, and to accommodate them the company do not object.

A. 56.—None.

A. 57.—If they do not pay attention to their work they are dismissed.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 64.—Never at any period.

A. 65.—They mostly live in their employers houses. A week-day and a Sabbath school is kept. The manager occasionally inspects their houses.

A. 66.—It is natural to suppose a person employed at any trade from infancy must in general be a more perfect workman than one employed at a more advanced age. The persons employed from infancy I allude to in the list are John Robertson foreman, and William Thom and William Morrison, both tenters or overseers. No difference of moral character.

A. 67.—I do not think there is any difference in the general state of the health of the workers during the last ten years.

A. 68.—Seldom.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—Strictly to the number of hours, say sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 74.—No.

A. 77.—I have not, as any person by the Act can inform.

A. 78.—I would suggest 100*l.* penalty for working more hours than the Act allowed in place of 10*l.*, and I would stop the moving power after the hours by the Act for children are expired, as by allowing longer hours for adults gives an opportunity for evading the Act.

28th May 1833.

JAMES ORR.

Renfrewshire.

James Orr.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN ORR, for John Orr, jun. & Co., Paisley.

No. 138.

John Orr.

A. 1.—Paisley, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning only.

A. 3.—Built in the year (we believe) 1790 and 1792, and a small addition in 1830.

A. 4.—Steam only, thirty-six horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—By the windows, which have opening panes, and the windows are, besides, in two halves.

A. 7.—No ventilator.

A. 8.—The upright shafts are all fenced off above the height of a person.

A. 9.—Considerable part of our workers live in the town, but we have no arrangements of the kind described in this query.

A. 10.—Nine or ten years employed, and paid by the spinning operatives; those in the preparation and other parts of the work paid by owners twelve years and upwards; not at any other trade previously known to us; there may be a single exception or two younger.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—No difference in this work.

A. 17.—The present regulation factory hours.

A. 19.—We worked probably twelve days at the rate of twelve hours and a half per day, the workers having great objections to work any extra time beyond Act of Parliament.

A. 20.—All the year, but two sacramental fast-days, two days idle at New Year's Day, one on the race-day, and probably two others.

A. 21.—Kept no reckoning.

A. 22.—No account kept of this.

A. 23.—The regulation hours, the holidays, and others stated as above, fall to be deducted.

A. 24.—The same as the other workers.

A. 25.—To make up for holidays.

A. 26.—They may be all avoided if a general regulation provides so.

A. 27.—Before any parliamentary regulation was in force we worked average twelve hours per day.

A. 28.—Most unquestionably.

A. 29.—To benefit himself, the profit being greatly increased by extra quantity turned off.

A. 30.—At our balance, 1st October 1832, the wool and waste formed fifty-four per cent.; wages, accounts, interest of capital, discounts, &c., &c. formed forty-six per cent. of the yarns manufactured; and last half year, ending 31st March, the wool and waste was fifty-five per cent.; wages and other charges forty-five per cent. If the labour was restricted to ten hours, or sixty per week in place of sixty-nine per week, and no reduction of wages,

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B b 2

the



Renfrewshire.

John Orr.

the expence of workmanship and other charges on capital would be increased about six per cent.; which on the operatives wages, and overseers included, is about twenty per cent. This increase applies to diminished production entirely.

A. 31.—In country mills the objection would be scarcity of workers, and accommodation for them; in towns there would be less objection; but we disapprove of all night-work under any circumstances, being in the present state of trade quite uncalled for.

A. 32.—Those who have worked their mills night and day must have relays of work-people; we have never tried it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Any person working with two sets of hands must be to reduce the cost of production, and thereby increase the profit.

A. 36.—We wish all night-work prohibited.

A. 37.—The great increase of expence in the manufacture of the raw material, and the danger from foreign competition where the wages are so low, especially on the continent; the consumption of raw cotton increasing so rapidly is the best evidence of their success.

A. 38.—Sixty to seventy degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer.

A. 39.—The heat is much the same throughout all the work.

A. 41.—No part whatever.

A. 50.—Gas during the regulation hours of winter.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and the same to dinner.

A. 54.—All are ordered out, and the doors desired to be locked.

A. 57.—If contumacious, after one or two admonitions, they are dismissed.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 64.—Never at any time we can remember since the works were in our possession in the year 1810.

A. 65.—We have one large dwelling house occupied by thirty-five families; a woman is paid for keeping it clean, that is, washing lobbies, passes, and stairs, taking out dirt, &c. to dunghill, sweeping stairs and lobbies daily, and airing the houses by stair and lobby windows; the rest of the workers live in the town.

A. 66.—We do not feel ourselves sufficiently acquainted with the skill and character of our workmen to state the difference, but those trained from infancy must make the best workers.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference.

A. 68.—If any person had been long with us, and applied for a change in consequence of his health, we would generally attend to it if in our power.

A. 69.—We consider so.

A. 73.—The cotton-mills do, but not all the thread-works.

A. 74.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 78.—I believe the present law has been shamefully evaded in England in particular; but I am not prepared to suggest a remedy, neither am I prepared to suggest any improvement in the treatment of the children, as I am not aware of any improper treatment exercised in the work.

A. 79.—I have no other observation to make.

3d June 1833.

JOHN ORR.

No. 139.

Peter Pollock.

## ANSWERS of PETER POLLOCK, for N. &amp; P. Pollock, Paisley.

A. 1.—Town of Paisley.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Partly in 1789 and partly in 1825.

A. 4.—Steam; ten horse power engine.

A. 5.—All the windows open from the top, and the skutching-machine is ventilated by a funnel.

A. 7.—By one of ourselves.

A. 8.—They are fenced.

A. 9.—No such arrangements.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; some of them have been previously employed by weavers as draw-boys.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—We know of no alteration requiring younger workers.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have none under sixteen years of age, and they take care of themselves.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 18.—Same as above, except a few under twelve years called spinners scavengers, who are employed only five hours per day.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—About three hundred days.

A. 22.—We never wrought before six o'clock in the morning, nor after eight in the evening.

A. 23.—Twelve hours on five days, and nine on one day.

A. 24.—We have only one set of workers.

A. 25.



A. 25.—It seldom happens at all, but the usual cause is a break of some part of the machinery.

A. 26.—It is not avoidable unless we or the workers suffer for the lost time.

A. 27.—Before passing the late Bill we wrought seventy-two hours per week; we now work sixty-nine hours.

A. 28.—We decline giving any opinion.

A. 33.—No.

A. 38.—From fifty-six to seventy degrees Fahrenheit; sixty is as much heat as we require.

A. 41.—We never wrought during the night.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Lighted with gas from sun-set till half past seven o'clock during the winter months.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and three quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All leave the work.

A. 57.—Dread of being turned off.

A. 58 & 64.—No.

A. 65.—A few in our houses; the rest scattered over the neighbourhood; no special superintendence.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are the most expert workmen.

A. 67.—We remark no difference.

A. 69.—It is subject.

A. 70.—Never.

PETER POLLOCK.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH TWIGG, Sneddon Mill, Paisley.

A. 1.—Paisley, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, from 30 to 110 hanks per pound.

A. 3.—About two thirds of the mill in 1792, the other third in 1823; at the first number mentioned period till this time, in cotton-spinning.

A. 4.—Steam-engine only; quite regular; about twenty-five horse power.

A. 5.—None. The mill stands in a fine airy situation.

A. 6.—Opening of windows, &c.

A. 7.—No person has any particular charge; it is generally done at the discretion of the workers; the upper and lower sashes of the windows are moveable, and the ceilings being high (mostly ten feet), the rooms are quite comfortable in that respect.

A. 8.—All that are within the reach of the workers are covered.

A. 9.—The whole of them mostly change their clothes at coming in and going from work, and are watched as to keeping themselves clean and respectable.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; some of them were employed before in drawing to weavers and at silk-mills.

A. 11.—It does, because they do as well as those farther advanced in life, and are got at a lower rate of wages.

A. 12.—There is very little difference in this respect in my work.

A. 13.—Only one mechanic; his parents alive and and respectable.

A. 15.—I don't lodge or maintain any of the workers.

A. 17.—Twelve hours five days in the week, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours; one day only the engine was kept on for the purpose of turning a shaft, and some of the workers continued the whole time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six and a half days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-four hours and three quarters.

A. 22.—All at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and one quarter per day.

A. 25.—The workers wish to get away on particular occasions, and an accident may happen with the machinery; the time so lost is sometimes worked up, and sometimes not.

A. 26.—As it is an unpleasant thing making up lost time, every attention is paid to keep on the mill as regular as possible.

A. 27.—Prior to the passing of Sir John Hobhouse's Bill, the mill worked twelve hours per day, five days in the week, and ten on Saturday.

A. 28.—As the machinery for spinning cotton is very expensive, it is quite obvious that the smaller the quantity produced, the price will be enhanced accordingly.

A. 29.—It is the interest of the manufacturer to produce as much yarn as possible off his machinery, but I don't approve of working through the night, either with the same or a fresh set of hands.

A. 31.—If a manufacturer wishes to work through the night regularly, the only way he can do it, is to have two sets of hands, but I don't approve of it.

A. 32.—As the children employed by me go through their work cheerfully, I see no use in two sets of hands, yet I would not object to half an hour per day off our present time.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 35.—I have no night-work.

A. 38.—From 60° to 70° of Fahrenheit.

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A. 46.

Renfrewshire.

Peter Pollock.

No. 140.

Joseph Twigg.



Renfrewshire.

Joseph Twigg.

- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—With gas.
- A. 52.—I never had any night-work.
- A. 53.—Breakfast and dinner three quarters of an hour each.
- A. 54.—The whole of them.
- A. 57.—By advice, and instructing them what to do.
- A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.
- A. 63.—Most pointed instructions given that no person in the mill will be permitted to strike or abuse any fellow-worker.
- A. 64.—Never.
- A. 65.—Very few of them.
- A. 66.—Generally speaking, they are the best hands who begin the business early in life.
- A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference in this respect.
- A. 68.—Sometimes; if a worker wishes it, it is generally complied with.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—So far as my information goes, they all conform strictly to the present Act; probably the whitewashing clause may not in every instance be strictly conformed to.\*
- A. 74.—I believe one or two were, a few years back.
- A. 75.—I am pretty certain they were not.
- A. 76.—I have no doubt of it.
- A. 77.—As the masters in this neighbourhood comply strictly with the provisions of the present Bill, with the exception above stated, it is a matter of indifference to them who gives evidence, if they only state facts, as the mills are kept clean and comfortable.
- A. 78.—Had the present law been strictly enforced (which is quite practicable), I see no occasion for any farther legislation on the subject, yet were the time limited to sixty-six in place of sixty-nine hours per week, I see no great objection to it; but if the Ten Hour Bill should pass, I am clearly of opinion the business will be transferred to other countries where there are cheap provisions, and the trade free and unshackled; the landed interest will suffer next, as there can be little doubt but it is owing to the very great extension of the manufactures of this country that rents are so much higher now than they were forty years ago.

JOSEPH TWIGG.

No. 141.

Browns, Malloch,  
& Co.

## ANSWERS of BROWNS, MALLOCH, &amp; Co., Paisley.

- A. 1.—Edlerslie, Paisley Abbey parish, county of Renfrew.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.
- A. 3.—About one half built in 1784, and the other part in 1800.
- A. 4.—Steam-power, twenty horses.
- A. 5.—The rooms are ventilated by opening the windows.
- A. 6.—We have no other provision than that of opening the windows.
- A. 7.—Under the control of the workers.
- A. 8.—All are fenced off.
- A. 9.—There are no specific arrangements, but in each room there is a vessel with water in which the workers wash at pleasure. At entering and leaving the work they change their clothes as suits their own convenience.
- A. 10.—Nine years. We have never made a practice of inquiring whether they have been previously employed at other trades.
- A. 11.—At some of the easier parts of the work children under twelve years of age may be employed to advantage.
- A. 12.—Not in this factory.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 14.—Never had apprentices from any parish.
- A. 15.—We never lodge or maintain any of our workpeople; all are paid in money.
- A. 17.—For the first five working days of the week they are employed twelve hours, and on Saturday nine hours.
- A. 18.—There is no difference in the number of hours of labour between those under and those above twenty-one years of age.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours; this was during only a few days when making up lost time.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and two hours.
- A. 22.—All have been carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Fully eleven hours and one eighth.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 26.—When time is lost in consequence of any accident happening to the steam-engine or great gear, it must be made up, otherwise great loss will be sustained both by master and worker.
- A. 27.—We have at all times wrought our manufactory agreeably to the Acts of Parliament.

\* I wish it to be distinctly understood I allude to such mills only where cotton is carded and spun into yarn.



- A. 29.—To produce at less cost.  
 A. 30.—As the interest on sunk capital, &c., is the same whatever be the hours of labour, the cost of production must be increased in all branches by any reduction of these hours.  
 A. 31.—We have no experience in the matters to which this question refers.  
 A. 32.—We have no experience.  
 A. 36.—Beneficial.  
 A. 37.—Were any further reduction of the working hours to take place, we are of opinion that we would thereby be rendered unable to compete with the foreign manufacturer, owing to the increased cost of production, as stated in A. 29. It would also prove injurious to our workpeople from the necessary reduction of their wages which would follow.  
 A. 38.—Usual temperature, sixty-six to seventy-four degrees; lowest temperature at which the works can be conveniently carried on, from sixty-six to seventy degrees.  
 A. 39.—Highest temperature required, from sixty-six to seventy degrees.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By oil in the winter season during our usual working hours.  
 A. 52.—They must be bad.  
 A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and the same for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Dismissal.  
 A. 58.—Not allowed.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—Verbal instructions have been given against the corporal punishment of children.  
 A. 64.—No complaints have been made.  
 A. 65.—Only three families of our workpeople reside in houses belonging to us. We pay a teacher for the instruction of the destitute and deserving of our factory children in the common branches of education.  
 A. 66.—Almost all our workers have been engaged in cotton-spinning from infancy, and we prefer employing such to instructing adults.  
 A. 67.—We know no difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No.

Renfrewshire.

Browns, Malloch,  
& Co.

BROWNS, MALLOCH, &amp; CO.

## ANSWERS of JAMES COATS jun., for J. and P. Coats, Paisley.

No. 142.

James Coats jun.

- A. 1.—Ferguslie, Abbey parish of Paisley, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of cotton thread, and winding and throwing of raw silk.  
 A. 3.—One half of the building was erected in 1825, and the other in 1828, at which respective periods they were applied in part to their present purposes.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power.  
 A. 5.—No specific provision.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows alone.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the workers themselves.  
 A. 8.—Whatever is reckoned dangerous is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No specific arrangements other than the inculcating and rewarding of cleanliness, and discouraging the contrary.  
 A. 10.—Not under nine years; great part have been previously employed in weavers shops as drawers, and part in their parents houses at silk-winding and other warehouse and domestic work.  
 A. 11.—The only operation in which we employ children is the winding of silk, for which they are peculiarly adapted, the principal labour requisite consisting in attention.  
 A. 12.—Neither, that we are aware of.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We neither lodge nor maintain any of those we employ. The greater part are resident with their parents.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 18.—From about twelve years of age and under they are employed eleven working hours, and above that age they are employed twelve working hours, except on Saturday, when all are employed nine hours only.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours, including meal-times, while making up lost time. This occurred on twenty different days during last year.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days from the 1st January 1832 to the 1st January 1833.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy-three hours from the 1st January 1832 till the 1st January 1833.  
 A. 22.—During three months, since January 1833, that we wrought part of our factory (the throwing department) all night, a number of the day-workers (thread-winders), taking advantage of the opportunity, extended their hours to thirteen and a half and fourteen for about two months of that period; but this was quite optional on their part.

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B b 4

A. 23.



Renfrewshire.

James Coats jun.

A. 23.—At three hundred and five days which we wrought the average hours for each day of the week is eleven hours forty-two minutes.

A. 24.—Children under twelve years of age never more than twelve hours, and those between twelve and fifteen years, on one occasion, for about eight days fourteen hours; this was when another department was employed all night, since January 1833.

A. 25.—In the month of January 1833, and on account of the department at which these girls were employed having fallen short in producing the work necessary to keep other parts of the machinery going, owing to particular circumstances.

A. 26.—Very rarely, and under particular circumstances it may for a short period be unavoidable, without increasing the hands (which sometimes cannot be had) on the machinery; but so far as we can judge from our own experience, a sufficient supply of hands and machinery would render it at all times avoidable.

A. 27.—In one or two instances, when unusually busy, we have worked an hour or two later (never more) for about a month or six weeks running.

A. 28.—As the above arrangement was an exception to our general rules, and as we always paid the workers extra on such occasions, the difference to us would be trifling.

A. 29.—Whenever it is done, except from some such temporary necessity as we have alluded to above, we have no hesitation in characterising the inducement as originating in the most shameful and heartless avarice on the part of the employer.

A. 30.—Having always paid extra wages during the short periods at which we wrought extra hours, we consider the cost of production to be little affected by a return to our usual hours.

A. 31.—When extra hours exceeding two at the utmost are required, and that but for a short period, we can conceive of no objection except in the cupidity of the employer.

A. 32.—Having so seldom and for so short a period worked children extra hours, we never had occasion to try it, and know of no instance in which it has been tried.

A. 33.—Yes; the day-set worked from six to eight, excepting two hours for meals; the night-set from eight till six, excepting one hour for meal and rest.

A. 34.—If by this question it is meant why we consider it our interest to work all night, we reply on account of the demand at particular seasons being greater than the machinery employed the usual hours would be fit to supply.

A. 35.—As nearly as we could accomplish it, we changed the hands periodically, but could not always effect it. Owing to the shortness of the hours, and to the wages being considerably higher for night-work, it was eagerly sought after.

A. 36.—Night-work not being very common in our manufacture, the only probable effects would be a trifling increase of machinery.

A. 37.—The remuneration for manufactured produce has necessarily adapted itself to the present hours of labour. To shorten these hours would be either, in many instances at least, to destroy that remuneration, or else to cause a reduction of wages (already sufficiently low) corresponding to the reduction in the hours of labour, which after all would not be a compensation,—one of these two. But while we condemn the disgusting cant about the miseries of factory children, the evidence elicited regarding their treatment in the north of Scotland imperiously demands the interference of the legislature for the protection of this interesting class from the possibility of such inhuman treatment as they there were subjected to, which we would humbly think might be effected by means less sweeping in their nature than those contemplated in the lately proposed Bill.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is about seventy degrees; the lowest we could work it at is about sixty-six degrees.

A. 39.—One hundred and thirty degrees are required in a steam-stove for the purpose of drying thread.

A. 40.—Two, but only for about half an hour, at different times during the day. Other two workers are constantly employed at a temperature of one hundred to one hundred and ten degrees.

A. 41.—Never, but from January to March inclusive, 1833.

A. 42.—None.

A. 45.—As already stated, for about eight days, those between twelve and fifteen years of age wrought till ten o'clock.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Only the windows.

A. 52.—We could not form an opinion from the short period we wrought at night-work.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All, with the exception of three or four.

A. 55.—These three or four are not always the same persons; they are kept for the purpose of making such arrangements while the machinery is stopped as will prevent the necessity of stoppages during working.

A. 56.—We derive no inconvenience from their being taken out of the factory.

A. 57.—Slight deductions on the score of damages, and dismissal from the work.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—We have always expressly forbidden any such mode of coercion, and have never had any complaints of it.

A. 63.—We send a copy of our printed regulations, to which we by no means rigidly adhere, and beyond which in no instance have we ever gone.

A. 64.



A. 64.—No such complaints have been made, nor any such cases occurred.

A. 65.—They live, as already stated, with their parents or relations.

A. 66.—We cannot say we know any difference, so far as our experience goes.

A. 67.—Since the erection of our work, about seven years ago, the health of the mass of our workers has not in any way deteriorated, but on the contrary is excellent; yet there is one particular branch of our work, the picking and turning or drawing of silk, where the girls have little motion, and have to stand constantly during working hours, from which about eight or ten girls (from thirteen to sixteen years of age) out of fifty who have been at that employment during the last three years have been obliged to go away on account of their legs and feet swelling; in other respects their health derives no injury; and in all these cases we have either furnished them with other employment, or, if that was not convenient, caused them to drop the work. We ascribe the good health of the workers in part to the healthy situation of the works, and to the height and cleanliness of the apartments.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—We have always considered not.

A. 73.—To the best of our knowledge they do.

A. 77.—As we never viewed the Act as being applicable to us, and having had no experience of the kind, we cannot say.

A. 78.—We cannot; with respect to the regulation of the hours of children, we spontaneously reduced those of all that class denominated silk-winders or piecers from twelve to eleven working hours without any reduction of their wages; they are mostly from ten to thirteen years of age; and, judging from their spirits and general health, we would distinctly say the hours are not too long for that species of work, but would recommend that at all times a full hour should be allowed for breakfast and another full hour for dinner.

JAMES COATS jun.

Renfrewshire.

James Coats jun.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM MULLOCH, Brown, Mulloch, and Co.'s Mill, Paisley.

No. 143.

William Mulloch

A. 1.—Johnstone, Abbey parish, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Three fifths erected in 1782, and the remaining two fifths in 1787; employed for its present purpose immediately after erection.

A. 4.—Water-power, irregular to a certain extent in dry and frosty weather; from thirty-six to forty horses power.

A. 5.—The rooms are ventilated by opening of windows.

A. 6.—We have no other provision but by opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Under the control of the workers.

A. 8.—All are fenced off.

A. 9.—There are no specific arrangements, but in each room there is a vessel with water, in which the workers wash at pleasure. At entering and leaving the work they change their clothes as suits their own convenience; this has been the universal practice.

A. 10.—Nine years; we never make it a point of inquiring as to other trades.

A. 11.—At some of the easier parts of the work children from nine to twelve years of age may be employed to advantage.

A. 12.—Not in this factory.

A. 13.—None at present.

A. 15.—Never lodge or maintain any of our workpeople; all are paid in money.

A. 17.—For the first five working days in the week they are employed twelve hours, and on Saturday nine hours.

A. 18.—There is no difference; all are employed for the same length of time.

A. 19.—In making up time lost for want of water, our works were for some time kept on for twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Our works were carried on every lawful day, with the exception of the following, when they were stopped, viz. religious fasts, three days; Horn Fair, three days; and at New Year, two days; being eight days in all.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and nineteen hours, or three hundred and six days.

A. 22.—All departments were carried on at the same time, with the exception of a little variation when short of water.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 26.—When time is lost for want of a due supply or an excess of water, accidents happening to water-wheel or great gearing, time must be made up, otherwise great loss will be sustained by both master and workers.

A. 27.—We have at all times wrought our manufactory agreeable to the Acts of Parliament.

A. 29.—To produce at less cost.

A. 30.—As interest on sunk capital, &c. is the same, whatever may be the hours of work, the cost of production must be increased in all branches by the shortening of time.

A. 31 & 32.—We have no experience.

A. 36.—Beneficial.

A. 37.—Were any further reduction of the working hours to take place, we are of opinion that we would thereby be rendered unable to compete with the foreign manufacturer. It

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would



Renfrewshire.

*William Mulloch.*

would also prove injurious to our workpeople by the necessary reduction of their wages which would follow.

A. 38.—From 66° to 74° usual; 66° to 70° lowest.

A. 39.—From 66° to 74°.

A. 40.—All.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 50.—Gas during the winter season for our regular working hours.

A. 52.—They must be bad.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and the same to dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—Not allowed.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions given against the corporal punishment of children.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A few of our workpeople reside in houses belonging to us; we have a school-room, and pay a teacher for instructing our factory children in the common branches of education.

A. 66.—Almost all our workers have been engaged in cotton-spinning from infancy, and we prefer employing such to instructing adults.

A. 67.—We know no difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We know nothing to the contrary.

A. 74.—Not to our knowledge.

WILLIAM MULLOCH.

No. 144.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM HOUSTOUN, for George Houstoun and Co., Paisley.

*William Houstoun.*

A. 1.—Johnstone, Abbey parish, Paisley, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Entirely cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Laigh Mill erected in 1785, Hog Mill in 1794, and Cartside Mill in 1794. In 1825 an addition was made to Cartside so as nearly to double its size, at which mule-spinning was introduced in place of water-frames.

A. 4.—Water; so regular that the greatest loss of time in any year within the last six years has been at the Laigh Mill thirteen hours, Hog fifty hours, and Cartside Mill sixteen hours. The power of Laigh Mill and Hog Mill is about that of a seventeen horse engine, and at Cartside about a thirty horse engine.

A. 5 & 6.—The necessities are ventilated by means of air-holes, the general ventilation by opening the windows.

A. 7.—The overlookers regulate the ventilation, but are of course under the controul of the manager; but any of the workers may open a window if it is not injurious to the work.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the great gearing are fenced off; the greater part of the small gearing about the machinery it is impossible to fence off conveniently; some parts of it we are at present covering.

A. 9.—The females generally wear in bad weather cloaks or mantles, which they throw off when they come into the factory; there is no apartment for the purpose of dressing and undressing, or for washing; the workers are furnished with soap for washing when they have been employed in cleaning the machinery.

A. 10.—Children are seldom taken into the factory under ten years of age, and never under nine; they have scarcely ever been employed at any other trade; a few may have been draw-boys to weavers.

A. 11.—If a sufficient number of children could be procured at and above twelve years of age at the same rate of wages as children at ten years of age, our factories could be carried on, but not so advantageously; children coming first into a mill at twelve seldom become such expert workers as those taken in between nine and ten; this particularly applies to throstle-spinning and piecers to mule-jennies.

A. 12.—It may almost be said that no children under twelve years of age are employed in cotton factories except as piecers, that is to repair the threads as they break. In spinning from the same quality of cotton, the same fineness of yarn, and going at the same speed, the better the machinery, the fewer ends will break, and fewer children will be required.

A. 13.—Never; any person may leave the work on giving a fortnight's warning.

A. 15.—Do not lodge or maintain any workers.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, and nine on Saturday.

A. 20.—The last year (leap year) was three hundred and sixty-six days; deduct Sundays fifty-two, fairs and fast days eight, leaves three hundred and six working days.

A. 21.—Saturdays fifty-two at nine hours each is four hundred and sixty-eight hours; other days two hundred and fifty-four at twelve each is three thousand and forty-eight hours; — total, three thousand five hundred and sixteen.

A. 22.



Renfrewshire.

William Houstoun.

A. 22.—Every department of the work is carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—Lost time from floods and want of water, also for holidays given at the request of the workers.

A. 26.—The working up of lost time is required merely because it is the interest of the proprietors and workers.

A. 27.—Twelve hours every day, Saturday also included.

A. 28.—The quantity produced by the workers on days wages is exactly in proportion to the time the machinery is kept going, and if the time is reduced the cost of course will be increased.

A. 29.—In working one or more hours extra it is the interest of the master to employ the same hands, because he could not get a change of hands to work only for a few hours at the same proportional rate of wages. Where a work is regularly carried on during the night we do not believe that it was ever attempted to work the same hands twenty-four hours, and cannot conceive an object for doing so.

A. 30.—The quantity of cotton prepared for the piece-workers by the hands on days wages is exactly in proportion to the time the work is kept going; and if the wages paid be the same, the increased cost will be in proportion to the diminution of the time of working.

A. 32.—We have never heard of its being tried.

A. 33.—In altering Cartside Mill from water-twist to mule-spinning we worked part of the mill for about six months both night and day, on purpose to keep the hands together till the alteration was completed; the first set worked from six A.M. till eight P.M., and the night-set worked from eight P.M. till six A.M.; the day workers one week worked at night, the next by day.

A. 34.—We work only one set of hands.

A. 36.—We do not work during the night.

A. 37.—The effect would be an increase in the cost of the article manufactured in proportion to the diminution of the quantity produced, which would be in proportion to the time the work was kept going.

A. 38.—The temperature we require is from sixty to seventy degrees, above which it seldom rises; the preparation and throstle spinning do not require to be above sixty degrees.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and the same time for dinner, for all the workers.

A. 54.—All except four hands at Laigh Mill, four at the Hog, and ten at Cartside, who remain to clean the machinery, and who leave the works for three quarters of an hour for each meal when the works are set on.

A. 55.—The cleaners remain in, for the convenience of the manufactory, to clean and oil such parts of the machinery as cannot be done when in motion.

A. 56.—The workers almost all leave the work to take their meals, and only such as live at an inconvenient distance take their meals in the work; we would much rather that none did so.

A. 57.—The threat of being turned off.

A. 58.—Not unless the parents wish them chastised in place of being turned off.

A. 59.—By overlookers as applies to workers on day wages, and by spinners as applies to their piecers.

A. 62.—We do not recollect of a complaint being made for many years of any punishment being inflicted on the children, and it is understood by all the overlookers and spinners that we disapprove of it.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—A small proportion of the workers live in houses belonging to us. No control or superintendence is exercised in regard to their morals or cleanliness; they are exemplary in both.

A. 66.—In engaging workers it is always a strong recommendation that they have been employed in a factory from infancy, they are always the most expert and best workers; this particularly applies to throstle spinning and piecers to mule-jennies.

A. 67.—The people employed in our factories have been always healthy, and we are not sensible of any change, except that in general they are now better clothed.

A. 68.—Such changes are occasionally made, but they are very seldom applied for.

A. 69.—The present Act is strictly attended to, except in whitewashing the rooms, in employing children under ten years of age, and in working up time which has been lost from the workers asking to have holidays.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—We do not consider that the deviations we make from the strict observance of the Act is considered by the workers as a grievance; the fear of displeasing their masters cannot operate in preventing them from getting informations laid, as it can be done by persons not employed in the work.

A. 78.—The present mode we have found the best for our purpose, and we think it a matter of difficulty to make general rules to suit different works.

27th May 1833.

WILLIAM HOUSTOUN.



Renfrewshire.

No. 145.

H. Macdowall.

## ANSWERS of H. MACDOWALL, Floors Throstle Mill, Paisley.

- A. 1.—Johnstone, Abbey parish, Renfrewshire.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.
- A. 3.—Commenced building in June 1825, work completed in 1827; commenced spinning in April 1827.
- A. 4.—Steam-power, twenty-six horse engine; works correctly.
- A. 5.—In each flat a number of panes in the windows are made to open and shut according as the rooms are hot or cold; when these panes are open a considerable draught is produced, and they are generally so in warm weather; in hot weather the front door and the doors of the different flats are thrown open also.
- A. 7.—The ventilation above described is under the control of each superintendent of a flat or room.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.
- A. 9.—Almost all the children in my work change their clothes on entering and prior to leaving the work; in cold or bad weather they generally make use of woollen cloaks.
- A. 10.—Nine is the lowest age at which children are ever admitted, but there are very few so young; never before employed in any trade.
- A. 11.—My work being a throstle-mill, children from ten years and upwards are absolutely necessary; I conceive it to be no advantage to employ them younger than ten.
- A. 12.—Not long enough in the trade to answer this satisfactorily.
- A. 13.—No apprentices employed.
- A. 15.—Children all live with their parents or guardians.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday, except when holidays occur.
- A. 18.—Twelve hours for five days in the week, nine on Saturday, except when holidays occur.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and four days and a half.
- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-eight hours.
- A. 22.—All going at same time.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours twenty-nine minutes for three hundred and four and a half working days, eleven hours ten minutes for three hundred and thirteen week days.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 25.—In August, four hours and a quarter were made up, the engine having gone wrong; in November, the spinning machine broke, and thirteen hours work was done for five days.
- A. 26.—As the law at present in force permitted the time lost as above to be made up by working extra hours, it was preferred to adopting the only other alternative, of deducting the value of the time lost from the workers wages; this arrangement is also preferred by the workers themselves.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—It follows as a matter of course that the cost of production is increased when the quantity of yarn produced is diminished.
- A. 29.—The only inducement can be the wish to increase the quantity produced, and consequently increase the return from the capital invested.
- A. 30.—If a cotton mill working twelve hours produces 600lbs. of yarn, and you reduce the hours of work to ten, the production will then become 500lbs.; to make up for this diminished quantity a great advance in the price would be necessary, and which the weaver could not afford to pay at present on account of foreign competition.
- A. 31.—I conceive that a child can work twelve hours without injury at the light work in my factory; I would therefore prefer not making changes of sets even if it were possible, which I doubt, to procure the additional number of young people necessary.
- A. 32.—Cannot speak as to this query, never having made the experiment.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 36.—I am most anxious that no night-work should be allowed in cotton factories.
- A. 37.—Should a reduction be made in the hours of working throstle-spinning mills, the consequences would be ruinous; all the people, except a few young women in the reeling-room, are paid by the day, and not by the quantity produced; if the hours of labour are reduced from twelve to ten hours, as proposed, a reduction of twenty-five per cent. from the wages will not be sufficient to remunerate the mill-owner for the diminished production; and if a reduction in wages to the above extent takes place, the young people, instead of being able to support themselves and occasionally assist their parents, will be reduced from a state of comfort and happiness to wretchedness, starvation, and misery; and on the other hand, if wages continue as at present, the production being diminished one sixth, ruin must follow to the master.
- A. 38.—Sixty-five degrees is the average temperature of the different rooms of my mill; in summer the work is kept as cool as possible, and in winter the heat does not exceed what is agreeable to the people.
- A. 39.—The heat is the same through the whole work.
- A. 50.—By gas, morning and evening, when necessary.
- A. 51.—The same as during the day.



A. 53.—Forty-five minutes for breakfast, and same for dinner.

A. 54.—I believe all, but it is according to their own pleasure; but the meal-hours of all are not the same; four cleaner boys for card rooms and two for spinning rooms remain at the work while the rest are out to clean various parts of the machinery when standing; these boys go to their meals, when the engine is set on, to their respective homes.

A. 56.—All meals taken out of the work does not apply.

A. 57.—If a child is careless or inattentive, the parent is required to warn the child to behave better, or authorize its punishment; and sometimes send them away.

A. 58.—A slap with the open hand, or a light pair of taws, such as a schoolmaster uses, but never any severe punishment; punishment is very seldom necessary.

A. 59.—By the superintendent of the room the children are punished.

A. 60.—My orders are, when a child does wrong, or is careless, to send it home to its parents.

A. 61.—I never was privy to or in any way sanctioned corporal punishment, and I never heard of an instance occurring at my work.

A. 64.—I never heard a complaint on the subject of punishment since I became a spinner in 1827.

A. 65.—The engine-man and his family are the only people living in any house of mine. If any child in my work is observed to be dirty, a message is sent to the parent recommending greater attention.

A. 66.—All the workers employed by me are young people except the tenters.

A. 67.—My work has only been erected six years.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe the mills hereabouts all conform to the Act, except that the workers do not go home to dinner on Saturday till all the work is over, by their own choice.

A. 74.—Cannot say, but never heard it.

A. 78.—Alter or do away with the objectionable clause in the present Act requiring that the workers should be sent home to their dinners on Saturdays before the labour of the day is over.

H. MACDOWALL, Proprietor.

Renfrewshire.

H. Macdowall.

#### ANSWERS of R. WATT, for Matthew Brown & Co., Paisley.

No. 146.

R. Watt.

A. 1.—Johnstone, Abbey parish, Paisley, Renfrewshire.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—This work was erected in 1803, and has always continued in the same line of business.

A. 4.—Steam, two engines, one of twenty horse power and one of twelve.

A. 5.—There are ventilating pens in almost every window on both sides of the house.

A. 6.—On the opening of the ventilating pens.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the workers.

A. 8.—Yes, all fenced off.

A. 9.—They change their clothes in the apartments where they work, and in the court there is a filter-well with a sufficient supply of good water for washing and drinking.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age, and none that we know of that have been previously employed at any other trades.

A. 11.—Yes, it does require them, and the reason why, that they need work and wages.

A. 12.—No particular alteration in the machinery of this work has taken place since its commencement.

A. 13.—We have no apprentices whatever.

A. 15.—We employ, but lodge and maintain none.

A. 16.—Our workers all lodge and are maintained by their parents or their natural or legal guardians.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixteen hours.

A. 22.—Our work always goes regularly the same hours.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half nearly.

A. 24.—Twelve hours; we have only one set.

A. 25.—Under no circumstances.

A. 26.—We have no excess beyond the regular hours, and consider every excess avoidable.

A. 27.—Previous to the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Bill we wrought twelve hours and a half, Saturdays included.

A. 28.—We certainly do.

(APP.—A. 1.)

C c 3

A. 29.



Renfrewshire.

R. Watt.

A. 29.—Because it is a gain to have a greater quantity turned off in the same number of days or weeks; as to night-work, there is no such thing practised in this part of the country.

A. 30.—We do find an increase in the cost of production from the limitation of hours, and the increased cost is in proportion to the hours diminished.

A. 31.—We do not require any extra hours, therefore a change of hands is unnecessary.

A. 32.—As we never work extra hours, we never had occasion to try a system of relays, or change of hands.

A. 33.—We never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 34.—The nature of our work does not require any more than one set of hands.

A. 36.—We have no knowledge of the effects of a species of work which we never tried.

A. 37.—Our opinion is, that a further reduction of the working hours would increase the cost of production, and prevent the possibility of competing with spinners in every foreign country.

A. 38.—From seventy-four to seventy-six degrees.

A. 39.—None higher than seventy-six degrees.

A. 40.—All our hands usually experience the degree of temperature.

A. 47.—We have no night-work here at all.

A. 48.—Neither age nor description are so employed.

A. 49.—We consider working by night unnecessary.

A. 50.—Our work is lighted by gas, so far as the twelve hours requires.

A. 51.—No night-work here.

A. 52.—Having no night-work, we can say nothing about the habits.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and the same for dinner, for all classes.

A. 54.—Every one goes home at meal-times.

A. 55.—Our answer to the last question is our answer to this.

A. 56.—Our workers have always gone home as they do now.

A. 57.—When they refuse obedience they are discharged from the work.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—We never have been informed of their infliction.

A. 63.—No such instructions were ever given; it is not the custom in this part of the country.

A. 64.—None whatever.

A. 65.—All our workers live in houses rented by themselves, but not belonging to us.

A. 66.—The persons employed from infancy are much more expert at every kind of work, and particularly in spinning, than those taken into the employment at a later period.

A. 67.—We know no difference within these last ten years, but we do consider that the workers enjoy better health now than they did about twenty or thirty years ago, owing to the mills being kept more cleanly and better ventilated.

A. 68.—We make no change or selection whatever, as we deem no part of our work injurious to health.

A. 69.—Entirely subject to the present Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—So far as is known to us, they strictly conform.

A. 76.—We have no knowledge of any case that occurred in our neighbourhood.

A. 77.—Some may be afraid, but there are plenty who would without fear inform if any thing of the kind did occur.

A. 78.—We cannot conceive why there should be any difficulty in securing obedience to the present law, and if strictly enforced we are decidedly of opinion that no other enactment would be necessary.

R. WATT.

No. 147.

Robert Montgomery.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Paisley.

A. 1.—Johnstone, Abbey parish, Paisley, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Cotton-yarn and cotton-wick spinning.

A. 3.—Our old mill was erected in 1805; in 1818 there was an addition of one story put to it, and in 1823 there was sixty feet built to it of the same height and breadth; our new mill was built in 1821.

A. 4.—One steam-engine of sixteen and another of eight horse power.

A. 5.—Ventilated by air-holes.

A. 6.—Opening windows.

A. 7.—The overlooker or spinners can open the windows at pleasure.

A. 8.—All the great gearing well inclosed, and the greater part of the small gearing about the machinery.

A. 9.—The workpeople are allowed to change their clothes, and when any part of the machinery is cleaned the overlooker gives the persons who do so time to wash themselves; plenty of both warm and cold water at command.

A. 10.—When the children are healthy-looking we take them between nine and ten years of age.

A. 11.—Yes; we require children for piecers to the mule-jennies and common billy.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.



A. 15.—We employ a few orphans; their legal guardians may visit them when they choose.

A. 16.—None else while at work.

A. 17.—The work begins at half past five morning, and shuts at seven at night, except on Saturdays, shut at three.

A. 18.—All attend alike.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days work.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixteen hours, and about twelve hours for loss of time.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—Working lost time for stoppages of the engines, and occasionally repairing the gearing.

A. 26.—It can be avoided by keeping the loss of time off the workers wages.

A. 27.—Formerly we wrought twelve hours on the Saturdays, now we only work nine.

A. 28.—The quantity produced by the workers on day-wages is exactly in proportion as the machinery is kept going.

A. 29.—Cannot say; never tried the experiment.

A. 31.—Relays or fresh sets of children cannot be had.

A. 32.—It has not been tried for the reason above stated.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—We cannot get two or more sets.

A. 37.—It would cause an increase in the cost of the article manufactured in proportion as the quantity produced is diminished by the reduction of working hours.

A. 38.—The average temperature is between sixty-six and seventy-five; we have no occasion to keep the rooms warmer than the workers may find themselves comfortable.

A. 39.—Seventy-five degrees.

A. 40.—One hundred and twenty-seven.

A. 50.—In winter by gas.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and three quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All, except a few who remain to clean.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the works; but all who remain to clean get the full time to their meals, three quarters of an hour, after the others.

A. 56.—Every person is allowed to go out of the manufactory for their meals.

A. 57.—The threat of being paid off.

A. 58.—Not unless their parents wish them chastised in place of being dismissed.

A. 59.—By overlookers as applies to workers on day-wages, and by spinners as applies to piecers.

A. 60.—Never.

A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishment, and prefer, as above, the dismissal of the offender.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—We have no control over any when out of the work; they go to their own homes.

A. 66.—It is always a strong recommendation to a worker that they have been employed in a factory from their infancy; they are always the steadiest and best workers.

A. 67.—No difference in this respect; the people may generally be considered as healthy.

A. 68.—Changes are occasionally made, but they are very seldom applied for.

A. 69.—The present Act is strictly attended to, except in whitewashing the room.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—No, they are not; we do not consider that the deviation we make from the strict observance of the Act is considered by the workers as a grievance.

A. 78.—Our present mode we have found to be the best for our purpose, and we think it impossible to make general rules to suit different works.

ROBERT MONTGOMERY

#### ANSWERS of ALEXANDER ROSS, Paisley.

No. 148.

Alexander Ross.

A. 1.—Abbey parish, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Twining thread.

A. 3.—Erected in 1825; since then no addition, and employed as a thread-mill since erection.

A. 4.—All steam-power.

A. 5.—Ventilation of the work left to the discretion of the foreman.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—None as to clothing, but personal cleanliness is indispensable.

(APP.—A. 1.)

C c 4

A. 10.



Renfrewshire.

Alexander Ross.

- A. 10.—Do not employ children.  
 A. 11.—Children not required in the work.  
 A. 12.—As children are not employed we cannot answer this query.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours each day of the week, but Saturday nine hours.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours each day, but Saturday nine hours.  
 A. 19.—To make up lost time arising from contingencies; never more than twelve hours and a quarter are exacted.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and twenty-eight hours.  
 A. 22.—All the departments of the work go alike.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 26.—If the regular hours of the work are not made up the lost time is deducted from the workers.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Cannot answer this, as our works have never been carried on during the night; no children employed.  
 A. 30.—The cost of the article manufactured by us will be increased by any diminution of the hours of labour.  
 A. 33.—We employ no night-workers.  
 A. 37.—Refer to A. 30. The workers wages would require to be increased, and the expences upon the production would increase the cost.  
 A. 38.—Heat is only required in our works for the comfort of the workers.  
 A. 40.—About fifty.  
 A. 50.—By gas to half past seven o'clock P. M., when the works stop.  
 A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and one for dinner during summer, when the works continue to eight o'clock P. M.; but during winter, when they stop at half past seven o'clock, only three quarters of an hour to each meal.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 56.—Our workers all leave the manufactory during meal-hours.  
 A. 57.—No children.  
 A. 62.—We never knew an instance of corporal punishment in our works.  
 A. 63.—Corporal punishment being never resorted to, it being illegal, instructions to prevent it are unnecessary.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No; all the workers live in houses of their own.  
 A. 66.—Cannot say, as we have never employed children.  
 A. 68.—None of our processes are injurious to health.  
 A. 69.—Subject to its provisions.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 74.—We know of no instance where any of our neighbours have gone contrary to the Act.  
 A. 78.—We believe the present Act quite sufficient if enforced when the law is evaded.

ALEXANDER ROSS, Manager.

No. 149.

William Shanks.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM SHANKS, Johnstone, Paisley.

- A. 1.—County of Renfrew, town of Johnstone, and Abbey parish of Paisley.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, and machinery connected therewith.  
 A. 3.—The first part of the work erected about 1791; some small additions were added after, and a large addition, but not fully occupied, was erected in 1823; was employed for cotton-spinning soon after its erection.  
 A. 4.—Steam, thirty-two to thirty-six horse power; the engine pretty steady.  
 A. 5.—Sash-windows, which may be opened, and air-panes hung in part of them and in all the windows that are dead lights.  
 A. 6.—It depends on opening these as above.  
 A. 7.—Generally at the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—What is considered materially dangerous is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The greater part of the workers throw off a part of their clothing after they come to their work, and the female part generally put on better and cleaner clothes to go home; but they are allowed to act in these matters as they think best themselves.  
 A. 10.—We study to conform to the Act, which prevents us from having any below nine years; they have rarely been at any other employment.  
 A. 11.—The parents or guardians are the persons who wish them put to work as early as possible, or as the law allows, to benefit by their wages; the nature of our work does not require them less than twelve, except for wages, as the younger the cheaper.  
 A. 12.—I suppose much the same.

A. 13



Renfrewshire.

William Shanks.

- A. 13.—None.
- A. 15.—We do not lodge nor maintain any.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours in five days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday.
- A. 18.—There is no difference of time with any.
- A. 19.—Never above one hour extra, and that very rare, to make up lost time.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and six days for 1832.
- A. 21.—About three thousand and thirty-one hours.
- A. 23.—About eleven hours and a half.
- A. 25.—Something going wrong with the engine, boiler, or some public occasion.
- A. 26.—The masters would lose their work and the operatives their wages, which neither are generally disposed to lose.
- A. 27.—Previous to August 1825 we wrought eleven hours and a half every day, including Saturday; the average for at least twenty-five years has been nearly the same.
- A. 28.—We have had no experience to go by, but it is likely in certain circumstances.
- A. 29.—It is the interest of the master to produce as much work as possible from the capital sunk in his business; it is the same as getting more interest for his money, as the returns are (or should be) according to the amount done from the fixed capital; but if the trade is overdone and the market glutted the matter is reversed, and the more that is done the more ruinous the trade becomes by a fall of prices and an increasing reduction of profits or losses.
- A. 30.—No experience in such matter, our time never having been much altered.
- A. 31.—If such could be got it would be attended with much additional trouble, but with us there is no need for it.
- A. 33.—We have not.
- A. 34.—The fewer workers the less trouble with them.
- A. 37.—It would operate in the same way as in A. 29; it would operate in the same way as reducing the interest on fixed capital sunk in trade, less would be done and the profits would be less accordingly; but if the reduction of quantity increased the demand, then the price might rise to balance or to exceed the loss on the reduction of quantity; were less done, cotton would likely fall in price and yarns would rise; the advantage to the spinner would thus be doubled, if it did not hurt the foreign demand to counteract it by the increased price throwing the trade into their hands.
- A. 38.—The usual temperature is about seventy to eighty degrees; in a hot summer day it is difficult to keep it below eighty degrees, but in a cold winter day it is difficult to get it as warm as we wish.
- A. 39.—Cotton will not spin well below seventy degrees. We require no other temperature in any part of our manufacture.
- A. 49.—None indispensable.
- A. 50.—We are lighted by gas, but do not work in the night.
- A. 53.—There are three quarters of an hour to each meal; breakfast at nine, and dinner at two o'clock; the mechanics get an hour.
- A. 54.—They all generally leave the work at meal-times if they choose.
- A. 57.—Dismissal.
- A. 58.—Not in general.
- A. 59.—There is no allowance for it, but it may have been inflicted in a rare case, by their parents or others under whom or for whom they work, under provocation.
- A. 62.—They have been forbidden, and persons threatened to be dismissed if they did not desist, and directed to dismiss the refractory rather than to punish them. Parents were considered to have more in their power over their own children than others.
- A. 63.—None but as above stated.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—They generally live in their own rented houses, or that of their parents or others; they generally are quite independent in all respects except to do their work properly by the piece or by the day, and can leave us when they choose by giving regular notice.
- A. 66.—Generally we find those who have learned young are more expert at their work than those who have come at a more advanced period; but much depends on natural cleverness. I cannot specify instances. I am not aware of any difference of character provided they live in the same kind of society; we expect good conduct from those who have lived under good parents and proper control.
- A. 67.—I am not aware of any change one way or other.
- A. 68.—Not generally.
- A. 69.—It is.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—Our neighbours will answer for themselves; but, if an opinion is hazarded, I suppose they do conform pretty nearly.
- A. 78.—The law should certainly be enforced alike upon all, to prevent one having the advantage over another; but the subject is difficult.
- A. 79.—None; but, in the present depressed state of trade, I think it is likely that a shortening of time might be advantageous to master and operative, and that the time should not exceed eleven hours per day; this might, all things considered, be at present the wisest measure.

WILLIAM SHANKS, Managing Partner:

(APP.—A. 1.)

D d



## ANSWERS of ALEXANDER STEWART, Paisley.

Renfrewshire.

No. 150.

Alexander Stewart.

- A. 1.—Johnstone, Abbey parish of Paisley, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—The mill and engine-house was built five years ago, and occupied in a going state for four years.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine of thirty horse power.  
 A. 5.—A pane of glass opens in each window.  
 A. 6.—The opening for ventilation is done by the workers or foreman.  
 A. 7.—By the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—Upright shafts or any dangerous part is fenced.  
 A. 9.—The workers change their clothes in the room they work in, and wash in the court before leaving the work.  
 A. 10.—Nine years and upwards. I am not aware of any being at any trade previously.  
 A. 11.—It does not; but are more expert if begun at ten years.  
 A. 13.—I have no apprentices.  
 A. 15.—None of this description in my employ; all go to their parents houses at meal-times.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours five days, and nine hours Saturday, each week.  
 A. 18.—All are employed as above.  
 A. 19.—Twelve.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and nineteen hours.  
 A. 22.—All departments are carried on at the same time, unless some shaft or machine is repairing in any of the flats.  
 A. 24.—Regularly twelve, and nine Saturday.  
 A. 25.—They are not exceeded.  
 A. 28.—The cost will be enhanced by shortening the hours.  
 A. 29.—As I have never practised this I am not able to state the inducement.  
 A. 30.—I am aware that a limitation of hours of working will enhance the cost of all branches in the manufacture of cotton.  
 A. 31.—No objection where plenty of hands are to be had.  
 A. 33.—Never; my work was not kept on at night.  
 A. 36.—Never wrought night-work.  
 A. 37.—If a reduction of working hours take place without a proportionable reduction of wages to cover the want of quantity, interest, and other charges, the loss to the masters will be considerable, and few would continue if they could get quit of their works at any reasonable price.  
 A. 38 & 39.—My work runs from fifty to sixty degrees.  
 A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour to breakfast, and same to dinner.  
 A. 54.—All go home to meals.  
 A. 57.—They are dismissed if not obedient.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—Overseers are told to dismiss, but no punishment.  
 A. 65.—They live in houses rented by themselves.  
 A. 67.—I do not think that there is any difference of the general health of the workers.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—Never was informed against.  
 A. 77.—I do not believe that they would be afraid to give evidence if they had cause to do it.  
 A. 78.—All in this neighbourhood attend to the present law regarding factories.

27th May 1833.

ALEXANDER STEWART.

No. 151.

James Balderston.

## ANSWERS of JAMES BALDERSTON, for James Clark, Paisley.

- A. 1.—Low Church parish of Paisley, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-sewing threads.  
 A. 3.—Built in the year 1817, an addition made in 1819.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 6.—Ventilation carried on by lowering the upper sashes of windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the foreman and overlooker.  
 A. 8.—No part of our machinery is fenced or can be fenced; the large gearing is outside of the wall, and the drum-shafts inside run near the ceiling.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Lowest age generally is twelve years; in a very few instances perhaps a few months under.  
 A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any; they lodge with their parents or guardians.  
 A. 17.—The whole of our workers work the same time, that is from six o'clock in the morning till eight o'clock in the evening, with the exception of meal-hours.

A. 19.



- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and sixty-one hours.  
 A. 22.—No different parts have been carried on at different times.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and ten minutes.  
 A. 25.—When any thing goes wrong with the machinery we sometimes exceed our usual time by adding half an hour to each day.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable, if the workers allow a deduction from their wages.  
 A. 27.—Formerly we worked seventy hours per week, but for four months past we have worked sixty-nine.  
 A. 28.—Enhanced in so far that the workers have still the same wages.  
 A. 29.—Pure greed.  
 A. 31.—As we never required more than a half hour of extra time per day, we consequently did not require a fresh set.  
 A. 32 & 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—We consider it to be the interest of both manufacturer and workers to have one set only.  
 A. 35.—Never had night-workers.  
 A. 36.—It would be more profitable both to worker and manufacturer.  
 A. 37.—It would lower the wages of the workers; could not say what might be the result to the manufacturer.  
 A. 38.—From sixty to sixty-five degrees.  
 A. 39.—No part of our manufactures requires more heat than another.  
 A. 50. Gas-light from sun-set to eight o'clock.  
 A. 52.—We observe no bad effects to arise from working a short time in the evening by gas-light.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast three quarters of an hour, and dinner one hour.  
 A. 54.—All leave the works.  
 A. 56.—None take meals in the works.  
 A. 57.—When they do not attend to their work we reprimand them, and if they persist, we turn them off.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Corporal punishments are forbidden; never were informed of a single instance of such having been inflicted.  
 A. 66.—We consider any individual coming to our works of ordinary capacity may learn to be as expert in the course of six months as ever they can be.  
 A. 67.—Our works have always been healthy, and continue so.  
 A. 68.—Have no injurious processes.  
 A. 69.—So soon as we knew the alteration of law we adopted it, considering we were bound by that Act.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—A number in the neighbourhood did not conform to the Act, at least we thought so.  
 A. 78. By fining the magistrates for not enforcing the laws.

JAMES BALDERSTON.

Renfrewshire.  
 James Balderston.

## ANSWERS of GAVIN KERR, for John Kerr &amp; Sons, Paisley.

- A. 1.—Town of Paisley, Low Church parish, and county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Silk and cotton.  
 A. 3.—A two story house, stone and slated, built in 1821 and occupied in 1822 for the above; a three story house, stone and slated, attached to the above, built in 1829, and used for the same purpose.  
 A. 4.—By a steam-engine of six horse power.  
 A. 5.—There is a pin in each window which is left open except in stormy weather.  
 A. 6.—The windows in garret are left open each meal.  
 A. 7.—It is principally by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—If any sickness occurs, we advise always to go and take a walk, or go home.  
 A. 10.—The lowest age that we have taken in any child has been between nine and ten years of age; in some cases they have been employed by weavers at drawing the web in order to make the flowers on the shawls, &c.  
 A. 11.—We find children about eleven or twelve years of age as good as any we can get for a certain kind of work.  
 A. 12.—It has rendered a greater number of children needful.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—All the children we employ stop with their parents or legal guardians, and can leave us at any time by giving two weeks notice.  
 A. 16.—We do not think they have.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—We make no difference.

(APP.—A. 1.)

D d 2

A. 19.

No. 152.  
 Gavin Kerr.



Renfrewshire.

Gavin Kerr.

- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred and six days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and nineteen hours.  
 A. 22.—No difference.  
 A. 23.—Sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When the engine or any of the shafts went wrong we wrought one hour each day for a week to make it up, if our stoppage was six hours.  
 A. 26.—We are well enough pleased with the hours.  
 A. 27.—Before the Act came out our hours were twelve hours for five days, and ten hours on Saturday.  
 A. 28.—The difference being so small, we could not say.  
 A. 29.—We think it would be no advantage to any employer if all did the same.  
 A. 31.—We would not like to have two sets of workers, for if any thing was wrong with the work we could not find out who did it.  
 A. 32.—We never tried it.  
 A. 34.—We wish one set of hands, as we are sure of the best work.  
 A. 35.—We never had them.  
 A. 36.—We think it would be much better.  
 A. 37.—A further reduction in the hours we think would be hurtful on certain parts of our work that is light; and as it is done by manual labour in this place, and there is no prohibition on that kind, in the meantime it operates against us, and if our hours were made shorter we would do it by the hand.  
 A. 38.—We only raise the heat to make the house comfortable.  
 A. 39.—Our work needs no heat.  
 A. 50.—Gas in winter.  
 A. 51.—An open pin in each window, and garret-window lifted.  
 A. 53.—Fifty minutes each meal.  
 A. 54.—All leave the work.  
 A. 56.—Thinks it best.  
 A. 57.—We put them away; we never found children kept against their wills do any good with us.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes, we don't allow it.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66 & 67.—We know of no difference.  
 A. 68.—We have no injurious processes.  
 A. 69.—We think it is.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—We do not think they do, but we have no personal knowledge, never having been in their mills.  
 A. 79.—We would wish we had it in our power to make up time for a few holidays, which our workers have been very urgent on us to do, as their wages are low enough already; there are two town fasts in the year which we cannot work, and there is three or four other days at which is not wrought by almost any person.

GAVIN KERR.

No. 153.

Peter Kerr & Son.

## ANSWERS of PETER KERR &amp; SON, Paisley.

- A. 1.—Paisley, Low Church parish, 31 New-street, county of Renfrew.  
 A. 2.—Thread manufactory.  
 A. 3.—Present mill erected 1825.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, eight horse power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Thermometer always between temperate and summer heat; heated by steam and ventilated by the windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—Heavy gear well inclosed.  
 A. 9.—Plenty of both warm and cold water at command, with every convenience for cleanliness and comfort.  
 A. 11.—None under twelve years.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We require no visitors.  
 A. 16.—None else while at work.  
 A. 17.—The work begins at six in the morning and shuts at eight at night, except on Saturdays, shut at six.  
 A. 18.—All attend alike.  
 A. 20.—Every day, Sunday and holidays excepted.  
 A. 22.—Always the same, unless when under repair, &c.  
 A. 25.—At no time.  
 A. 27.—Never more, sometimes less.

A. 28.



A. 28.—That is a natural consequence; less profit when any thing obstructs our working hours.

A. 29.—Never had any experience in working over-hours; always considered it no profit.

A. 30.—Our time and the cleanliness of our work we find agreeable to our workers and profitable to ourselves.

A. 47.—Need no maximum.

A. 48.—Never any.

A. 50.—In winter mornings and evenings by gas.

A. 52.—No work through the night.

A. 53.—An hour each meal.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—If they do well they are kept; if not, paid off.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments.

A. 59.—By none.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—We have no control over any when out of the work; they go to their own homes.

A. 66.—Those we learn young are our best workers; those who come from other works have generally to unlearn before they are of any use to us.

A. 67.—Our workers generally improve in look when steady with us.

A. 68.—We don't need, the whole is so simple and easy.

A. 69.—Cannot say.

A. 78.—Our present mode we have found to be the best for our purpose, and we think it impossible to make general rules where the works differ.

PETER KERR & SON.

Renfrewshire.

Peter Kerr & Son.

#### ANSWERS of MATTHEW and GEORGE CARSWELL, Paisley.

No. 154.

M. & G. Carswell.

A. 1.—Middle Church parish, Paisley, county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Winding yarn from the cape, and twining for sewing threads, winding the threads on bobbins which are in part made in the mill, also silk machinery for winding and twining.

A. 3.—It was a mill for similar purposes when we entered into it; some additions have since been made about 1823, and additions now in progress.

A. 4.—All steam, about sixteen horse power.

A. 5.—None but by windows and doors.

A. 6.—It does.

A. 7.—It is controlled at the discretion of all.

A. 8.—All parts of the machinery are fenced off which are at all thought dangerous.

A. 9.—They may wash their face, hands, and feet if they choose; a place is appropriated for their cloaks.

A. 10.—We never respect their age; we find some children much more able at the same age than others, and we judge from general appearance; sometimes they have been at previous work, clipping, &c. &c.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—We maintain or lodge no person whatever in our employ; we pay all their wages in cash.

A. 16.—Sometimes a mistress is appointed whilst at work.

A. 17.—From six in the morning till nine in the morning; from ten in the morning till two in the afternoon; from three in the afternoon till eight in the evening.

A. 18.—No difference is made; all ages work the same extent of hours.

A. 19.—When we were very much hurried with orders we have wrought fourteen hours.

A. 20.—We were going on regularly on all lawful days, except when any thing went wrong with the engine or machinery, when it was made up afterwards.

A. 21.—Answered in former question, being about three thousand five hundred and ninety-nine hours and a half.

A. 22.—We begin and close all our manufactory at the same time.

A. 23.—About eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours.

A. 25.—Only when our orders were very urgent.

A. 26.—We could not carry on our manufactory beneficially to ourselves or our workers were we not occasionally to have extra hours when a demand was brisk for our goods; and as our machinery cannot quickly be increased, the only plan we can adopt in particularly pressing circumstances is to increase the hours until the demand is supplied, allowing extra wages.

A. 27.—Yes. See A. 25 & 26.

A. 28.—Most certainly.

A. 29.—To make the most of his machinery, the demand being very irregular, so that it would not answer to have as much machinery as would meet it when greatest; for an answer to the second part of this question, see A. 31.

A. 30.—If the working hours were to be reduced under twelve hours daily, we are decidedly

(APP.—A. 1.)

D d 3



Renfrewshire.

*M. & G. Carswell.*

dedly of opinion it would increase the cost, although we are not quite prepared to state in what proportion or to what extent.

A. 31.—When fresh sets of hands are employed we cannot discover to whom to attach blame when any fault is in the goods; we therefore most decidedly prefer the same workers, if at fourteen hours a day, rather than a change of hands.

A. 32.—We have tried it, and our answer to the previous question applies to this.

A. 33.—From six in the morning till eight in the evening, allowing two hours for meals; new set from half past eight at night till half past five o'clock in the morning, allowing one hour in the night for refreshments.

A. 34.—To meet an extra demand, as formerly stated.

A. 35.—When we employed them, those that were at night-work during one week were during the following at day-work, and thus changed each week.

A. 36.—We consider any restrictions on our manufactory might be occasionally accompanied with disadvantages. See A. 26.

A. 37.—It would, we think, increase the cost of production, and at the same time diminish the wages of the workers.

A. 38.—Seventy-two to eighty.

A. 39.—All the processes in our mill require the same temperature.

A. 40.—One hundred.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Windows and doors.

A. 52.—When we had night-work we did not observe any difference.

A. 53.—In general one hour to breakfast and one hour to dinner.

A. 54.—A few of them who reside at a distance request the favour of being allowed to have their meals sent to the mill, and about six of the senior women remain during the meal-hours to change the frames.

A. 55.—To change the frames during meal-hours by those above twenty-one years is to save time while the engine is not going; those who take meals at the mill, of which there are very few, it is an indulgence to them.

A. 56.—It is not our wish that any worker take meals at the mill.

A. 57.—Nothing but rebuke in words; if we find that has no effect we give the person thus admonished warning to leave: we find this the best mode.

A. 58.—None whatever.

A. 62.—We have forbidden it, and we would dismiss any one who would be guilty of it.

A. 63.—We never required nor ever gave any such instructions to our manager, deeming them quite unnecessary.

A. 64.—Never that we recollect of.

A. 65.—They don't live in any house connected with the mill or belonging to us.

A. 66.—We almost invariably find those who have been at the work from their early years make better workers than those who have commenced at a more advanced period. Their general character is similar, whether beginning young or later.

A. 67.—The health of those employed in our mill has not, so far as we can judge, altered during the last ten years; we are fully persuaded they are as healthy as the same number of workers in any other employment whatever.

A. 69.—We believe it is.

A. 70.—Not that we know of.

A. 73.—We do not know personally that any mills in our neighbourhood do not conform to the provisions of the Act.

A. 78.—We cannot suggest any alterations in the existing laws, but are of opinion that to shorten the hours of work much would be as injurious to the worker as to the employer.

MATTHEW and GEORGE CARSWELL.

No. 156.

*A. Carlisle.*

## ANSWERS of A. CARLISLE, for Thomas Carlisle &amp; Sons, Paisley.

A. 1.—Middle Church parish, Paisley, in the county of Renfrew.

A. 2.—Twisting of cotton, linen, and silk threads.

A. 3.—The principal part erected in 1808, the other parts two years after; all parts employed as at present from the time of their erection.

A. 4.—A steam-engine, twenty horse power.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows and doors.

A. 7.—By the overlooker.

A. 8.—All, as far as possible.

A. 9.—No specific arrangements for the purpose, our work being clean and healthy.

A. 10.—Ten years of age; a very few of that age; some of them have been employed as draw-girls to weavers previous to their being in our employ.

A. 11.—We prefer them above twelve years of age.

A. 12.—No, so far as our machinery is concerned.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have several orphans in our employ, but we do not lodge or maintain them; we do not lodge or maintain any of our workers.

A. 17.



- A. 17.—Twelve hours per day during five days of the week, and nine on Saturday.
- A. 18.—All our workers continue the same number of hours at work, with the exception of a few who finish the goods, whose hours are only eleven per day.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and sixty-seven hours.
- A. 22.—All parts work during the same hours.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and a few minutes for the first five working days, and nine hours and a few minutes for the sixth.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 25.—For three weeks continuously we worked one hour extra per day to make up lost time, but the moment we understood that it was disagreeable to some of our workers we resumed our usual working hours, though our lost time was not fully made up.
- A. 26.—Avoidable.
- A. 27.—We formerly worked one hour longer on Saturday, and a quarter of an hour longer during the other days of the week.
- A. 28.—The reduction of time has been so small that it does not tell sensibly on the cost of our manufacture.
- A. 29.—It can only be for the purpose of defrauding his workers by giving them more wages absolutely than they had previously earned, but less in proportion to their actual exertions.
- A. 32.—We have tried it and found it to answer.
- A. 33.—Some years ago we employed for a few months a night-set of hands; they worked nine hours and a half, whilst the day-set worked as usual twelve hours; we employ only one set of hands, because we work only sixty-nine hours per week.
- A. 35.—When we employed night-workers, the day and night set changed with each other periodically.
- A. 36.—No bad effects.
- A. 37.—The effects would be an immediate and permanent depression in the rate of wages, a temporary advance in prices, but a speedy and permanent reduction of both profits and price, occasioned by an outlay of capital for additional machinery, and to meet the wanted demand, also a proportional inability to compete with the foreign manufacturer.
- A. 38, 39 & 40.—No particular temperature is required for our manufacture; the temperature is regulated wholly according to the feelings of the workers. The above refers to all parts of the work where workers are regularly employed; but we have a stove kept at the temperature of about ninety degrees, into which four or five workers above twenty-one years of age go from time to time.
- A. 41.—At no time.
- A. 53.—From nine to ten, morning; and from two to three, afternoon.
- A. 54.—All.
- A. 57.—None but dismissals from the work, or threats to that effect, and occasionally small fines.
- A. 58.—None.
- A. 60.—We on one occasion were informed that a slight corporal punishment had been inflicted by an overlooker, which met with our decided disapproval, and was never again repeated.
- A. 62.—We most strictly forbid it.
- A. 63.—Positive instructions are given that no corporal punishments shall take place.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—A very few of our people rent our houses; no control exercised for their social improvement directly by us as their employers; prayer-meetings are held in the work.
- A. 66.—We find no advantage in this respect by taking workers in before the age of from twelve to fourteen years.
- A. 67.—During that time the health of our people has neither improved nor deteriorated; our workers have at all times been sober and regular in their habits, and our work has at all times been healthy.
- A. 68.—No, for no such changes are required.
- A. 69.—We rather think not, as thread-works are not stated in it.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—As far as we know, they do.
- A. 74.—We never heard of any of them being taken before a magistrate.
- A. 77.—We have no reason to believe so.

ALEXANDER CARLISLE.

No. 156.  
James Crum jun.

## ANSWERS of JAMES CRUM jun., Polloc.

- A. 1.—Thornliebank, parish of Polloc, county of Renfrew.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving.
- A. 3.—Partly in the last century, partly in 1806 and 1809.
- A. 4.—Water, rather irregular; about twenty-five horse power in all.
- A. 5.—Being in an airy situation, do not consider any distinct provision necessary, except in the picking-room, which is kept free from dust by fanners.
- (APP.—A. 1.)

D d 4

A. 6.



Renfrewshire.

*James Crum jun.*

- A. 6.—Except as stated above, by opening windows, &c.  
 A. 7.—By the foreman and overlookers.  
 A. 8.—Fenced off.  
 A. 9.—All the workers live in the immediate neighbourhood, so that any arrangement of this kind is considered unnecessary.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years.  
 A. 11.—Children under twelve years could be dispensed with, but consider that the parents would thereby be less able to bring up and educate the younger part of the family.  
 A. 12.—Am not aware that the recent alterations in machinery have made any material alteration in this respect.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, nine on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half, nine hours and a half on Saturday.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and thirteen hours.  
 A. 22.—All parts of the work go on together.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours fifty-four minutes fifteen seconds.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—Loss of time for want of water in summer, and breaking of gearing.  
 A. 26.—Certainly avoidable, but a loss both to masters and workers.  
 A. 27.—Never regularly, and very rarely, except when the workers wished to have a holiday at fairs or New Year; then they made up the time before or after the holiday.  
 A. 29.—Many of the expences are the same whether we work twelve or more hours, as rent, interest of capital, insurance, &c.  
 A. 30.—I was so short a time in business before the present Act that I cannot answer this.  
 A. 31.—No objection.  
 A. 32.—Has not been tried, because the present Act prohibits working more time in any one day than one set of children can easily stand.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—Do not employ more than one set of hands.  
 A. 37.—The effect would be an increase in the cost of production directly in proportion to the time lost, because children are quite able to work to advantage the hours allowed by the present Act.  
 A. 38.—The temperature is kept comfortable, our work does not require any heat more than that, and the temperature is regulated mostly by the workers, except in the dressing-room, where the heat is about 90°.  
 A. 39.—In the dressing-room about 90°.  
 A. 40.—Eight hands employed in dressing-room, all above twenty-one.  
 A. 41.—Have not worked any during the night.  
 A. 50.—By gas when the day-light does not extend to twelve hours.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast, nine to a quarter before ten; dinner, two to a quarter before three.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all leave the works.  
 A. 55.—Some prefer having their meals brought to them in wet or stormy weather, entirely for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—When children do not work well they have less wages, and if they are found to be so careless as not to do what they are desired, others are got in their place.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—All instructed not to inflict corporal punishment. Have no written instructions.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 67.—Have only been in business about four years, but have known the people employed at this mill for more than ten years, and have always considered them quite as healthy as people employed at any other kind of work. Have no evidence.  
 A. 68.—Have no unhealthy process, so that any change on that account is unnecessary.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—I believe all the mills in my neighbourhood conform to the Act.

May 1833.

JAMES CRUM jun.

No. 157.

*William Birkmyre.*

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM BIRKMYRE, Port Glasgow.

- A. 1.—County of Renfrew, parish of Port Glasgow.  
 A. 2.—Flax-spinning, sail-cloth, and linen weaving.  
 A. 3.—Flax-mill erected in 1805, weaving-shop fitted up about the same time.  
 A. 4.—Steam; thirty-two horse power.  
 A. 5.—The windows of the mill are made to lift up and lower down, and when they are lifted up or lowered down there is sufficiency of air to keep the dust from being hurtful or disagreeable.  
 A. 6.—Depends alone upon the windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.



A. 9.—We have no specific arrangements, but generally (on account of the nature of the work in the mill) the workers have always as much leisure before meal-times to arrange themselves a little before leaving the mill.

A. 10.—A very few between the ages of nine and ten, the greatest part above that age.

A. 11 & 12.—No.

A. 13.—Two boys as mechanics, and four boys as weavers.

A. 14.—None from the parish.

A. 15.—Employ a few orphan girls, but they generally reside with some of their relations.

A. 16.—The master has charge of none; their friends superintend them.

A. 17.—In the mill, eleven hours ten minutes per day.

A. 18.—The same as the above.

A. 19.—The mill has never run a day last year more than eleven hours ten minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred days.

A. 21.—Three hundred days at eleven hours ten minutes per day, equal to three thousand three hundred and fifty hours.

A. 22.—All the different parts went on alike.

A. 23 & 24.—Eleven hours ten minutes.

A. 25.—Not exceeded last year.

A. 26.—With us it has been avoidable this last year, but if an unexpected demand was coming upon us for yarn we would deem it necessary for some time to lengthen our hours.

A. 27.—About eighteen months ago we ran the mill twelve hours per day for two months.

A. 28.—We did not find it.

A. 29.—If the manufacturer has pressing demands for his manufacture, he will be induced to try every means within his power to have his orders executed.

A. 30.—Though we did not find any additional cost in producing our manufacture by coming back to our usual work, yet we think, if the establishment was long habituated to twelve hours labour, the manufacture would be brought forward a little cheaper by twelve than eleven hours work.

A. 31.—It would be too expensive, neither could we get workers only for a few additional hours.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Working only eleven hours ten minutes, we find one set of hands quite sufficient.

A. 35.—Never wrought through the night.

A. 36.—Never having night-work, we cannot say.

A. 37.—It would either tend to increase the cost of production or reduce the wages of labour; if the quantity of work done by the mill was lessened, and if there was no reduction of wages, it is evident that the price of the manufacture must be enhanced.

A. 38.—We require no particular temperature.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The windows.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for each meal.

A. 54.—The greatest part of them.

A. 55.—Some at a distance have their meals brought to them.

A. 56.—It would be inconvenient to the families of the workers.

A. 57.—When we find any force requisite (which seldom occurs) we dismiss them.

A. 58.—None.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in their own houses; for their moral improvement we distribute books out of a juvenile library among them, and have a teacher engaged to give instructions both in reading and writing.

A. 66.—I cannot say the difference, but we prefer children from eleven to fourteen years of age to grown-up people; when they are young they are more apt to learn, and when they grow up are far more serviceable than taking old people who never were in a flax manufactory.

A. 68.—As there are various processes in the flax manufacture, we always select the workers whom we think will be best adapted for such a particular kind of work.

A. 69.—No.

A. 73.—No mills within three miles of ours.

A. 79.—I think the hours of flax-mills should be neither less nor more than eleven hours per day (Saturday included).

WILLIAM BIRKMYRE.

## STIRLINGSHIRE.

### ANSWERS of JOHN ARCHIBALD, Alva.

A. 1.—Village and parish of Alva, and county of Stirling.

A. 2.—Woollen yarns for shawls.

A. 3.—The works were all erected in 1825-6, and were first employed for their present purpose 12th April 1826.

A. 4.—The power employed is water, regular, and to the extent of five horse power, or nearly.

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E e

A. 5.

Stirlingshire.

No. 158.

John Archibald.

Renfrewshire.

William Birkmyre.



Stirlingshire.

John Archibald.

- A. 5.—No.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off where danger may be apprehended.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangements.  
 A. 10.—Cannot say; none of them have been previously employed at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because from the lightness of the work and action required children under twelve can do more work than adults, and for less wages.  
 A. 12.—Neither.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of the children I employ are either lodged or maintained by me.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—Twenty-two hours.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—About four thousand one hundred and ninety-one hours.  
 A. 22.—They have all been carried on at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and fifty minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—In the winter months, and from an increased demand.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable.  
 A. 27 & 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—Gain.  
 A. 30.—Yes; I cannot say in what proportion.  
 A. 31.—The objection most frequently urged is, that parents will not take their children from schools for such small wages.  
 A. 32.—Of course they have not been tried.  
 A. 33.—Yes; they commenced at two morning and worked till two P.M., and from two P.M. till two morning.  
 A. 34.—Because without a material addition of capital the profits are considerably increased.  
 A. 35.—They change periodically.  
 A. 36.—An advance of price and a consequent reduction in the consumption.  
 A. 37.—A still greater advance in price and reduction in the consumption.  
 A. 38.—From 60° to 70°; 60° is the lowest.  
 A. 39.—70° of course is the highest required.  
 A. 40.—The whole.  
 A. 41.—At one time from the 3d October till the 5th of January.  
 A. 42.—Sixteen children.  
 A. 43.—Five hours and a half.  
 A. 44.—Eight children.  
 A. 45.—Eight children are employed from six to two in the morning, and eight from two to six in the morning.  
 A. 46.—No; can stop at any time without inconvenience.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—There is none necessary, as the strap-holes in the floors are sufficient to keep the air pure.  
 A. 52.—I know of no particular effects.  
 A. 53.—All classes stop twice a day, and have an hour to breakfast, and an hour to dinner.  
 A. 54.—The whole leave at meal-times.  
 A. 57.—Threats, commonly.  
 A. 58.—Occasionally; if by corporal punishment is meant severe flogging, so that the person has been unfitted for their employment or required medical attendance not a shadow of such punishment has ever been tolerated.  
 A. 62.—No; but I have frequently forbidden the overlookers to go to excess in punishing.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—I have no workers who have been employed from infancy.  
 A. 67.—I am not aware of any deterioration of health.  
 A. 68.—There are no particular processes by which the health can be injured.

JOHN ARCHIBALD.

No. 159.

W. Drysdale jun.

## ANSWERS of W. DRYSDALE junior, Alva.

- A. 1.—Two mills at Alva, county of Stirling.  
 A. 2.—Spinning woollen yarns manufactured into blankets, plaidings, carpets, shawls, &c.  
 A. 3.—One of the mills at Alva, erected about forty years ago, one about seven years ago; the mill at Dollar, about sixteen years ago.  
 A. 4.—The two mills at Alva, about ten horse power each; the mill at Dollar, about six horse power each. All water, irregular.  
 A. 5.—The workers to suit themselves.  
 A. 6.—By opening doors and windows.  
 A. 7.—By the workers.

A. 8.



Stirlingshire.

W. Drysdale jun.

- A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Not aware of any under nine years of age, employed at no other trades previously.  
 A. 11.—The work being light, they are quite capable for the work at nine years of age.  
 A. 12.—No alteration with me.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—From their parents in the parishes of Alva and Dollar where the mills are situated.  
 A. 15.—All with their parents, and go home to their meals.  
 A. 16.—They are more under the foreman.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours regularly, Saturday ten hours.  
 A. 18.—As last, viz, eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours; one of the mills at Alva thirteen hours for about two weeks; all my mills twelve hours for about three months.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and eighty-six hours.  
 A. 22.—All parts at the same time, but, when short of water, then workers and machinery are divided at one of the mills at Alva, changing at two A.M. and two P.M.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Commence in September for two or three months, when goods are more in demand.  
 A. 26.—They can be avoided by encroaching on manufacturers profits and workers wages.  
 A. 27.—Some years ago my regular working hours were twelve hours per day.  
 A. 28.—It follows, that if the quantity produced is less, the cost is increased.  
 A. 29.—The manufacturer's inducement is profit; when I have any night-work, there is two sets of workers, working ten hours each set.  
 A. 30.—I have never heard of any limitation of hours for the woollen manufacture.  
 A. 31.—None.  
 A. 32.—Finds night-work not so natural for workers, and does not do so well.  
 A. 33.—Change at two o'clock A.M. and two o'clock P.M.  
 A. 34.—The intention is profit.  
 A. 35.—Change once a week.  
 A. 36.—If general, I think it would be for good.  
 A. 37.—In the meantime that it will affect both profits and wages; I have had no complaints against the present working hours by my workers; they rather incline to work extra, as they are paid accordingly.  
 A. 38.—Common fires for the comfort of the workers in winter.  
 A. 39.—No process.  
 A. 40.—None.  
 A. 41.—One of the mills at Alva was wrought last summer about two months, when short of water, one half of the machinery at a time.  
 A. 42.—Six children at a time.  
 A. 48.—Children from nine years to fifteen years of age.  
 A. 49.—Have none.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 51.—None except doors and windows.  
 A. 53.—One hour each meal, from nine to ten for breakfast, from two to three for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All if they choose.  
 A. 55.—If they do not, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—When gentle correction will not do, they are paid off.  
 A. 59.—By foreman.  
 A. 60.—Never by my sanction.  
 A. 63.—None, but if they would not do their duty, to warn them away.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—None of my workers are under my control after leaving their work.  
 A. 66.—I cannot perceive any difference.  
 A. 67.—The workers in woollen mills are more healthy than any other class of workers I know, so far as has come under my own observation.  
 A. 68.—None.  
 A. 69.—I do not know of any Act that applies at present to woollen factories or mills.  
 A. 70.—I never have, nor ever heard of any foundation for putting any of the following queries in force in this neighbourhood.

W. DRYSDALE jun.



Stirlingshire.

No. 160.

*William Drysdale  
& Sons.*

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM DRYSDALE &amp; SONS, Woollen Manufacturers, Alva.

- A. 1.—Village and parish of Alva, and county of Stirling.  
 A. 2.—Blankets, plaidings, and shawls.  
 A. 3.—The principal erection was made 1802, and an addition thereto was made 1820.  
 A. 4.—The power employed is water; regular, and to the extent of eight horse power, or thereabouts.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off when danger may be apprehended.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangements.  
 A. 10.—Can't say; none of them have been previously employed at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because of the lightness of the work and action required children under twelve can do more work than adults, and for less wages.  
 A. 12.—Neither.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of the children employed are either lodged or maintained by us.  
 A. 16.—Yes.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—Twenty-two hours.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight hours.  
 A. 22.—They have been all carried on at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and forty minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—In the winter months, and from increased demand.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable.  
 A. 27 & 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—Gain.  
 A. 30.—Yes; we cannot say in what proportion.  
 A. 31.—Parents will not engage their children for extra hours, the wages being so very trifling.  
 A. 32.—Of course they could not be tried.  
 A. 33.—Yes; commenced at six in the morning and wrought till six P.M., and from six P.M. till six in the morning.  
 A. 34.—Because without much more outlay of money the profits are considerably increased.  
 A. 35.—The same set of hands work uniformly by night.  
 A. 36.—An advance of price and a reduction in the consumption of goods.  
 A. 37.—A further advance and reduction in the consumption.  
 A. 38.—From sixty degrees to seventy degrees; sixty degrees is the lowest.  
 A. 39.—We don't require a higher temperature than seventy degrees.  
 A. 40.—The whole.  
 A. 41.—At one time four.  
 A. 42.—Five children.  
 A. 43.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 44.—Five children.  
 A. 45.—From six P.M. till one morning, and from two morning till six morning.  
 A. 46.—None are indispensably continuous.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 51.—The strap-holes keep the air pure.  
 A. 52.—It has no effects, good or bad, that we can observe.  
 A. 53.—All classes stop one hour to breakfast and one to dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave at meal-times.  
 A. 57.—Commonly threats.  
 A. 58.—Very seldom; we understand corporal punishment to be such chastisement as parents inflict on children for disobedience.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—No; we have frequently charged the overlookers not to abuse the children.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—We find those employed from infancy make the most expert workmen.  
 A. 67.—We know no difference in the health of the workpeople.  
 A. 68.—There are no processes injurious to health.

WILLIAM DRYSDALE &amp; SONS.



## ANSWERS of JAMES HARROWER jun., for James Harrower sen., Alva.

Stirlingshire.

No. 161.

James Harrower.

- A. 1.—Alva, in the county of Stirling.  
 A. 2.—Woollen manufacture, such as spinning, weaving blankets, plaidings, worsted shawls, and dyeing.  
 A. 3.—The greater part of the mill was built in 1807, and an addition is at present being made to it, and it was first employed in 1807.  
 A. 4.—Water, of which there is a full supply, except during severe drought in summer. Cannot tell exactly the power, perhaps a five or six horse power.  
 A. 5.—No provision, except opening the windows when necessary.  
 A. 7.—By all employed.  
 A. 8.—None fenced.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—Yes, for piecing.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—Alva parish only.  
 A. 15.—None, and the apprentices live with their parents.  
 A. 16.—None.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-three hours.  
 A. 23 & 24.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 33.—About ten years ago, on account of light water and small premises.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 51.—None, except by opening the windows.  
 A. 53.—One hour at breakfast and another at dinner.  
 A. 54.—The whole.  
 A. 57.—Dismiss them and employ others.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 67.—Their health has been equable.

23d May 1833.

JAMES HARROWER.

## ANSWERS of MATTHEW FINLAYSON, for James Finlay &amp; Co., Ballindalloch Works, Balfron.

No. 162.

Matthew Finlayson.

- A. 1.—Parish of Balfron and county of Stirling.  
 A. 2.—Preparing, spinning, and reeling cotton-yarn.  
 A. 3.—Erected in the year 1790; a picking-room and reeling-room in addition to the original building were erected in the year 1801.  
 A. 4.—The power employed consists of a water-wheel of about thirty horse power; but as the stream which supplies the water is but small, and does not afford above half supply during considerable periods of the year, a steam-engine of about sixteen horse power is employed in conjunction with and in aid of the water-wheel when the supply of water is insufficient. During last year the steam-engine worked six hundred and ninety-two hours and a half.  
 A. 5.—The windows of every department are of the sort called Scotch or double-sash windows, being moveable in two divisions; and the upper division, generally used for ventilation, is adjustable to any extent of opening, the degree of ventilation being regulated by the overlooker, who of course studies the comfort of the people.  
 A. 6.—Except the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the overlookers of the rooms.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople change their clothes on entering and on leaving the factory; for the purpose of washing themselves they are furnished with soap gratuitously; this has been in practice for more than thirty-six years.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years of age; none of the children have been previously employed at any trade.  
 A. 11.—Children from nine to ten years of age are as useful for some descriptions of work as those of twelve; their work is so very light and easy that by the time they arrive at the latter period they are fit for an advanced situation.  
 A. 12.—There have been no alterations in our machinery recently so as to affect the number of children.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 15.—Orphans are employed, but none of them are lodged or maintained by us; they only receive their wages.  
 A. 16.—We have such children, but they are under the superintendence of their nearest relations, with whom they reside.  
 A. 17.—They are employed twelve hours each lawful day except Saturday, on which day they work only nine hours.  
 A. 18.—The same number of hours as those above twenty-one.

(APP.—A. 1.)

E e 3

A. 19.



Stirlingshire.

Matthew Finlayson.

- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-nine hours.
- A. 22.—All the different departments have been carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and one third each lawful day.
- A. 24.—We have only one set of workers.
- A. 25.—The want of a due supply of water was the principal cause for exceeding the usual hours of work.
- A. 26.—If avoided, the workers would be deprived of their wages for the time lost, and the proprietors would lose from the smaller produce.
- A. 27.—Yes, previously to the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Act.
- A. 28.—The cost is considerably enhanced.
- A. 29.—By working certain extra hours the quantity is increased, and of course the workpeople receive higher wages.
- A. 30.—The produce will be nearly in proportion to the hours of work; and the interest of capital invested and general expences of management being the same, whatever the produce may be, the cost of production will be increased in the same proportion, so far as these form part of that cost.
- A. 31.—We are not acquainted with the practice of having more than one set of children employed.
- A. 32.—No, never found it to be necessary.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 34.—Never considered it to be necessary to work more than one set of hands.
- A. 35.—We employ no night-hands.
- A. 37.—We are of opinion that the further reduction of the working classes would be accompanied by very injurious effects, for, independent of the increase of cost in bringing cotton-yarn into the market, the shortening of hours would unavoidably produce a diminution of wages, and consequently lessen the comforts of the workers.
- A. 38.—Usual temperature 66°, lowest 64°.
- A. 39.—Sixty-five degrees to sixty-eight degrees, which we never wish to exceed.
- A. 40.—All our hands are employed in nearly the same temperature.
- A. 50.—From the middle of the month of September until the end of the month of March the works are lighted up with gas to complete the day's work.
- A. 51.—By opening the windows.
- A. 52.—As we have no night-work, we can have no knowledge of its effects.
- A. 53.—Three fourths of an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—All are at liberty to leave the works.
- A. 55.—If any stop in the work at meal-times, it is to suit their own convenience.
- A. 56.—If the workers lodged adjacent to the works, we would think it better for them to take their meals out of the manufactory.
- A. 57.—Dismissed in case of disobedience.
- A. 58.—No corporal punishments are allowed.
- A. 62.—Yes, on all occasions.
- A. 63.—The instructions given to the foreman and overlookers are to abstain at all times from corporal punishments, and in the event of repeated disobedience to dismiss the delinquent, which in most cases has the effect of preserving implicit obedience.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—Some of them do, but at half a mile distant from the works. A general vigilant superintendence is exercised over the morals of the whole workers, but especially the children, and for an aid in which, and to promote their general intelligence, there is an evening school established, where the younger individuals are taught English, reading, writing, and arithmetic, and most of them attend a Sabbath-evening school. Frequent or excessive breaches of moral propriety are punished by dismissal. Domestic and personal cleanliness are pointedly attended to.
- A. 66.—We have no spinners but those who have been brought up to the business from their infancy, because we prefer them to those who have commenced the business at a later period of life.
- A. 67.—The people of the factory have always upon an average been healthy to a remarkable degree.
- A. 68.—No; we know of no injurious effects from any particular process.
- A. 69.—Yes, strictly subject.
- A. 70.—Not under the present Act, but once under the preceding Act, for having a child under the specified age, because it was proved that the parents deceived us as to the age of the child, stating it to be a year older than it was, and the child's appearance agreed with their assertion.
- A. 73.—There is no other mill in this parish.
- A. 74 & 75.—Never.
- A. 76.—Never wanted.
- A. 77.—We never found it so; we believe that the workers would tell the truth.
- A. 78.—We are not prepared for any such suggestion at present, but can say that the general treatment of children in our employment is in all respects intended for their comfort.

MATTHEW FINLAYSON.



## ANSWERS of WILLIAM WILSON &amp; SON, Bannockburn.

Stirlingshire.

No. 163.

*William Wilson  
& Son.*

- A. 1.—Village of Bannockburn, parish of St. Ninians, county of Stirling.
- A. 2.—Spinning of wool.
- A. 3.—The works have been erected at different times; the first and principal erection was in 1806; in almost every successive year since some alterations or additions have been made. All the buildings have since their erection been occupied with machinery connected with the woollen manufacture.
- A. 4.—Water; the supply is irregular; when there is a deficiency of the supply the deficiency is to be attributed to the dryness of the weather. The power is about twenty-five horses.
- A. 5.—There is no distinct or specific provision for the ventilation of our factory further than is obtained by the opening of doors or windows.
- A. 6.—The provision, as stated in answer to the last query, depends on the opening of doors or windows.
- A. 7.—The ventilation is controlled at the discretion of all or of any of the persons employed.
- A. 8.—A part of the machinery is fenced off, and this is done in so far as to admit of the necessary operations being carried forward.
- A. 9.—All the arrangements stated in this query are left at the discretion of the persons employed.
- A. 10.—We are unwilling to employ children who are under ten years of age, though sometimes, from the extreme poverty of the applicant and the necessity of the case, not our own inclination, in a few cases we have employed children who, on their entry into the mill, were under ten years of age. They have not been employed at any other trade.
- A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age are as suitable for the nature of our work, and have equal wages with those of twelve years.
- A. 12.—Any recent alterations in machinery in our factory have tended to diminish rather than to increase the employment for children under twelve years of age.
- A. 13.—We employ no apprentices.
- A. 15.—None of the children employed in our factory are lodged and maintained by us. We have only one orphan in our employment, and she resides with her relations.
- A. 16.—We have no actual superintendence over the children unless when they are at work.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours on the first five working days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday.
- A. 18.—The hours for the persons under twenty-one years being employed are the same as for those persons whose age is above twenty-one years.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours, as stated in A. 17, is our usual rate of hours for work; in a few instances we may have exceeded the usual rate by a half hour or by three quarters of an hour, but never, to our belief, by more than one hour.
- A. 20.—Every working day, with the exception of fast-days, holidays, reform processions, the repairs of machinery, and the want of water; these in the course of the year may have amounted to about ten days.
- A. 21.—We have no regular account.
- A. 22.—All the different parts of our work have been carried on at one and the same time during the day.
- A. 23.—Under eleven hours a day.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 25.—To make up for time lost when there was any unusual occasion for the work being stopped; the usual or regular hours generally departed from at the wish of the persons employed.
- A. 26.—Avoidable, but the quantity of work is lessened, and the remuneration is diminished to the persons employed.
- A. 27.—We have not.
- A. 28.—We have no experience to answer this query from our own practice.
- A. 29.—More work done with comparatively less machinery employed.
- A. 30.—A limitation of the hours of work will cause an increase in the cost of production in every branch, in proportion to the extent of time the hours are limited.
- A. 31.—A scarcity of hands, or an increase in the prices of labour.
- A. 32.—The supply of water is only during the day, and as we can only keep working during the day, we cannot have the experience of trying, and have not therefore the experience to give an answer to this query.
- A. 33.—We have not employed a night-set of hands.
- A. 34.—When one set of hands can do the work the trouble and expence are less than when any extra set of hands is employed, and the remuneration is greater to the persons employed.
- A. 37.—The probable effects of a still further reduction of the working hours would be to cause a diminution in the quantity of goods manufactured, and if a proportionate reduction is not made from the wages of the persons employed the cost price will be increased; the machinery for carrying on the same extent of business will require also to be increased.
- A. 38.—There is no regular account of the temperature in our factory kept; our manufacture
- (APP.—A. 1.)



Stirlingshire.

William Wilson  
& Son.

factory does not require a greater degree of temperature than is suitable for the comfort of the persons employed.

A. 39.—There is no variation of heat required in our different processes.

A. 40.—The temperature is generally much the same to one person as it is to all the persons employed.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—For the hours during which we require artificial light the works are lighted with oil.

A. 53.—One hour, from nine to ten o'clock, for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, from two to three o'clock.

A. 54.—All the persons employed leave the works at meal-times.

A. 55.—It is adopted for the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—As all the persons employed leave the works at meal-times, this query cannot be answered from experience in our manufactory.

A. 57.—The only means taken or allowed are rebuke, exhortation or advice, and dismissal.

A. 58.—There are no corporal punishments inflicted.

A. 62.—It is known in our works that we are averse to corporal punishments.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given by us to our foreman or overlooker with relation to the punishment of children.

A. 64.—We have not had any complaints.

A. 65.—The workpeople have liberty to select dwellings to suit themselves, whether these dwellings may belong to their employers or to other individuals; they are uncontrolled in their moral and social improvement, and in their arrangements for domestic cleanliness, unless when from obvious carelessness or misconduct interference may be found to be necessary.

A. 66.—The preference in skill would undoubtedly be given to those who have been employed in the same profession from infancy; our workmen have, we believe without an exception, been so employed.

A. 67.—From our general observation the health of the people in our factory is the same at the present time as it was ten years ago, and has not deteriorated during that time; our observation has also led us to the belief and conclusion, that the persons employed in our factory are generally more healthy than any other class of persons who follow sedentary employments.

A. 68.—We have no particular processes having such injurious effects as to require a selection of persons or change of employment of the same persons.

A. 69.—We have not seen the Act, nor are we acquainted with its provisions.

A. 70.—There has never been any information laid against us.

A. 71.—We have never been convicted, nor have we paid any penalty.

A. 72.—We can state no circumstances connected with any convictions.

A. 73.—We have no knowledge if the mills in our neighbourhood conform to the provisions of the Act, nor do we know what steps, if any, have been taken to enforce their obedience.

A. 74.—We have not heard of any proprietor having been taken before a magistrate.

A. 75.—We have not heard that any proprietor has been fined.

A. 76.—We have not heard of evidence being required.

A. 77.—If it were required to have evidence, we do not think the workpeople would be afraid of displeasing their masters by giving it.

A. 78.—As we are not acquainted with the scale of penalties, or other means for securing obedience to the present law, or other legislative provisions for regulating the hours of labour, we cannot suggest an alteration.

WILLIAM WILSON &amp; SON.

No. 164.

John Gilchrist.

## ANSWERS of JOHN GILCHRIST, Denny.

A. 1.—Randolph Hill and Honeywood Mills, parish of Denny in the county of Stirling, North Britain.

A. 2.—Spinning of carpet-yarns and manufacture of woollen shawls.

A. 3.—Erected about twenty-six years ago.

A. 4.—Water-power; one wheel thirty horse power, and one twelve to fifteen horse power; regular, except occasionally on the drought of summer.

A. 5.—By doors and windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is entirely under the control of the workpeople themselves.

A. 8.—Yes, they are fenced off.

A. 9.—There is every facility for this, being near water and other conveniences.

A. 10.—From seven years and upwards; many of the children have been previously employed at the neighbouring calico print fields before engaging at the woollen mill.

A. 11.—Yes, they suit better at a certain age and size than older, eight to fourteen years; they generally leave at fourteen to fifteen, or are promoted.

A. 12.—I know of no alteration.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—They live with their parents and relations.

A. 17.



A. 17.—Never exceeded eleven hours; often for months only ten hours.

A. 20.—No particular account kept; the works are carried on every lawful day, except sacramental fasts, fairs in the neighbouring village of Denny, and stoppages from machinery going wrong.

A. 22.—There is no difference of time in working different parts of the works; the machinery commences and stops, and the mills locked up, at the same hour.

A. 23.—The average may be about ten to eleven hours.

A. 24.—Ten to eleven hours each day.

A. 25.—Never exceeded.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 29.—Working long hours will only occur when the mill is of small extent to meet demands; I know no instance of it at present.

A. 30.—There will be a small saving in the children's wages by long hours, as stated in A. 29, the children being generally on days wages; but, having a full supply of machinery, I have never found it my interest to extend them beyond the time specified in A. 24.

A. 31.—I have never yet seen the spinning trade in Scotland so brisk as to require either extra hours or fresh sets of hands; it may be applicable to the cotton, but not so in the wool spinning or carding, in Scotland, in my opinion.

A. 33.—Only a day-set of workers.

A. 37.—It would have the most injurious effects in various ways, is quite uncalled for in woollen mills in Scotland, would reduce the wages of the workpeople, young and old, cause the proprietor to extend his works, or, what is more probable in the present state of trade, drop the business altogether. I have been in the trade fourteen years, and have never in a single instance had one complaint from parents or children of the hours being too long; have been often solicited to extend them.

A. 38.—The mills are only heated in winter or in cold weather for the comfort of the workpeople.

A. 49.—None.

A. 50.—One mill by gas, the other two patent oil-lamps.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—They either leave them or not as they please; no control whatever is exercised over them in this respect.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 57.—The orders I have given to the men are not to chastise the children, but if ordinary means will not enforce obedience to dismiss them home.

A. 58.—No; parents have authorized gentle correction such as they would do themselves at home, but this is seldom or ever practised; they are dismissed, having at all times offers of more children than can be employed.

A. 63.—Instructions were given to the foreman and spinners, not in writing, but they are perfectly understood and acted upon in the mills, to the effect as stated in A. 57.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—No control is exercised in this respect; my workpeople take houses to suit their convenience where they can find them.

A. 66.—I never was sensible of any material difference in this respect, spinning of carpet yarns being a simple process.

A. 67.—The health of young and old in the mills decidedly improves; I know instances of unhealthy and sickly looking children being sent to these works, and in the course of a few months they got stout and healthy, whether owing to the animal substances amongst which they work in woollen mills or not I venture not to say, but such is the fact in my works, and I have no doubt others in the same line will substantiate what I have stated.

JOHN GILCHRIST.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS GILLIES, Dunblane.

A. 1.—At Springbank near Dunblane in the parish of Dunblane and county of Perth.

A. 2.—Manufacturing of woollen yarns, principally for Scotch carpeting, and woollen shawls, and weaving same and other coarse cloth, such as plaidings, blankets, &c. &c.

A. 3.—The work commenced about twenty-six years ago; considerable additions were made in 1819, 1823, and 1832.

A. 4.—Water, twenty-four horse power, quite regular.

A. 5.—The works are ventilated at the pleasure of the workmen by opening doors or windows when they please for their convenience.

A. 8.—Yes, they are.

A. 9.—No arrangements are made for changing of clothes or putting on additional ones on leaving the manufactory, but a house is allowed for the children to wash themselves at pleasure.

A. 10.—Rarely under nine years of age; I am not aware of any being employed at any other trade beforehand.

A. 11.—Yes, the work being light, they are more capable of performing it at nine or ten than those of maturer years.

A. 12.—In this there has been no alteration at my works.

A. 13.—No apprentices have ever been employed.

(APP.—A. 1.)

F f

A. 15.

Stirlingshire.

John Gilchrist.

No. 165.

Thomas Gillies.



Stirlingshire.

Thomas Gillies.

- A. 15.—All the children lodge with their parents or relatives.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours, excepting Saturdays, which are ten.  
 A. 18.—All work the same hours; the work could not go on otherwise.  
 A. 19.—Never more than twelve hours, except part of the carding-engines, which have wrought about thirteen hours for two months, the children attending which are paid extra.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days, or so.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred and eighty hours.  
 A. 22.—All parts of the work proceed together.  
 A. 23.—About eleven hours and twenty minutes.  
 A. 25.—The reasons which caused me to exceed the usual hours are stated in my answer to Q. 19, and is devoted to the carding of wool for country purposes, so as not to interfere with the regular hours of the workmen.  
 A. 26.—It may be avoided by not doing the work or encroaching upon the workmen's hours.  
 A. 27.—Not unless for some special purpose, and then only a few days.  
 A. 28.—It must follow as a matter of course when the quantity produced is less its value increases.  
 A. 29.—I have never done this, neither am I aware of its being done in this neighbourhood in any of the woollen mills.  
 A. 30.—There is no prohibition on the woollen manufacture.  
 A. 31.—Were it necessary, there could be none.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—I have never found it necessary to employ more than one set of hands.  
 A. 35.—I have never wrought during night.  
 A. 37.—A reduction of the wages of the workers, and the quantity produced by the same machinery lessened, in consequence of which the value raised, thereby rendering it more difficult to compete with the foreign manufacturer.  
 A. 38.—Heated in winter for the comfort of the workers, in summer no extra heat.  
 A. 39.—There is no part of the work requires such a process.  
 A. 40.—None.  
 A. 49.—Have none.  
 A. 50.—Oil during winter.  
 A. 51.—I only work till eight o'clock at night.  
 A. 53.—From nine to ten for breakfast, and from two to three for dinner.  
 A. 54.—They are at liberty to go.  
 A. 55.—If they stay, it is to suit their own comfort.  
 A. 57.—If gentle discipline does not do, they are dismissed from the work.  
 A. 58.—None but what is referred to above, which deserves not the name of corporal punishment.  
 A. 59.—What is referred to is by the men with whom they work.  
 A. 60.—Never by my commands.  
 A. 61.—Never.  
 A. 63.—None, but if they are obstinate in doing their work they are turned off.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—All the workers live in their own or relations houses.  
 A. 66.—It is obvious that those employed in a manufactory from infancy should be better acquainted with machinery than those going into one at a more advanced period; however, this must greatly depend on the talents of the individual.  
 A. 67.—The workpeople at my mill enjoy generally good health, and I cannot say there is any difference.  
 A. 68.—I have no process of the kind.  
 A. 69.—I am aware of no Act regarding woollen factories, which renders it unnecessary for me to answer the remaining queries; however, I beg to state that I am not aware of the children in my own work or in any other woollen mills with which I am familiar being any thing but well used.

## ANSWERS of A. E. SPEIRS, Fintry.

No. 166.

A. E. Speirs.

- A. 1.—Parish of Fintry, county of Stirling.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, only medium numbers.  
 A. 3.—The whole buildings were erected at very nearly the same time, and are still, with very trifling changes, adapted to original purposes.  
 A. 4.—Water only; supply irregular; during a dry summer the stoppages have varied from a few days to more than four weeks; power about forty horse.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The rooms extend the whole length and breadth of the building, and have windows on either side, which can be opened at top or bottom as required; the building in winter is heated by steam-pipes.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the manager, and under his direction by the hands of the departments.  
 A. 8.—There is no dangerous machinery which the workers need come in contact with.  
 A. 9.



A. 9.—The workers generally live very near, and are permitted to bring any extra clothing they choose, and hang it up in the mill for their use; when they quit work, the workers if they choose to wash can use the condensed water from the steam-pipes, and are allowed five minutes before each meal hour, and the same at night, to dress and clean themselves.

A. 10.—Children are never admitted below the legal age (nine years), and seldom, if any, have had a previous trade.

A. 11.—We do not wish to employ children under twelve years old, nor is it needful if we could get a sufficient number of those at twelve. We find parents much more anxious to send their children to the factory than we are to employ them, and this is more particularly the case as regards parents employed in the factories.

A. 12.—Not in this factory.

A. 13 & 14.—We do not.

A. 15.—We lodge and maintain no children; the work is altogether supplied from the population of the parish, and the children live under the care of their parents or natural guardians.

A. 17.—This factory strictly adheres to the law, and works eleven hours and a half on average of six days work, or twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—The workers, of whatever age, are employed the same period; this is necessary for carrying on the work, but the employment of the children cannot be called labour.

A. 19.—Twelve hours, or it may be twelve hours and a quarter, making up lost time under Hobhouse's Act which allows twelve hours and a quarter, but lost time we never make up if it exceeds a few hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and nineteen hours.

A. 22.—The whole work moves and stops at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a quarter.

A. 27.—On oath I can say that since I was owner I never worked longer than at present, but before Sir John Hobhouse's Bill passed I believe that the hours on Saturday were the same as on other days.

A. 28.—As we produce a less quantity by working shorter hours on Saturdays, it is evident the cost of production must be increased.

A. 29.—If a manufacturer can compel his workers to labour extra hours without proportionate increase of wages, it will be clear that, his general charges remaining the same, he will from the extra production have great advantages.

A. 30.—The enhanced cost will be apparent in the preparation departments, which is performed by hands on day-wages.

A. 31.—The present hours do not, I consider, injure children, and we never work extra hours; but I doubt whether it is possible in all situations to procure relays of children; the working children, I mean, would be forced to submit to have whatever wages they receive at present divided into as many parts as there would be relays; or, to put a case in terms, how would children be hindered from forming relays in one factory and afterwards in another so as to defeat any enactment on that head?

A. 33, 34, 35 may be classed together. We have stated we never work extra hours, and never by night; night-work we wholly disapprove of, and think it ought on no account to be permitted. It is impossible to preserve the same control at night as by daylight, and the atmosphere is necessarily more impure.

A. 37.—This query would admit of a very long reply; there are, however, so many persons who have been in the cotton-spinning trade longer than I have, and whose knowledge is so much more extensive, that though I feel it necessary, yet it is with some diffidence that I state my opinion, and very shortly. In the first place, then, I would request it to be borne in mind that this is not a national question only, but a query that relates to the trade of the whole world. Great Britain no longer possesses the monopoly of cotton-spinning; the Americans, French, Swiss, and other nations already tread closely on the British Merchant, and in some instances compete with him in markets where he was formerly without a rival. I might add, that I believe the Americans undersell the British exporter in some places, while the yarns produced on the continent of Europe are even now supplying the place of British in the home consumption of the respective nations. If, therefore, the British workman is not injured in his health or his morals by present hours of work under restrictions of existing laws, it appears to me a folly, or worse, an egregious absurdity, to legislate on the subject by shortening the hours of labour. I am asked what, in my opinion, would be the consequence of shortening the hours of labour? Going on the presumption that this alludes to Lord Ashley's or Ten Hour Bill, I may reply shortly, the total ruin of the cotton manufacture of Great Britain.

From the most careful calculations I have been able to make, I am of opinion that at the present time cotton-spinning is not a beneficial mode of employing capital. As I am not aware of any extra national advantages that the British spinner possesses over his rivals in America or the continent of Europe, I do not see how it is possible for the British spinner to meet them in a neutral market if he should be forced to restrict his labour to ten hours, while they work twelve, thirteen, or even fourteen hours, producing a proportionately greater quantity of manufactured material at a lower price than the British spinner would be enabled to do. I admit that I have been informed that we are "fifty years" before



Stirlingshire.

A. E. Speirs.

other nations in machinery; but if a foreigner is about to invest capital in a mill, I do submit he will with one easy step overtake the whole half century of improvements: I may add, several of the latest improvements in cotton-spinning are of American invention. I have now to state what, in my opinion, would be the effect of such a reduction of labour on the workers, I mean two hours. At first, perhaps, the price of cotton-yarn might rise; this would not be permanent, from reasons already stated; foreigners would soon supply the deficiency in the market; I do not think it improbable that the American spinner might supply the English power-loom weaver. I have already stated the profits of spinners are very low; if, therefore, the hours of labour are shortened, they must either be ruined, or seek some way of producing an equal quantity in ten as they now do in twelve hours. I am not aware how this could be effected. A rise in price, as before stated, would be temporary, in consequence of a defalcation in the market; therefore I am of opinion that the injury would ultimately fall on the workers, and principally on operative spinners, which is the most highly paid class; nor would this reduction be in proportion of twelve to ten, or one sixth, but would at a moderate calculation be about double that proportion, or one third. I argue on the provisions of Lord Ashley's Bill: any deviation from it would act in a proportionate manner. As I have alluded to Lord Ashley's Bill, I must add, that if ever a proposed enactment showed ignorant and presumptuous legislation, it is that proposed by his Lordship; if his Bill becomes law, it ought to be entitled "An Act to destroy the staple manufacture of Britain."

A. 38.—Sixty-five or not exceeding seventy is our usual temperature, nor do we require it higher.

A. 39.—Sixty-five to seventy degrees.

A. 40.—The whole number, exclusive of mechanics, say about two hundred and forty.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 50.—During winter when we require to light for working the legal hours we use oil.

A. 51.—Not applicable, except as formerly applied to.

A. 52.—I do not know.

A. 53.—The legal time one hour and a half.

A. 54 & 55.—The greater proportion leave the work at meal-hours, but some for their own convenience have their victuals brought them. The spinning-master usually remains during dinner-time to look over and make any repair in his department, the moment the workers return he goes home.

A. 57.—Dismissal for longer or shorter periods, or altogether.

A. 58.—We permit no other punishment but as above; parents have requested their children rather to be beaten than turned out of the mill.

A. 64.—No complaint has been made.

A. 65.—The company owns a few houses in the village of Fintry; a portion of these is occupied by workers in the mill, but there is no obligation for them to take the houses unless they prefer them and find them more convenient; the company furnishes a school-room, and gives salary to schoolmaster.

A. 66.—I am not aware of any persons who have been differently employed.

A. 67.—I annex a copy of a certificate sworn to by the minister of the parish, which shows the relative state of deaths, and proves the great comparative healthiness of spinners.

#### MINISTER'S CERTIFICATE.

Q. What proportion of the population of the parish of Fintry is employed in the cotton-mill there?—A. The population of Fintry is one thousand and fifty-one, and two hundred and forty-three are employed in the mill.

Q. Can you state the relative proportion of deaths in the manufacturing population compared with the agricultural?—A. I have kept a regular account of the deaths in this parish since the 1st of January 1826, and find the result to be, that one hundred and thirty-five persons have died in the whole parish, of which thirteen have been employed in the mill.—By note, which is produced, it appears that six were of very advanced age, two died by accident, three of constitutional disease.

Q. Have you observed any deformity or malformation of the human frame in the manufacturing population from which the agricultural is exempt?—A. I have not.

Q. As minister of the parish, it is understood you are in the habit of visiting the houses of your parishioners; please state your opinion as to the relative comforts enjoyed by the two classes alluded to?—A. The manufacturing population receive higher wages, and in my opinion have more of what may be called luxuries, and are at least equally well lodged.

Q. Please state your opinion as to the morals of the two classes in question at present?—A. Those employed in the mill attend public worship and ordinances more regularly than the others, and I am not aware that any vice pervades one class more than the other.

Q. Are the children of those persons employed in the mill as well instructed in their youth as those employed otherwise?—A. As to age, certainly.

Q. Are you aware that the limiting the hours of labour and age of admission properly is attended to in the cotton factory in your parish?—A. As far as my knowledge goes, both these points are attended to.

Q. Are you of opinion that were the hours of labour considerably shortened, it would be advantageous or otherwise to the manufacturing population of your parish, I mean relative both to health and morals?—A. I must refer to my previous replies (for so far) as an answer to so comprehensive a question, but generally I may state that I approve of a regulation which



which has been made here, that no child is admitted that cannot read the Bible and further, I think that children might, with advantage to themselves and masters, be legally precluded from working before ten or eleven years of age in a factory.

(Signed) JAMES COLTART, Minister of Fintry.

Sworn before { DUNMON NAPIER.  
A. E. SPEIRS, Proprietor.

Stirlingshire.

A. E. Speirs.

A. 68.—We have no injurious or deleterious process; it may sometimes happen that a worker may prefer some branch, thinking it better suits the health, and this is complied with as far as practicable.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

A. 73.—I know nothing about my neighbours, but, as a magistrate, I never had any information laid before me.

A. 77.—I know no case to which I can refer.

A. 78.—I am unacquainted with the subject except theoretically. I believe the Scotch spinners keep the law; the English, upon their own showing, do not. I consider that Government are bound to enforce present laws before they make new enactments. If the moving power of mills could be stopped by some government *employé*, it would hinder abuse in one sense, and create it in another.

A. 79.—I think so much of the present law as relates to meal-hours on Saturday ought to be repealed as inconvenient to workmen. I am of opinion that children under eleven ought not to be employed, no night-work permitted on any account, and in factories whose hands live at a distance a little more time for meals given; the hours of work ought never to exceed twelve hours, and that between the hours of five A.M. and eight P.M. Some latitude ought perhaps to be given to factories moved by water, which is an irregular power.

A. E. SPEIRS.

#### ANSWERS of ALEXANDER M'GREGOR, for Robert M'Gregor & Co., New Kilpatrick.

No. 167.

Alex. M'Gregor.

A. 1.—Parish of New Kilpatrick, Stirlingshire.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The work was erected all at one time in the year 1790 for cotton-spinning.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of nine horse power, and water irregular, varying from eight to fifteen horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of persons employed in each flat.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—The workers have it in their power to change their clothes, clean themselves on entering and leaving the work, and they all do it.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; they are mostly all employed in print-fields when seven or eight years of age, and remain there till they come of age for the cotton-work.

A. 11.—Wages being so low, a sufficient number of workers could not be got at twelve years of age.

A. 12.—I think greater.

A. 13.—No apprentices.

A. 15.—One orphan.

A. 16.—The person they reside with.

A. 17.—Twelve hours five days of the week, and nine hours on the sixth day.

A. 18.—No difference.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and thirty-five hours.

A. 22.—All parts of the work are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half average each day of the week during the last year.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When loss of time is occasioned for want of a supply of water or any accident happening to the great gearing.

A. 26.—Not avoidable.

A. 27.—The present law being in force at the time the mill was purchased by Robert M'Gregor and Co., the present working hours have not been exceeded.

A. 28.—Yes; less quantity produced increases the oncost.

A. 29.—I consider it an inducement to the manufacturer to protract the hours during day-time, as there will be more produced for the same capital sunk, though I consider it no great advantage to work during night, as additional expences are incurred.

A. 30.—In the preparation departments the machinery is not capable of being driven quicker to do justice to the work, whereas in the spinning-flats the men will be able in proportion to throw more quantity off in ten hours than twelve, so that there must be more capital sunk in preparation and more wages paid for preparing.

A. 31.—We have no extra hours except in cases of lost time, when half an hour is worked additional every day till the time is made up.

A. 32.—No change of hands, and though tried could not be got.

(APP.—A. 1.)

F f 3

A. 33.



Stirlingshire.

Alex. M'Gregor.

A. 33.—No night-work.

A. 36.—Working day and night, the article can be produced a little cheaper in the market.

A. 37.—Proprietors sinking a capital in machinery calculate upon the quantity it will throw off in twelve hours a day; if they are reduced to ten hours they will be nearly one sixth deficient in quantity; at present the prices are so very low for cotton-yarns as barely to pay the interest, so that they cannot get remuneration for the capital sunk, and consequently will reduce the workers wages in proportion.

A. 38.—From 50° to 60°.

A. 39.—No difference required; all departments alike.

A. 50.—With whale-oil.

A. 51.—Opening the windows.

A. 52.—I consider people working during the night cannot be so healthy, and are more liable to have their morals corrupted.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour at breakfast and the same at dinner, being at the request of the workers.

A. 54.—All leave the mill at meal-time except one.

A. 55.—To suit her own convenience, being in delicate health, her victuals are brought to the mill.

A. 57.—By reprimanding two or three times, and if that does not do, we put them away for two or three days; if that does not do after some trials they are discharged.

A. 58.—Upon no person, except it be by the parent of the child.

A. 62.—The workers are not allowed to strike, abuse, or punish the children in any way, except they be the parents of the child; in that case we do not interfere but when harshly dealt with.

A. 63.—The overlookers are instructed not to allow any of the workers under any pretence to punish any of the children, with the exception of parents.

A. 64.—No complaints.

A. 65.—Yes; the following rules are to be observed. Rules to be observed by the tenants occupying dwelling houses belonging to Robert M'Gregor & Co.—1st, These houses, as already known, are let from fortnight to fortnight. 2d, After you are prohibited from keeping dogs or poultry of any description, under the penalty of leaving the house without the usual warning. 3d, The vents will in future be cleaned by a tradesman every quarter of a year, for which you are to pay the sum of two-pence along with your rent. 4th, The house will be whitewashed once a year, for which you are to pay along with your rent. 5th, You are strictly prohibited from harbouring beggars, idle or disorderly persons, about your house, and are enjoined to observe orderly conduct in your own family. 6th, You are to keep the windows of your house clean; and all glass, tile, or slates that are broken or injured must be repaired at your expence, without you can satisfactorily account for the damage. 7th, No tenant in these houses allowed to sell spirits or malt liquors of any description, either with or without licence. 8th, On any of the tenants leaving their houses, they are to endeavour to agree with the succeeding tenant as to the value of the garden crop; should they not agree, then Robert M'Gregor & Co. shall appoint one man, and the outgoing tenant another, whose determination shall be final.

A. 66.—There are two or three in the work that were grown-up men before they were spinners, and I do not think their skill, character, or education is any better than those brought up from their youth at cotton-works.

A. 67.—The workers, with the exception of one or two, all say that they have been healthy during their lives, and that they can make no distinction between the last ten years and the former part of their lives.

A. 68.—Delicate persons get the light and easy work to do, strong and healthy persons the heaviest work to do.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—The present Act has not been infringed upon in any way, and of course never have been informed upon.

A. 73.—I never heard of the mills in our neighbourhood working longer than the provisions of the present Act.

ALEXANDER M'GREGOR.

No. 168.

Thomas Kerr.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS KERR, St. Ninians.

A. 1.—Milton woollen mill in the parish of St. Ninians and county of Stirling.

A. 2.—Spinning of yarns chiefly.

A. 3.—The lower part of the carding-house was fitted up for carding about twenty years ago, the upper part about ten.

A. 4.—Water is the power employed; regular, save two or three months in summer, when instead of getting it drawn at six in the morning it is often eight. The extent of power has never been tried.

A. 5.—The provision for the ventilation of the mill is the opening of the windows or doors.

A. 7.—Each flat of the mill is regulated by those that work in the different parts.

A. 8.



Stirlingshire.

Thomas Kerr.

A. 8.—What we consider dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—The parents of the children have such a taste for the keeping of them clean and comfortable, that they cause their children to fetch cloaks in winter, and often two suits of clothes in summer; indeed I wonder often that they pay so much attention to them.

A. 10.—The lowest age at which I have employed children was ten years of age, none of which were ever at any other trade.

A. 11.—Although the nature of my work can be done with children about ten or eleven years of age, yet nevertheless I seldom engage any at ten if I can get them at twelve.

A. 12.—Any alterations I have made of late require a greater proportion of children above twelve years of age than below it.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—They certainly dwelt in parishes, but I had none that were under the guardianship of parishes. I had two from the parish of Alloa.

A. 15.—All the children I employ are under the guardianship of their parents, under whose roof they every night dwell.

A. 16.—I superintend all the children in the mill.

A. 17.—Twelve hours are the most each day that any in the mill work.

A. 18.—Great and small work the same length of time each day.

A. 19.—To my knowledge, no day exceeded twelve hours.

A. 20.—I kept no account.

A. 22.—As water is the only power employed to drive the mill, all the parts go on alike each day in general.

A. 23.—I believe eleven hours is the average of each day during the year.

A. 24.—I keep only one set of children.

A. 25.—I never caused the children to be wrought beyond the usual time.

A. 26.—I consider that there is neither need nor profit to exceed the usual hours we work, (to wit) eleven or twelve hours a day.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Never tried the experiment.

A. 29.—The only inducement, in my opinion, is to get gain.

A. 30.—These are experiments I never have had occasion to try.

A. 31.—I consider it more profitable to the master who has to employ his mill night and day to have two sets of children.

A. 32.—I believe in this part of the country those that have occasion to keep their mills going day and night keep two sets of hands.

A. 33.—I have never had occasion to keep my mill going day and night since I took it, save ten or twelve nights at most.

A. 35.—When I cause my mill to go day and night I will cause the hands to change periodically from night to day.

A. 36.—In this part of the country night-work is sometimes called for in the winter season by some of our customers that require a greater quantity of goods at that season than in summer, but were night-work prohibited they would just have to buy a larger stock in summer, which would neither better nor make worse either the merchant or manufacturer.

A. 37.—In my opinion, the probable effects of a reduction of the working hours would only affect the small capitalist; the wealthy would just add to their mills more machinery, that would do a greater quantity of work by fewer hands.

A. 38.—Our mill manufactures no stuff that requires more heat in winter than just to keep the workers warm.

A. 41.—If I mistake not, I spun ten or twelve nights along with two of my men.

A. 46.—No.

A. 48.—I believe that in any mill where the twenty-four hours are continuous that both men and children are employed.

A. 50.—Our mills are lighted yet with the glimmering oil-lamps.

A. 51.—Doors and windows are the only inlets and outlets to fresh and foul air.

A. 52.—Being inured in early life to night-work, I must confess it is not good for health.

A. 53.—One hour at breakfast and one at dinner.

A. 54.—They all leave save two that require to keep two scribbling-engines going for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—According to the construction of the two engines alluded to, were they to stand in the meal-hours, a sixth part of the work done each day would be lost.

A. 57.—We just tell them that if they don't obey we will get others in their room.

A. 58.—Not with my sanction.

A. 59.—None are authorized to inflict any sort of corporal punishments.

A. 62.—When I get any strange worker to my mill that has to work with children, it is among the first things I tell them that they are not to do violence to any of the children.

A. 63.—No instructions are given to punish the children, quite the reverse.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—“All the workers live under their own vine and under their own fig-tree, none daring to make them afraid.”

A. 66.—We see the adage holds true in those who come apprentices to us in early life, that “learn young learn fair.”

(APP.—A. 1.)

F f 4

A. 67.



Stirlingshire.

Thomas Kerr.

A. 67.—It is considered by all those who have children at a woollen mill that they thrive better after they come to the mill than before.

A. 68.—We make no selection save that of putting the cleverest to the nicest process.

A. 69.—Don't think it.

A. 77.—I have good reason to believe that the workpeople are as independent of displeasing their master as their masters are of displeasing them.

A. 78.—The long-established law of justice and humanity seem to be the best guardians of the people.

THOMAS KERR.

No. 169.

Robert Smith.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT SMITH, St. Ninians.

A. 1.—One at Stirling, and one at Milnholm, in the parish of St. Ninian and county of Stirling.

A. 2.—Manufactory of woollen yarn, chiefly for carpeting.

A. 3.—In Stirling, the manufactory was commenced about twenty-three years ago; a considerable augmentation was made to the buildings in 1818, very little since. At Milnholm, about nineteen years since.

A. 4.—At Stirling, steam, twelve horse power; at Milnholm, six horse power, rather irregular.

A. 5.—The works are ventilated at the discretion of the workers, by opening doors or windows, to suit their own comfort.

A. 7.—Same.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Very seldom under nine years of age. I am not aware of their being previously at any other trades.

A. 11.—Yes; because the work is easy, and they can do it as well at nine or ten as at twelve years of age.

A. 12.—As far as I am concerned, it has not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I lodge and maintain none.

A. 17.—Twelve hours; but no lost time, from stoppage by machinery going wrong, dulness of trade, or any other cause, is made up.

A. 18.—The same as the last, as they cannot get on without the others.

A. 19.—Never exceeds twelve hours, with the exception of the carding machinery, which may have been kept at an average thirteen hours two days weekly, for which the children attending it are paid double their usual wages.

A. 20.—Every lawful day, except when stopped by machinery going wrong or being repaired, of which no account has been kept.

A. 21.—When the hours are not limited from dulness of trade, one hour at least may be deducted from the time stated in my answer to the seventeenth query from stoppages of machinery going wrong and other causes; and I find during four months of the present year, at Milnholm, from want of water, they did not work three fifths of their time; thus making the total number of hours at Stirling 3,443, and at Milnholm 3,021.

A. 22.—All parts are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—At Stirling eleven, at Milnholm nine hours and forty-five minutes.

A. 25.—The circumstances which cause me to exceed the regular hours, as stated in my answer to the nineteenth query, is the carding of small quantities of wool for country people, so as the regular hours of my workmen may not be encroached on.

A. 26.—It may be avoided by encroaching on the usual hours of workmen.

A. 27.—At one time we may have wrought up some of the lost time.

A. 28.—It of course follows, when the quantity produced is less, that the cost is increased.

A. 29.—I do not do this, nor am I aware of its being done in the woollen trade.

A. 30.—There has been no restriction on the woollen manufacture.

A. 31.—Were it required, there could be none.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—I do not require more than one set of hands.

A. 35.—I have no night-work.

A. 37.—A diminution of workmen's wages and the quantity produced by the same machinery lessened, in consequence of which the cost enhanced, thereby rendering it more difficult to compete in foreign markets.

A. 38.—In winter, heated for the comfort of the workers; no extra heat in summer, but the windows and doors opened as the workmen choose for their own comfort.

A. 39.—No process of the kind.

A. 40.—None.

A. 41.—From the scarcity of water last autumn my work at Milnholm for four weeks; one half of the machinery was kept going during the day, and the other the night; this is the only instance I ever had of any night-work, during which time none of the sets wrought more than seven hours.

A. 42:



- A. 42.—Five, during the time alluded to above.  
 A. 45.—Cannot exactly say.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 49.—Have none.  
 A. 50.—At Stirling, gas; Milnholm, oil during winter.  
 A. 51.—I have no night-work, except to the usual hour, eight o'clock.  
 A. 53.—Nine to ten for breakfast, two to three for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All if they please.  
 A. 55.—If they do not go, it is for their own conveniency.  
 A. 57.—If gentle correction does not do, they are turned off.  
 A. 58.—None but what is alluded to in the above, which cannot be called corporal punishments.  
 A. 59.—What is alluded to is by the men to whom they work.  
 A. 60.—Never by my orders.  
 A. 63.—None, but that if they did not do their work, I would turn them off.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live either in their own or friends houses.  
 A. 66.—It is reasonable to suppose that those employed in a manufactory from infancy should be better skilled in machinery than those going into one at an advanced period of life; this must depend, however, greatly on the talents of the individual.  
 A. 67.—The workpeople in woollen factories generally enjoy the best health; I cannot say there is any difference.  
 A. 68.—I have no process of the kind.  
 A. 69.—I believe there is no Act regarding woollen factories, which renders it unnecessary for me to answer the remaining queries; I may however state, I am not aware of the children in my own work, or in any other woollen mill with which I am acquainted, being any thing but well treated.

ROBERT SMITH.

Stirlingshire.

Robert Smith.

## ANTRIM.

## ANSWERS of JOHN M'CRACKEN, Belfast.

- A. 1.—Belfast, in the county of Antrim.  
 A. 2.—Spinning cotton-yarn on mules.  
 A. 3.—One mill erected about the year 1804, and the other in 1810, for their present purpose.  
 A. 4.—The two mills are driven by one steam-engine, made by Messrs. Boulton and Watt, of twenty horse power.  
 A. 5.—In the old mill the sashes are hung in the manner of a dwelling house, in the new one by panes made to open; both plans succeed extremely well.  
 A. 6.—The ventilation depends on the opening of the panes of glass constructed for the purpose in the new mill, and opening the windows in the old one.  
 A. 7.—The workers in each room have authority to let in the fresh air whenever they choose to do so.  
 A. 8.—All the main shafts are regularly fenced off, and no accident whatever has happened.  
 A. 9.—The workers change their clothes at their own pleasure, and always have a plentiful supply of fresh water to each separate room; this was always the case in my two mills, also plenty of water for washing.  
 A. 10.—The lowest age that I know of is ten years, and I would not engage any workers from any other trade to my knowledge.  
 A. 11.—The nature of the work requires small children to get about the machines in cleaning them.  
 A. 12.—I know nothing of such alterations.  
 A. 13.—I employ none.  
 A. 15.—All the children I employ live entirely with their parents.  
 A. 16.—I know nothing of such a thing.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—The greatest number of hours wrought in any one day during the last year by workers of all ages was about twelve hours; part of the time nine hours, and part only six hours; at this time, the 5th of June, only eight hours.  
 A. 20.—The mills wrought every day a part of the day, except Sundays, Christmas Day, and Easter Monday.  
 A. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred and fifty-four hours.  
 A. 22.—All parts of the works go on regularly together.  
 A. 23.—The average number of hours, as nearly as can be calculated, was about nine hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—At no time whatever.  
 A. 26.—I think there is no good reason for extra hours.  
 A. 27.—I never remember working more than twelve hours.

(APP.—A. 1.)

G g

A. 28.

Antrim.

No. 170.

John M'Cracken.



Antrim.

John M<sup>c</sup>Cracken.

A. 28.—The shorter hours naturally enhance the cost of production.

A. 29.—I can give no answer to this question.

A. 30.—All the branches must go on equally, and as to the limitation in hours it naturally increases the cost, but I really cannot answer exactly the proportion.

A. 31.—I have neither knowledge or experience on this head.

A. 33.—I do no such thing.

A. 37.—A great many expences in carrying on my works remain the same whether six or twelve hours are worked, consequently the more the time is lessened the higher the expence on the quantity produced.

A. 38.—The temperature best calculated for the spinning in my two mills is from seventy-two to seventy-six degrees of Fahrenheit.

A. 40.—The total number of hands employed by me in both mills is one hundred and fifty-six.

A. 50.—I have not used any light but day-light for years.

A. 52.—I know nothing of this.

A. 53.—Half an hour each meal for all.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—No alteration is necessary.

A. 57.—A small fine or dismissal.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—Always.

A. 63.—Never gave any.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Out of one hundred and fifty-six workers employed by me there are only about twenty who inhabit houses of mine, the rent of which is stopped off their wages in the way least inconvenient to them; further I do not interfere, except frequently whitewashing the houses.

A. 66.—It is impossible to answer this, except generally to state that those most early employed in mine or similar works must be superior to those a shorter time in practice.

A. 67.—The health of all my workers has been uniformly good, and during the late attack of cholera not one was affected.

A. 68.—No such thing appears to me at all necessary, as there is nothing injurious to health in either of my mills.

A. 69.—As I thought my concerns were subject to the provisions of the present Act, I have always conformed to the provisions of it to the best of my judgment.

A. 73, 74, 75, 76, &amp; 77.—I have never paid any attention to the affairs of the worthy proprietors of mills in my neighbourhood; and I would humbly suggest that the magistrates are the only persons competent to answer these questions, and I am happy that I can answer them in the way I have done, as I consider them, to speak in the mildest terms, indelicate.

A. 78.—I consider the present Act calculated to answer every good purpose with honest and conscientious men, and with others I fear nothing will do.

A. 79.—I would recommend to leave our trade as it is, and not impose restrictions on us which others are free from.

13th June 1833.

JOHN M<sup>c</sup>CRACKEN.

No. 171.

F. Lepper & Co.

## ANSWERS of FRANCIS LEPPER &amp; Co., Lodge Road, near Belfast.

A. 1.—Near Belfast, county of Antrim, Lodge Road.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing cotton.

A. 3.—One half of the mills in 1813, the remainder in 1824; began spinning first half in 1815, second half in 1825.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines, one of thirty-two horse power, Boulton and Watt, the other forty horse power, Peel and Williams; seventy-two horse power in all; tolerably regular as to power and driving.

A. 5.—Air-panes in the windows both back and front.

A. 6.—By the opening of the window-panes.

A. 7.—The workers generally regulate the air-panes to please themselves.

A. 8.—All.

A. 9.—They have places to hang up any additional clothing, such as cloaks, if they bring them. There is a place for washing their feet and hands. These liberties and places were established since the commencement of the works.

A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest we have had returns of; those so very young are usually employed and paid by the operatives, and most generally their own children; not any other trades.

A. 11.—We believe it is highly necessary for the operative spinners and stretchers, who employ and pay their own rove and slab piecers, and who generally have their own children or relations, who usually get a preference, and whose benefit it is to get them in as early as possible.

A. 12.—In our works we can find little difference.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 15.—We have some girls who are orphans, who maintain themselves; they have no guardians.

A. 16.



A. 16.—We generally look after the morals of our workpeople, and are happy to give them advice.

A. 17.—We usually work our engines from twelve hours and a quarter to twelve hours and a half per day, but the workers seldom, upon an average, work more than about twelve hours.

A. 18.—The hours that the younger children work per day depend much upon their employers, most of whom have not more than eight hours actual work to do per day; we mean those employed as rove-piecers.

A. 19.—About thirteen hours and a quarter, or perhaps thirteen hours and a half in some cases, which was occasioned to make up loss of time, or preparatory.

A. 20.—We have not kept an exact account, but we suppose rather under three hundred and eleven days.

A. 21.—We kept no regular account of our time, but suppose we are under twelve hours per day, owing to our not commencing lighting up at the usual time, considering the state of the trade, that it was better both for our people and ourselves not to light up too early.

A. 22.—We usually work both engines together, unless some accident, and in that case we regulate them so that the one assists the other to work up lost time; by which means, in case of either losing time, by such arrangement it saves nearly the half of the time that is to be so wrought up.

A. 23.—We kept no account of the hours, but we never work on Saturdays after four o'clock, nor do we commence before half past five in summer and six in winter.

A. 24.—All the hands we actually employ ourselves are above twelve years of age, and whose duty it is to attend in their frames or cards during the mill-hours, but who can rest occasionally if required.

A. 25 & 26.—The day after Easter Sunday, called Easter Monday, from custom, has become a day of pleasure among the working class, and a time for the working people laying in a stock of new clothes; we generally, to give them larger pay, before that time run the engines from half an hour to an hour per day for fourteen to eighteen days before the time, so that on Easter Monday, although they do not work, or if they do it is only to ten o'clock, they get full pay; this the workpeople all know of. Such excess on such occasions seems to please our people, rather than keep them at work on such a particular day.

A. 27.—We have, about half an hour to an hour; this is several years since.

A. 28.—We consider that the cost of producing the given quantity is enhanced by the reducing the hours of work; for instance, if you can spin 100lbs. per hour, you will of course have 1,200lbs. in twelve hours, and if you reduce the hours of work to eleven hours you will have only 1,100lbs., so that the interest of capital, &c., will make your yarn stand much more per lb.

A. 29.—Not having had any thing to do with the like, we cannot give a sufficient answer.

A. 30.—Certainly, the shorter the hours the greater the expence of producing the article, referring to A. 28; we spin such a variety of numbers, it is more difficult for us to make out a table of the different expence, but no doubt you will get this information from persons always on one set of numbers.

A. 31.—We are of opinion that the work in our mill could not be done by relays of hands so well as by one set.

A. 32.—We never overwrought our children, nor more than either their parents or themselves said they were equal to, and we always observed that they were healthy, if otherwise we would not allow them into the works with our knowledge.

A. 33.—We did at one time for about nine or ten weeks; the reason was, we were starting new machinery; at such times there is generally great delay and loss of time to the working class; to save this, we chose the number of hands that would be required for the new machinery, and run as much of the old mill during the night as employed those hands that were waiting on the new; this gave the people something to live on till the new started; then we gave up the night-work; this arrangement gave the people general satisfaction and pleasure.

A. 34.—We consider it most for our advantage to work only one set of hands.

A. 35.—We do not consider it profitable for any spinning concern to be wrought day and night.

A. 36.—We consider that night-work is more injurious to the health and comforts of the working class, owing to many visiting during the day when they should be in bed; we also consider that it is bad for the masters; the machinery is not taken the same care of when two sets of hands are responsible, nor the work so good.

A. 37.—We consider that a further reduction of hours would be the means of reducing the workers wages. The master spinners of late have not been paid for the wear and tear of their machinery, without interest for the capital.

A. 38.—We usually work our rooms at rather below summer heat; there is nothing but damp and winds that is severe upon us; we may suppose our usual heat to be about 70°, or rather under it; there is a valve in each flat; the heat can be regulated by the workers themselves.

A. 39.—Where we dress by steam the heat is applied to dry the yarn, but is not felt by the workers, owing to the fans.

A. 40.—Three hands, one for each machine.

A. 48.—None, with the exception of a watchman, which we have always kept since the commencement of the establishment to give an alarm in case of fire or any sort of danger.

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A. 49.

Antrim.

F. Lepper & Co.



Antrim.

F. Lepper & Co.

A. 49.—None.

A. 50.—By gas when we light up, in winter both morning and evening.

A. 51.—Air-panes, both sides of the room.

A. 52.—We consider the effects of night-work injurious to the habits of workers in general.

A. 53.—Prior to the Act of Parliament we were in the habit of giving three quarters of an hour to breakfast and the same to dinner; but when the Act passed regulating half an hour to breakfast and one hour to dinner, we tried it for a short time. Several of our people applied to us to go back to our usual hours of three quarters of an hour to each meal; indeed a few of our hands we observed did not look so well, and I inquired the cause, and was answered, they supposed the short time for breakfast, in consequence of which we returned back to three quarters of an hour to breakfast and the same to dinner ever since.

A. 54.—Generally all, or with the exception of a very few.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople alone, who usually are very poor women and girls, living at a distance and bringing their meat with them, who are allowed the use of fire to warm their meat.

A. 56.—We consider it is for the advantage of the workpeople to take their meals out of the factory, and better for their health. We seldom allow it, excepting on a very wet day, when they could not well leave without being wet, or when a solitary hand or two may have some particular work to do during meal-hours, or live at a very great distance from the works.

A. 57.—Our general practice is to complain to their parents or employers; if that does not answer, we impose a fine of 3*d.* or 6*d.* as the case may be, and if that does not answer we discharge the most refractory as an example; very few of these have occurred.

A. 58.—Not any.

A. 63.—We do not allow any punishments.

A. 65.—Many do; it is our orders to our watchman to inspect each of our houses once a week to see if clean, and if not to report the same to me, or in my absence to the manager, that the filth or effects may be immediately removed. We have a day and Sunday-school; attached thereto is a small library of religious books and tracts, and is frequently visited by clergymen, who either preach or give lectures in the evening after the works are stopped.

A. 66.—We consider there is a very great difference, so much so that we would not give employment to those who begin late in life unless we could not get another at present; we have none that we are aware of of that kind.

A. 67.—We have not observed any difference in our people for the last ten years, with the exception of what the number of years will make in all people; we consider our people more healthy than any other class of persons we know, whether it be on account of the high situation and the care we take of them or not.

A. 68.—We could not make much change in our hands, as the places are separately learned; there is not any as to danger or injurious process in any part of our works.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We really know very little, so we may say nothing of our neighbours arrangements.

A. 75.—We never heard that any had.

A. 77.—We do not think ours would; but we must do them the justice to say that we think we live in such friendship generally with them that there is not any cause on either side.

A. 78.—We consider that the best mode of obtaining obedience is by a mutual good understanding between workman and master, and a good example by master and managers, &c.; and when men of bad character get into such works, get rid of them as soon as possible, marking the children who do well as well as those who do wrong.

A. 79.—Where the works are managed properly the least possible interference the better; the children in our mills we consider better off than at home; for example, we are obliged to lock the mill-door to keep them out at meal-hours, for the moment they swallow their meal, which they do in a very short time, if they could get back into the mill they would. We do suppose upon an average such little ones have not more than from eight hours or perhaps nine per day, as already stated, namely, in the morning when they come in, if the creels are full, they frequently pop down and sleep until they are required, which will be only for about twenty minutes at a time, and can repeat the like; a good deal depends on the operative who employs them.

FRANCIS LEPPER &amp; Co.

No. 172.

John Mathews.

## ANSWERS of JOHN MATHEWS, Belfast.

A. 1.—Town of Belfast, county of Antrim.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Don't know when the building was erected; believe it has been used as a cotton-mill for the last four years; we have only had it since January last.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5.—Ventilation in the windows.

A. 6.—Opening ventilation in windows.

A. 7.



A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—The lowest age we have employed is ten years; don't know if they have been occupied previously or no.

A. 11.—A very small portion of our work requires.

A. 12.—Cannot say, not being long enough spinners.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Fourteen hours; out of this one hour and a half allowed for meals.

A. 19.—Since we commenced in January last we have sometimes wrought one hour additional.

A. 20 & 21.—Not in the business last year.

A. 22.—All carried on at once.

A. 23.—During our time about thirteen hours; out of this one hour and a half for meals are allowed.

A. 24.—During our time fifteen hours; short of this, one hour and a half for meals.

A. 25.—Before Easter Monday one hour each day to make up for that holiday, and about a month an hour each day over our usual time whilst we required an additional quantity of yarn.

A. 26.—It is avoidable.

A. 28.—The time we worked extra was so short, we never went into calculation.

A. 29.—Our inducement was, being in want of the yarn.

A. 31.—When a quantity of extra hours each day are required, we think a set of hands extra would be necessary.

A. 32.—We never tried it, working so few extra hours.

A. 33.—Don't work at night.

A. 37.—Could give no opinion.

A. 38.—Don't keep a thermometer.

A. 41.—We are only working since January.

A. 42.—Don't work at night.

A. 50.—In winter by gas, only till eight o'clock in the evening; no work at night.

A. 51.—Ventilators in windows.

A. 52.—Don't work all night.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour for breakfast, and the same for dinner.

A. 54.—All except one or two, and they stop for their own convenience, except the fireman.

A. 57.—We caution them.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—No instructions given.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—There are three persons; the carding-master and his son, and one girl who lives with her parents; we exercise no control.

A. 66.—Not long enough in spinning to form an opinion.

A. 69.—Don't know.

14th June 1833.

JOHN MATHEWS.

Antrim.

John Mathews.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH STEVENSON, Springfield, Belfast.

No. 173.

Joseph Stevenson.

A. 1.—County of Antrim, parish of Belfast, about one mile from Belfast on Falls Road.

A. 2.—Water-twist.

A. 3.—First mill was built in 1791, burned in April 1820; front mill built in 1821, at work 1822; back part of present building in 1824, at work in 1825.

A. 4.—By a water-wheel and two steam-engines united in one power, which is regular; eighty or ninety horse power.

A. 5.—By sashes, letting down six or eight inches in front and rear.

A. 6.—By opening windows.

A. 7.—By the overlooker or workers at pleasure.

A. 8.—All fenced off which is deemed necessary.

A. 9.—Rails with hooks for workers clothes, spring-water in the yard when they chance to require it for washing, a well-constructed water-closet in every room, when the works were first set on.

A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest, to our knowledge.

A. 11.—Yes; from experience it is found that children at nine learn fully as quick, if not more so, and are better workers, than when advanced. Beside, they are learning their business at small wages at that early period, when they are nearly useless at home; and when they arrive at eleven or twelve they get good wages in place of commencing at low.

A. 12.—Little change in water-twist spinning.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—Some there are who lodge in the houses of other workers.

A. 16.—Very little but what their employers family give them.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

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G g 3

A. 19.



Antrim.

Joseph Stevenson.

A. 19.—About thirteen or thirteen hours and a quarter, but that very seldom.

A. 20.—Every working day, except Christmas or Easter Monday, unless when an accident occurs in the machinery.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven by regulator, being thirteen hours over usual time on account of Easter Monday.

A. 22.—When preparations accumulate, a carding-room will be stopped by a chance time, perhaps a quarter of a day.

A. 23.—Twelve hours per day; the cause of the number of hours during last year being more than that was, Easter Monday took place the 8th of April, and time was gained for that, by which the workers were paid for that day.

A. 25.—From accidents or breaks-down of machinery, and for holidays.

A. 26.—It is only avoidable by loss of wages to the workers and loss to the proprietor.

A. 27.—In November 1825 reduced from twelve hours and a half to twelve.

A. 28.—It certainly is.

A. 29.—Never knew of the hands in a mill working day and night; when extra are worked it is for mutual advantage to spinner and employer.

A. 30.—Great increase, nearly to the reduction of time worked in a water-twist mill; for instance, reduce the hours from twelve to ten, which would cause the produce to cost very nearly one sixth more, although the wages of the workers were reduced one third, which would be the case was such a restriction to be enforced.

A. 31.—The first objection would be, nearly starvation of the children, having to employ two sets of hands to do one set's work; great injury to the children, in giving them idle habits; keeping them long at low wages, perhaps three times, and most probably never would be good workers.

A. 32.—Never heard of the like; not required for any chance working extra hours, and in many situations not to be obtained.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 34.—Day-work is better done than at night.

A. 36.—Having never worked all night, cannot say; but two mills worked by day would be preferable to day and night in one.

A. 37.—Nearly a prohibition to export of cotton-yarn and goods to the continent of Europe and the United States of America, where rapid progress is making in almost all branches of the cotton manufacture, where there are no restrictive laws to cramp industry, no import duty on the raw material, but all as free as light.

A. 38.—From seventy to eighty, often below seventy, about sixty.

A. 39.—Sixty-five to seventy.

A. 40.—That depends on the extent of the works; here there are three hundred and thirty-seven.

A. 41.—Never work all night.

A. 42.—None.

A. 43.—Never work at night, only in the evening until the regular hours are made up.

A. 44, 45, & 46.—None.

A. 47.—Twelve hours.

A. 48.—From nine to sixty, men, women, and children, but the great proportion of girls from nine to twenty.

A. 49.—The production of quantity; for reduce the time of producing, and an increase of cost takes place, which would destroy the export.

A. 50.—By gas made from rosin alone.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 52.—Not having night, cannot say.

A. 53.—Half hour at breakfast, three quarters to dinner.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—All except one day in the week, when sixteen boys clean and grease shafts and large wheels; that cannot be done when the machinery is at work.

A. 57.—Fines, dismissal, sometimes for two, three, or four days a week, or more, or discharged. All fines are given to the fever hospital.

A. 58.—Very rarely and very light.

A. 62.—Seldom or ever had occasion, from the slight manner it is administered.

A. 63.—None.

A. 64.—Never at any period for forty years and upwards.

A. 65.—Three hundred and five of the workers reside on the premises, thirty-two in the neighbourhood; in all, three hundred and thirty-seven. Much attention is given to domestic cleanliness, moral conduct, and correctness of behaviour; to promote which a day, evening, and Sunday school is kept, equal to contain upwards of two hundred and fifty scholars; during the day children younger than what are employed in the mill are taught. In summer evenings between fifty and sixty boys and as many girls (workers in the mill) are instructed in writing and arithmetic, free of charge. In winter a class of boys attend, for which they pay the schoolmaster a small sum. On Sundays a well-attended school from two hundred to two hundred and thirty boys and girls, nearly all workers, are instructed in suitable books until they can begin with their New and Old Testaments, which they continue at until they leave the school, no matter what their religion is. There are thirty-three teachers, who are indefatigable in their care and attention to their flock; they belong to the place, and their conduct is most exemplary.

A. 66.—Persons when taught young always make the best workers.

A. 67.



A. 67.—Not aware of any deterioration in the health of the people; if any change, the reverse; their dwellings are in a very healthy, pleasant, airy situation; cleanliness is much attended to in houses, persons, and clothing. A medical gentleman of much experience attends on any of them at their houses when they are unable to go to him, who supplies them with medicine and advice free of expence to them. As one proof of the healthiness of the place and the people, not an individual of the establishment was afflicted with cholera when it was raging in the neighbourhood; much owing to the people refraining from going to town but when absolutely necessary, conforming strictly to the orders given them.

A. 68.—Sometimes it is done, but seldom necessary; and when, mostly from twenty years of age and upwards.

A. 69.—Supposed so.

A. 74.—Never knew an instance but one.

A. 76.—Evidence was not required.

A. 77.—Not easily knowing, when only one information has been lodged.

A. 78.—Let manufacturers, as commerce, be free from compulsory laws, and they will work better than with all the restrictions that can be heaped on them.

5th June 1833.

JOSEPH STEVENSON.

Antrim.

Joseph Stevenson.



|                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. The first cause of improvement in the quality of the manufactured goods is the increase in the number of workers employed in the industry. | 1. The first cause of improvement in the quality of the manufactured goods is the increase in the number of workers employed in the industry. |
| 2. The second cause is the increase in the capital invested in the industry.                                                                  | 2. The second cause is the increase in the capital invested in the industry.                                                                  |
| 3. The third cause is the increase in the skill of the workers.                                                                               | 3. The third cause is the increase in the skill of the workers.                                                                               |
| 4. The fourth cause is the increase in the machinery used in the industry.                                                                    | 4. The fourth cause is the increase in the machinery used in the industry.                                                                    |
| 5. The fifth cause is the increase in the organization of the industry.                                                                       | 5. The fifth cause is the increase in the organization of the industry.                                                                       |
| 6. The sixth cause is the increase in the competition between the manufacturers.                                                              | 6. The sixth cause is the increase in the competition between the manufacturers.                                                              |
| 7. The seventh cause is the increase in the demand for the manufactured goods.                                                                | 7. The seventh cause is the increase in the demand for the manufactured goods.                                                                |
| 8. The eighth cause is the increase in the supply of the raw materials.                                                                       | 8. The eighth cause is the increase in the supply of the raw materials.                                                                       |
| 9. The ninth cause is the increase in the transport facilities.                                                                               | 9. The ninth cause is the increase in the transport facilities.                                                                               |
| 10. The tenth cause is the increase in the scientific knowledge of the nature of the materials.                                               | 10. The tenth cause is the increase in the scientific knowledge of the nature of the materials.                                               |
| 11. The eleventh cause is the increase in the artistic taste of the consumers.                                                                | 11. The eleventh cause is the increase in the artistic taste of the consumers.                                                                |
| 12. The twelfth cause is the increase in the moral character of the workers.                                                                  | 12. The twelfth cause is the increase in the moral character of the workers.                                                                  |
| 13. The thirteenth cause is the increase in the religious faith of the workers.                                                               | 13. The thirteenth cause is the increase in the religious faith of the workers.                                                               |
| 14. The fourteenth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the workers.                                                             | 14. The fourteenth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the workers.                                                             |
| 15. The fifteenth cause is the increase in the social equality of the workers.                                                                | 15. The fifteenth cause is the increase in the social equality of the workers.                                                                |
| 16. The sixteenth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the workers.                                                       | 16. The sixteenth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the workers.                                                       |
| 17. The seventeenth cause is the increase in the physical strength of the workers.                                                            | 17. The seventeenth cause is the increase in the physical strength of the workers.                                                            |
| 18. The eighteenth cause is the increase in the moral character of the employers.                                                             | 18. The eighteenth cause is the increase in the moral character of the employers.                                                             |
| 19. The nineteenth cause is the increase in the religious faith of the employers.                                                             | 19. The nineteenth cause is the increase in the religious faith of the employers.                                                             |
| 20. The twentieth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the employers.                                                            | 20. The twentieth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the employers.                                                            |
| 21. The twenty-first cause is the increase in the social equality of the employers.                                                           | 21. The twenty-first cause is the increase in the social equality of the employers.                                                           |
| 22. The twenty-second cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the employers.                                                 | 22. The twenty-second cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the employers.                                                 |
| 23. The twenty-third cause is the increase in the physical strength of the employers.                                                         | 23. The twenty-third cause is the increase in the physical strength of the employers.                                                         |
| 24. The twenty-fourth cause is the increase in the moral character of the consumers.                                                          | 24. The twenty-fourth cause is the increase in the moral character of the consumers.                                                          |
| 25. The twenty-fifth cause is the increase in the religious faith of the consumers.                                                           | 25. The twenty-fifth cause is the increase in the religious faith of the consumers.                                                           |
| 26. The twenty-sixth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the consumers.                                                         | 26. The twenty-sixth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the consumers.                                                         |
| 27. The twenty-seventh cause is the increase in the social equality of the consumers.                                                         | 27. The twenty-seventh cause is the increase in the social equality of the consumers.                                                         |
| 28. The twenty-eighth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the consumers.                                                 | 28. The twenty-eighth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the consumers.                                                 |
| 29. The twenty-ninth cause is the increase in the physical strength of the consumers.                                                         | 29. The twenty-ninth cause is the increase in the physical strength of the consumers.                                                         |
| 30. The thirtieth cause is the increase in the moral character of the manufacturers.                                                          | 30. The thirtieth cause is the increase in the moral character of the manufacturers.                                                          |
| 31. The thirty-first cause is the increase in the religious faith of the manufacturers.                                                       | 31. The thirty-first cause is the increase in the religious faith of the manufacturers.                                                       |
| 32. The thirty-second cause is the increase in the political freedom of the manufacturers.                                                    | 32. The thirty-second cause is the increase in the political freedom of the manufacturers.                                                    |
| 33. The thirty-third cause is the increase in the social equality of the manufacturers.                                                       | 33. The thirty-third cause is the increase in the social equality of the manufacturers.                                                       |
| 34. The thirty-fourth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the manufacturers.                                             | 34. The thirty-fourth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the manufacturers.                                             |
| 35. The thirty-fifth cause is the increase in the physical strength of the manufacturers.                                                     | 35. The thirty-fifth cause is the increase in the physical strength of the manufacturers.                                                     |
| 36. The thirty-sixth cause is the increase in the moral character of the workers.                                                             | 36. The thirty-sixth cause is the increase in the moral character of the workers.                                                             |
| 37. The thirty-seventh cause is the increase in the religious faith of the workers.                                                           | 37. The thirty-seventh cause is the increase in the religious faith of the workers.                                                           |
| 38. The thirty-eighth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the workers.                                                          | 38. The thirty-eighth cause is the increase in the political freedom of the workers.                                                          |
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| 40. The fortieth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the workers.                                                        | 40. The fortieth cause is the increase in the intellectual development of the workers.                                                        |
| 41. The forty-first cause is the increase in the physical strength of the workers.                                                            | 41. The forty-first cause is the increase in the physical strength of the workers.                                                            |
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# B. 1. Western District.

## LIST of MANUFACTURERS who have RETURNED ANSWERS to the QUERIES.

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# FACTORY COMMISSION.

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B. 1.  
Western District.

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A N S W E R S.

WRITTEN ANSWERS received to the QUERIES.

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DEVONSHIRE.

ANSWERS of AMBROSE BREWIN jun., Tiverton.

- A. 1.—The lace manufactory is situated at Tiverton in the county of Devon.
- A. 2.—The manufacture, bleaching, and finishing of lace, and the preparation of cotton and silk for the same, with the auxiliaries of a foundry, machine-making, and gas works.
- A. 3.—The principal building was erected in 1791; other additions have been made at various times within the last sixteen years.
- A. 4.—The principal dependence is upon a water-wheel of one hundred horse power; during the summer the supply of water is generally short, sometimes to the extent of fifty horse power; part of this deficiency is made up by a steam-engine of twenty-five horse power.
- A. 5.—Ventilation is effected by the upper part of the windows being hung horizontally on pivots, by which the air is allowed to escape without the wind blowing in.
- A. 6.—As stated above, on a partial opening of the windows.
- A. 7.—The ventilation is at the discretion of the workpeople, subject to the control of the overlookers in case of disputes between them.
- A. 8.—The upright shafts, which are considered the most dangerous, are all guarded.
- A. 9.—Care is taken that the children are sent to their work as clean and well clad as possible, and in the rooms where the females work there is a constant supply of water for washing themselves, and places appointed to hang up their cloaks, shawls, &c., which are delivered to them before leaving the rooms. There are water-closets in each room where the females work which are not accessible to others.
- A. 10.—Ten is the age under which children are not (knowingly) employed. Few, if any of them, have been previously at any other trade.
- A. 11.—Not necessarily; they are employed under that age chiefly at the request of their parents, and with a view of affording them pecuniary assistance, as they are principally the children of men working in or about the mill.
- A. 12.—Rather fewer.
- A. 13.—None, except two parish apprentices, who were bound on the proprietor against his will, and who are employed at wages by agreement with themselves and parents.
- A. 14.—The parish of Tiverton.
- A. 15 & 16.—No children are lodged or maintained by the proprietor; they chiefly live at home with their parents or relations; and those who have none resident lodge with other families.
- A. 17.—Eleven clear hours.
- A. 18.—Those employed in manufacturing lace eleven hours, those in twisting cotton twelve hours.
- A. 19.—The lace-machines have been worked fourteen hours per day for thirteen days, but no persons have worked more than twelve hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven.
- A. 21.—The lace-machines four thousand and thirteen, the doubling-frames three thousand eight hundred and seventy-five.
- A. 22.—The lace-making has been all carried on between six in the morning and eight at night, other works between six and seven, except the doubling, which has been worked sixty-nine times at night.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours fifty-one minutes and a half, *i. e.* the machinery, but not the work-people; it is impossible to state the average hours during which they have been employed.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.

(APP.—B. 1.)

A

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A. 25.

B.1.

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Devonshire.

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No. 1.

*A. Brewin jun.*

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Devonshire.

*A. Brewin jun.*

A. 25.—The lace-machines were worked one hour per day extra for thirteen days, to make up a day lost in the summer; the doubling-rooms were worked sixty-nine times by night between April 10th and August 17th, from not having water to work them by day.

A. 26.—In case of interruptions from shortness of water or other causes, if the time was not made up the workpeople would lose their wages; and in some cases, by reason of a small number of children not being allowed to work extra hours, the whole number of people employed would be at times unable to work.

A. 27.—Formerly part of the works were kept on a greater number of hours by means of two sets of workpeople.

A. 28.—The present hours of work are satisfactory both to the proprietor and workpeople.

A. 31.—If it were desired to work a much greater number of hours permanently, relays of two sets of children would not be objectionable but desirable.

A. 32, 33, & 34.—Many years since two sets of hands were employed, one by night and the other by day, but that has long since been discontinued.

A. 35.—Night-work is only practised in the gas-works, except as regards a proportionately small part, when from want of water they cannot all be employed in the day-time.

A. 36.—In case of such a shortness of water as will only admit a part of the work to be in operation in the day-time, the prohibition of night-work would deprive the workpeople thus prohibited from earning a livelihood, and would frequently cause a large additional number to be unable to work in consequence of the machinery standing still.

A. 37.—Generally a lessened production at an increased cost. As regards the lace trade in particular, the proprietors of power-machines (which are worked in factories) would be placed in a very injurious and unfair position as regards the owners of hand-machines. The latter compose four fifths of the trade, and being worked chiefly in private dwelling houses can (if not subject to the proposed Act) be worked all hours, and thus supply the trade at their own discretion, so as to glut the market, whilst the power manufacturers, without reaping any advantage from an active state of trade, must afterwards suffer all the evils of an overstocked market.

A. 38.—No temperature is required in these works beyond what conduces to the comfort of the people, except the dressing-rooms, where no children are employed.

A. 39.—The dressing-rooms require a heat of from 70° to 80°; but, as before stated, no children are employed therein.

A. 40.—About twenty.

A. 41.—Some one or other of the twisting-ooms have been worked sixty-nine nights, part at a time, when from want of water they could not be worked in the day-time.

A. 42.—Seventy-six under eighteen years of age.

A. 43.—Eleven hours, allowing thereout one hour for rest.

A. 44.—Sixty-eight under eighteen years of age.

A. 45.—From seven in the evening until six in the morning, whilst the other machinery was standing.

A. 46.—The gas works.

A. 47.—They are never entirely suspended.

A. 48.—Three men of the ages of thirty-five, forty, and fifty-three, of whom one only is employed at night.

A. 49.—This, as regards the gas works, is too notorious to require explanation.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—The effects of night-work are injurious (to young people especially) in a moral point of view, and is only adopted here as a lesser evil than their being without work, and particularly when a great number of people would also be idle who depend upon the produce of this work for their employment in subsequent stages of the manufacture.

A. 53.—All except those employed in twisting cotton leave the mill for half an hour at breakfast, an hour at dinner, and half an hour at tea; the twistors take their breakfast and tea in the mill.

A. 55.—The reasons why the twistors do not go out are to avoid coming earlier or staying later without working less time, and that it would be very inconvenient to stop these machines, which take much power, for half an hour only, on account of the overflow of water. With the lace-machines which have each a man and boy, this difficulty does not exist.

A. 57.—By reprimand, fine, or discharge.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments are forbidden, except as below.

A. 59.—In some few cases the overlookers have, by desire of their parents, punished sturdy and rude boys.

A. 60.—Only as stated in the last and following answers.

A. 61.—In some few instances, at the request of the parents, who from infirmity or other causes were incapable of correcting their boys themselves, the overlookers have been permitted to administer a moderate chastisement; but even these requests on the part of parents have been generally refused.

A. 62.—Whenever it has come to the knowledge of the proprietor that corporal punishment has been inflicted (except as above) he has expressed his disapprobation, and forbidden a repetition.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given, except as stated in former answers; as a general rule, corporal punishments are forbidden.

A. 64.



A. 64.—No complaints have been made or proceedings taken before magistrates on these subjects, but in some instances complaints have been made to the proprietor, who, upon inquiry, has done justice between the parties to the best of his judgment.

A. 65.—A small part of the workpeople inhabit houses belonging to the proprietor, but no interference is exercised in their domestic arrangements.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from an early age are far more skilful, make more and better work, and earn more money than others who have learnt as adults; but in a list containing between eight and nine hundred names it would be very difficult to particularize.

A. 67.—Within the last ten years the health of the workpeople has decidedly improved; cannot state any particular evidence, but believe it is an undoubted fact. The cause is believed to be (at least in part) the people being more habituated to the employment. Formerly many adults were employed who had been accustomed to out-door work, and the change had an injurious effect on their healths.

A. 68.—There is seldom any occasion to change the employment of the workpeople; if, when first employed, they are found unfit for their work, which sometimes happens, from defective sight or other causes, they are recommended to take up some other employment.

A. 69.—As a lace manufactory it is not subject to the present Act.

A. 70 to 78.—As these questions relate to mills under the present Act, the last answer will show that they do not apply to this manufactory; and it is not known that there are any mills or factories in this or the adjoining counties which are subject to the present Act.

AMBROSE BREWIN jun.

Devonshire.

A. Brewin jun.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Gloucestershire.

### ANSWERS of DANIEL COX, Chalford.

No. 2.

Daniel Cox.

A. 1.—Chalford, in the parish of Bisley, county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Woollen cloth for the East India Company.

A. 3.—No additions have been made to the buildings in the last thirty years. I have no means to ascertain when first employed, but suppose it has been a fulling-mill for one hundred and fifty years.

A. 4.—Water-power, very irregular; not one tenth as much water in the summer as in the winter. Average power about twelve horses.

A. 5 & 6.—The rooms are large and airy, but no means of ventilation otherwise than the opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of those employed.

A. 8.—Yes, to the best of my judgment, without making danger more dangerous.

A. 9.—The workpeople in the winter months have access to the stoves for drying, that are detached from the mill, temperature about eighty degrees, where they can change their clothes if wet by rain on coming to work; males to the cloth stove, females to the wool stove.

A. 10.—About nine years. They are generally introduced by and work under their parents.

A. 11.—Yes; the process of piecing can be performed with more ease by children about the stature at which they arrive from nine to twelve years than later.

A. 12.—No; there has been no alteration in the machinery used by me in the last thirty years, which employs children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—There are a few who reside with relations.

A. 16.—By the relations, not by the master.

A. 17.—The day process of spinning, ten hours; the continuous process of fulling and raising twenty hours, by two sets of hands.

A. 18.—Ten hours; no difference.

A. 19.—The spinning department may have been employed thirteen hours, to regain the time lost any preceding day in repairing the works.

A. 20.—Sundays and holidays excepted, I do not know of its being entirely closed.

A. 21.—Cannot say.

A. 23.—Not more than eight in the spinning department, twelve in the fulling.

A. 26.—It has seldom occurred to me of late years to require any excess of the hours of labour in the spinning-department, because there have been so many mills but partially employed, I have always had recourse to their assistance.

A. 27.—Not during the last three years.

A. 29.—I do not know of any inducement to keep children at work through the night, after being employed all the preceding day.

A. 30.—No; ours is all paid by the piece; therefore, if a less quantity is done, a less sum is paid; the loss is only in the loss of the water-power, which occurs every summer, and this casualty is considered in the rent.

(APP.—B. 1.)

A 2

A. 31.



Gloucestershire.

Daniel Cox.

- A. 31.—None.
- A. 32.—Yes, in the fulling-department always.
- A. 33.—Yes, one man, and one boy about fourteen, to each set of stocks and to each gig-mill. I work two sets of stocks and two gig-mills.
- A. 34.—None.
- A. 35.—Change.
- A. 36 & 37.—A restriction on the fulling and raising departments from work at night would reduce the produce one third, and lessen the value of premises in a similar proportion.
- A. 38.—Atmospherical.
- A. 39.—The process of drying in the winter months about 80°.
- A. 40.—Three.
- A. 41.—In fulling and raising five nights in every week.
- A. 42.—None under twelve years of age.
- A. 43.—Ten.
- A. 45.—Seven to seven; two hours for meals.
- A. 46.—Yes, fulling and raising, the meals are taken the process going on, the millman relieving the rougher.
- A. 47.—Some cloths will full in fifteen hours, others, some twenty, thirty, and, if checked in the process, it may require one hundred.
- A. 48.—Adults, and boys of fourteen and upwards.
- A. 50.—Candles.
- A. 51.—Similar to the day.
- A. 52.—I discover none.
- A. 53.—One hour breakfast, one hour dinner.
- A. 54.—As they think proper.
- A. 57.—Dismissal.
- A. 65.—In cottages detached from the manufactory, and not generally belonging to the master.
- A. 66.—I consider those who have been initiated in the primary processes make the best workpeople, but I have no means of reference to any particular case; I am not aware there is an individual in my employment who has not been reared in the manufacturing employment.
- A. 67.—Much the same; but if provisions had been cheaper, and the temptation of the beer-shops withheld, I think the younger branches would have been better fed.
- A. 68.—No injurious process.
- A. 69.—Not that I know of.
- A. 77.—No.
- A. 78.—I do not think any legislative provision necessary, except the repeal of the present corn laws. Ameliorate the condition of the workpeople by allowing them to buy cheap food, and parental feelings will operate to prevent children being forced to work too much. The present destitution of some of this class is great, caused by the produce of their labour being in competition with that of mechanics in other countries where food is one third the price; this has reduced the wages here, while the high or war price of provisions has been continued, and compels parents to send children of tender age to eight or ten hours daily labour; but if you restrict the free exercise of labour without repealing the restrictions on the free importation of corn, I fear that thousands of children will perish with hunger.

DANIEL COX.

No. 3.

Messrs. Davis.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. DAVIS &amp; Co., Chalford.

- A. 1.—Chalford, in the parishes of Besley, Hampton, and Salperton, and county of Gloucester.
- A. 2.—Manufacture of broad-cloths, and dyeing the same.
- A. 3.—One factory built about seventeen years, one twenty years, one thirty years and upwards, one eighteen years, and dye-house four years; employed wholly as above.
- A. 4.—Water-power, about thirty-six horse; steam-power about twenty-four horse; causes of irregularity sometimes for want of employment, and sometimes out of order.
- A. 5.—None.
- A. 6.—There are windows in all the rooms, which may be opened at the convenience of the people working therein.
- A. 7.—The workpeople are at liberty to open the windows for ventilation as they please.
- A. 8.—They are.
- A. 9.—They may wash and dress and undress if they please.
- A. 10.—About seven years, and not otherwise employed previous to their coming to the factory.

A. 11.



A. 11.—It does, but the nature of the work is so simple and easy that it could not injure the health of a child of the most tender years.

A. 12.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—They come from their parents in the morning, and return to their protection in the evening.

A. 16.—Their parents only.

A. 17 & 18.—About ten hours.

A. 19.—Not more than twelve hours, except when the machinery has been retarded by accident, or in time of short water, when the millmen or fullers of cloth sometimes work at night.

A. 20.—Every day in the year, except Sundays, Christmas-day, and the Fast-day.

A. 23.—I should suppose from six to eight hours per day, but cannot tell exactly.

A. 24.—We are not aware of any child's working more than ten hours in any one day last year.

A. 25.—When we have a good trade and plenty of orders, but which has not been the case for some years past.

A. 26.—Not having occasion, cannot tell.

A. 27.—Some five or six years ago we have worked more hours than at present.

A. 28.—Not in the least.

A. 29.—Never having caused children or adults to work through the night, cannot tell what may induce other manufacturers to do so.

A. 31.—We cannot see why there should be any objection.

A. 32.—We never tried the experiment.

A. 34.—Never had occasion to employ more than one set of hands, therefore had no recourse to working at night.

A. 36.—In the milling or fulling of cloth, which in that process occupies from ten to twelve hours, which if stopped during that process would be injurious to the texture of the cloth, and could not be afterwards recovered.

A. 37.—Our opinion is, that the hours of working are at present too much reduced for want of more trade.

A. 38.—The temperature of the atmosphere, winter and summer.

A. 39.—Not any particular degree of heat required.

A. 46.—The milling only (see A. 36.), which often requires the whole of the twenty-four hours, except meal-times.

A. 47.—In the night.

A. 48.—From fourteen years to fifty and sixty.

A. 50.—Some with candles, and others with oil.

A. 51.—By opening the doors and windows.

A. 52.—Are not aware that it produces any different effect.

A. 53.—One hour at breakfast and one hour at dinner, but very often exceeded.

A. 54.—Not controlled, they may dine where they please.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the operatives.

A. 57.—Dismiss them at once.

A. 58.—No.

A. 65.—Some of the workpeople live in houses of their masters, but not generally so. The houses of a great proportion of the working-classes were visited last year by their masters and others, who caused them to be whitewashed and cleaned, to keep off the cholera morbus.

A. 66.—Of course those who have been bred up from their infancy to the business are generally the most easy taught, and make the best servants.

A. 67.—Do not know any difference in the health of the working-people for the last twenty years.

A. 68.—We select those whom we consider most competent to fulfil the different occupations.

A. 69.—We do not consider our mills subject to the Act.

A. 73.—We are not aware of any Act of Parliament to which our mills in this neighbourhood are subject.

A. 74.—Never to our knowledge.

A. 77.—Never knew any one instance of the kind.

A. 78.—We do not see how any improvement can be effected.

9th May 1833.

HANDY DAVIS.  
JESSE DAVIS.



Gloucestershire.

No. 4.

S. &amp; W. Long.

## ANSWERS of S. and W. LONG, Charfield.

- A. 1.—Parish of Charfield, county of Gloucester.
- A. 2.—The manufacture of superfine broad-cloths and cassimeres.
- A. 3.—First building 1813, second 1826, third 1829; all have been employed since their erection for their present purpose.
- A. 4.—First building all by steam (twenty horse engine), except two gig-mills, which are driven by water; second entirely by water; third entirely by steam (thirty-six horse engine). The water-power of the second building and part of the first equal to about twenty-five horse-power in the summer, but it is very irregular; the water-power is greater in the winter, perhaps equal to fifty horse power, but even then irregular, from floods.
- A. 5.—Casements in every room, by which the fresh air passes through them.
- A. 6.—On the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of all who feel the need of air.
- A. 8.—All we consider dangerous are fenced off, but probably a person unacquainted with factories may consider some parts dangerous that are not fenced off.
- A. 9.—We consider the works and workshops healthy, so that nothing of the sort is needed, unless for a few, perhaps six men and boys that are employed in a drying-stove in the winter season; these have the convenience of changing their clothes when they think it needful.
- A. 10.—About nine years.
- A. 11.—Yes, because they do not require so much wages, and in many instances a child at eight or nine years is equally capable of the work as one at twelve years of age, as it requires attention only, and is not laborious.
- A. 12.—It has made scarcely any difference with us.
- A. 13.—At present have not one.
- A. 15.—None lodged or maintained, as all come from and return to their parents or guardians daily.
- A. 17.—Spinners generally from six in the morning till seven in the evening, with two hours for meals out, leaving eleven hours daily. Persons employed in finishing goods vary from twelve to sixteen hours, and occasionally all night; they are always paid for over-time, and many of them work by the piece.
- A. 18.—Many from the age of twelve to twenty-one are employed in finishing goods as above, who are paid by the piece or by the hour for over-time.
- A. 19, 20, & 21.—No account having been kept it is impossible to reply to these queries correctly. On an emergency some part in finishing goods have been kept on the whole twenty-four hours, but entirely optional to the workmen.
- A. 22, 23, & 24.—Impossible to answer this unless an account had been kept during the year; and as most work by the piece, it was not needful.
- A. 25.—Cannot state the time; but the circumstances, brisk demand for goods.
- A. 26.—Certainly not, unless we could foresee for six months prior that the demand would be brisk, or relinquish an order when a given time only was allowed, for instance, the sailing of a vessel, &c.
- A. 27.—Yes.
- A. 28.—Most certainly it is.
- A. 29.—Sometimes for want of power, and at others to get the goods ready by a certain time for the market.
- A. 30.—Yes, in the finishing, when we have a given quantity to finish in a certain time, our old hands, by working extra hours, would accomplish it gladly; whereas if we put in others for a short time, we should run much risk of having the goods damaged; and of course if we employ a man only occasionally he will expect more wages; besides it is sometimes impossible to get hands in this way: this refers only to the finishing the goods, and we never want to employ children under twelve years of age in this work.
- A. 32.—We have never found but the children we employ were fully equal to their work.
- A. 33.—Of late years we have not, but when our power was more limited we had a set of hands to work at the gig-mills in dressing cloths alternately, twelve hours on and twelve hours off.
- A. 34.—The only reason that could induce a person to employ two sets of hands might arise from want of power, and a demand for goods, when it would be needful to keep his machinery continually at work, and two sets of hands must be had to do this.
- A. 35.—Formerly when we employed two sets of hands for dressing goods, they took it alternately; the set that worked one week by day worked the next week by night.
- A. 36.—Very injurious at times, in rendering it impossible to accept of contracts for goods required in a limited time; also after contracts were made, in case of any stoppage from accidents in machinery, it would be quite impossible to fulfil them without working by night.
- A. 37.—In a time of demand it would be impossible to execute orders to the extent required; also unless a price could be obtained to enable the master to give the same wages for a less number of hours, the workman would be greatly injured, and we believe ours would be equally dissatisfied.
- A. 38, 39, & 40.—No particular heat is required for any of the works above the natural temperature; but there are two rooms in the first building near the steam-engine, in which about fifteen men and boys are employed, that are certainly warmer; also the drying-stove spoken of in A. 9.



A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—Cannot say, having kept no account, but have not worked during the whole of the night for the last year or more, except at the process called fulling, although we have worked late in finishing goods for pressing orders.

Gloucestershire.

A. 46.—No process in which our goods would absolutely spoil if stopped for a few hours, but the fulling and dressing take the longest time, and are more essential to be continued than any other.

S. &amp; W. Long.

A. 47.—Various, depending on the sort or kind of goods.

A. 48.—Men, and boys above twelve years of age.

A. 49.—Because the goods in fulling and dressing acquire a certain heat, and require to be kept in season, which is checked in stoppage, in some instances with damage to the goods.

A. 50.—By lamps and candles.

A. 51.—The windows.

A. 52.—We have never observed any ill effects on the persons who have been employed by us during the night.

A. 53.—Two hours a day; one for breakfast, from eight to nine o'clock, and one for dinner, from one to two o'clock; those who work by the piece or pound use their own inclination.

A. 54.—Being in a country place, not many leave the premises.

A. 55.—Solely for the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—Inconvenient for them, as they would have some distance to walk.

A. 57.—When disobedient we generally discharge them.

A. 58.—They have been occasionally.

A. 59.—Usually by the person aggrieved.

A. 60.—Yes; though rarely.

A. 61.—Yes, when we have deemed it absolutely necessary for the correction of the person, and to prevent ourselves from further damage; but only for such as careless neglect, wilful mischief, or gross immorality, have we sanctioned such punishment.

A. 62.—Yes, when we have considered that children have been punished undeservingly.

A. 63.—No particular instructions ever given.

A. 64.—Never any that we remember during twenty-seven years, as it respects ourselves, although we have often had occasion to correct them; but about eighteen months ago an overlooker flogged a boy who had thrown maliciously a piece of iron at a man's head for being corrected by him, and was summoned before a magistrate by the mother of the lad, but made it up with her, and the lad returned to work again.

A. 65.—Very few; and those we have no control over, but as it respects their work.

A. 66.—We always find that those who have been employed in the trade from their infancy are preferable as workmen to those who come at later periods.

A. 67.—Are not aware of any difference; we consider our people generally healthy.

A. 68.—Yes, of the boys employed in the stove during the winter season, spoken of in A. 9.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—Can only speak of our own, and should say most certainly not.

A. 78.—Should say that our neighbouring magistrates are quite sufficient for this purpose, in any case of complaint, without further legislation.

A. 79.—We think the Factory Bill a most absurd thing in the west of England, undoubtedly the parents are best able to judge at what age a child is capable to work, and also what work he is able to do; and in case of any ill-treatment the magistrates are always accessible; and why should the legislature interfere with our manufacture more than with mining or any other labour?

S. &amp; W. LONG.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HOWARD, Dursley.

No. 5.

John Howard.

A. 1.—Dursley, in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Superfine woollen cloth.

A. 3.—Erected about fifty years.

A. 4.—Water-power, very irregular.

A. 5.—Windows, doors, and fire-place on each floor.

A. 7.—By the foreman, or any persons employed in the room.

A. 8.—All parts considered dangerous have a fence.

A. 9.—The health and cleanliness of the workpeople render such arrangements unnecessary.

A. 10.—Six years.

A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age may be advantageously employed.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Eleven hours when well supplied with water.

A. 19.—Fulling and gig mills thirteen hours and a half.

A. 22.—Work when supplied with water.

A. 23.—Eight hours.

A. 24.—Eleven hours.

A. 25.—Children never exceed eleven hours.

A. 27.—No.

(APP.—B. 1.)

A 4

A. 37.



Gloucestershire.

John Howard.

A. 37.—The wages of the workman and the profits of the manufacturer would be reduced in proportion to the decreased hours of labour, which would deprive the former of his present domestic comforts, and his idle hours would probably be spent in the beer-houses, to the injury of his morals, and the ruin of himself and family.

A. 38.—Atmospherical temperature is at all times sufficient.

A. 53.—From eight to nine, and from one to two.

A. 54.—All leave the factory at meal-hours.

A. 57.—Kind treatment is generally sufficient, but upon extraordinary disobedience a small switch is used by the foreman or parent.

A. 64.—No such complaints have been made.

A. 65.—We have no cottages occupied by the workpeople.

A. 67.—The general health of the workpeople is good.

A. 68.—There is no branch of the trade injurious to health.

A. 69.—We know of no Act to which woollen factories are subjected at the present day.

A. 79.—Parents are the only proper persons to regulate the hours of work for their children.

JOHN HOWARD.

No. 6.

J. F. Marling.

## ANSWERS of JOHN FIGGINS MARLING, Ebley.

A. 1.—Ebley Mills, in the parish of Stonehouse, in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Washing, drying, willeying, picking, scribbling, and carding wool; spinning warp, and abb yarn; spooling, warping, fining yarn; quilling, weaving, fulling, burling, dressing, and finishing superfine cloths and kerseymeres.

A. 3.—The principal building erected in 1818; first used in 1825. The other buildings erected for the most part about 1800; first used for their present purpose in 1829.

A. 4.—Power employed in the principal building only water; irregular in the summer months; sometimes no water until near noon; power of the mill about eighty horses.

A. 5.—Sash windows on each side of the building, which admit a proper circulation of fresh air.

A. 6.—Depends on the sashes being lifted up.

A. 7.—The sashes are lifted, as occasion requires, by any of the persons employed in the respective rooms.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—I consider that every part of my manufactory is healthy; it is not found necessary to change their clothing on entering or leaving their work further than the difference persons feel it necessary to make in leaving a dwelling house to go the distance between their homes and the mills, which depends chiefly on the season of the year and the state of the weather.

A. 10.—The youngest children employed here are of the age of seven years, and when employed so young have seldom been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—Taking away and joining rollers after carding requires children under twelve years of age, as they have only to carry half an ounce weight, and join the rollers of about the twentieth of an ounce each, and the older children have a great objection to this light work.

A. 12.—There have been no alterations in the machinery here which have affected the number of children employed under the age of twelve years.

A. 13.—No apprentices are employed here.

A. 15.—There are some orphans employed here, who all live with their relations or friends, and are sent here to obtain the means necessary for their support.

A. 17.—Chiefly the adults are employed ten hours and a half, but, as the trade may require, they work twelve or fourteen hours per day.

A. 18.—Persons of the age of fourteen and upwards are occasionally employed twelve or fourteen hours, but those under fourteen years are not employed more than ten hours and a half.

A. 19.—The fulling stocks are occasionally employed twenty-four hours continuously; the other departments from ten to twelve hours each per day.

A. 20.—Not more than two hundred and ninety-nine days.

A. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred and ninety hours.

A. 22.—We begin in the morning at six and half past six, and leave at six in the evening, except the weaving, which is continued until seven, and the fulling, and dressing, and finishing, which are continued until eight or nine o'clock, as the trade may require.

A. 23.—Ten hours and a half.

A. 24.—Eleven hours.

A. 25.—I have not required extra hours of labour of the children for a long period.

A. 26.—I think persons may avoid requiring more than eleven hours of labour from children under fourteen years; but above that age they are required in the fulling, and dressing, and finishing, which require for the two latter sometimes twelve or fourteen hours, and for the former twenty-four hours continuously; but in the fulling there are considerable intervals for rest.—N.B. The labour in fulling cloths is not continuous, although the operation of the machinery is.

A. 27.—I have always worked my mills about the same hours per day as at present.

A. 29.—In those manufactories where there is not sufficient machinery, or where there is not sufficient power to carry on all the works at the same time, some night-work may be necessary;



necessary; but in the fine trade, I believe it would not benefit the manufacturer to employ children in the night.

A. 30.—I have not known the laws for the limitation of the hours of work put in force in this neighbourhood; nor have I known the hours of labour limited by any other rule than the mutual convenience of the master and the labourers.

A. 31.—I consider that in some departments of the trade it would be injurious to the goods to have two sets of children employed on the same piece, and for the same reason it would be equally injurious to employ children in the night.

A. 32.—I have not known extra hours required but to a very small extent during the twenty years I have been in the trade, and consequently have not known a change of hands employed.

A. 33.—I have not employed a night-set.

A. 34.—The work on which the children are employed here is very valuable, and requires a nice uniformity in the work, which I believe would not be insured by two sets of children.

A. 35.—I have only employed one set, and these work only in the day-time.

A. 36.—It would be a very serious loss to me if I could not employ persons above the age of fourteen years occasionally twelve or fourteen hours, because the demand would frequently cease before the goods could be finished if this were prohibited.

A. 37.—The manufacture of fine cloths and kerseymeres occupies a period of nearly four months before the goods are ready for the market, and any restriction of the hours of labour would prolong the time necessary to finish the goods.

A. 38.—There is no heat required in the manufactory higher than the ordinary temperature of a dwelling-house.

A. 41.—The fulling-stocks and the finishing-hands have been occasionally employed for a part of the night, about two nights in the week till ten o'clock.

A. 42.—No children employed.

A. 46.—In summer we are compelled to work the stocks, finishing at such hours as the water comes, but I have no children at this work under fourteen years.

A. 47.—It is not indispensable to continue any process for twenty-four hours, except for dispatch, and also to prevent the great loss which is occasioned by waiting for the water and repairing the mills.

A. 48.—Adult males and youths above fourteen years of age; no females.

A. 49.—In milling or fulling cloths if you work the mills ten hours each day only, it will sometimes take a week, but if continued eighteen hours may be done in two days. The loss in interrupting milling and dressing is very great.

A. 50.—By lamps and candles.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 52.—Having only occasionally required night-work I have never found the ill effects from it in the habits of those employed.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner for all that are employed here, *i.e.* from one till two o'clock.

A. 54.—They all do as they like in this; many of them go home to dinner as they live very near.

A. 55.—The few who stay here to dinner do so entirely for their own convenience.

A. 56.—I should not have the least objection to it; the only inconvenience would be to those persons who prefer to remain here.

A. 57.—The chief means used here are occasional discharges for misconduct.

A. 58.—I have very seldom known corporal punishments inflicted here under any circumstances, and am sure it is very seldom resorted to.

A. 59.—When it has been done it has been by their parents, or the foreman, or those who have the care of them.

A. 60.—I have in most instances been acquainted with the circumstances of each case.

A. 61.—I have frequently been requested by their parents to have them punished when they prove refractory, as it frequently displays itself at home as well as at the mills.

A. 62.—I have generally preferred discharging those children who would not yield to mild treatment, and have not punished them as requested by their parents, nor allowed them to be punished.

A. 63.—I have always instructed my foremen to inform me of any misconduct of the children, but not in writing, as I live on the premises.

A. 64.—I do not recollect any case of this kind during all the time I have been in the trade, and I believe that not one case has occurred in my experience.

A. 65.—Six families, comprising forty individuals, live on these premises; they are orderly and cleanly, and the children are instructed in day and Sunday schools.

A. 66.—Those who are employed at an early age are generally better workmen than those who have previously worked at other trades. Our people have nearly all been brought up to this business, and have not left other employments to come to this.

A. 67.—The health of those employed here has improved within the last ten years. The improvements in machinery have made the labour less than formerly; and the reduced prices of food and clothing, and their improvement in knowledge, have greatly contributed to their health, and they are not so frequently intoxicated or diseased.

A. 68.—There is no process of the manufacture found to be injurious to health, to my knowledge.

A. 69.—I have never known any of the provisions of the present Act applied to this or

(APP.—B. 1.)

B

any

Gloucestershire.

J. P. Marling.



Gloucestershire.

J. F. Marling.

any other mill in this neighbourhood, and I do not know whether this mill is subject to it or not.

A. 77.—I believe that any person who had any complaint against his or her master would very freely make that complaint to a magistrate, and would also give evidence in the case of a fellow-servant making complaint.

A. 78.—I consider that the interest of the master will guarantee proper treatment to all his servants in the manufacture of superfine cloths, as the weight of the materials used in making them is much less and the cost much more than in making heavy goods, and it is incurring too great a risk of spoiling the goods to have the work performed by persons who are fatigued and weary by over-working.

A. 79.—I believe that the necessity for a new Act of Parliament to regulate the hours of labour does not exist anywhere in the West of England.

JOHN FIGGINS MARLING.

No. 7.

M'Lean, Stephens,  
& Co.

ANSWERS of MACLEAN, STEPHENS, and Co., Stanley Mills, Kingstanley.

A. 1.—Kingstanley, in the county of Gloucestr. The mill is fire-proof, the floors being composed of brick arches on iron beams, over which is laid stone paving. The rooms are twelve feet high, from the paving to the crown of the arch above.

A. 2.—The manufacture of superfine cloth and kerseymere.

A. 3.—Erected in the years 1812 and 1813, and employed for its present purpose since the period of its erection.

A. 4.—Five water-wheels on a fall of sixteen feet, equal to about two hundred horse power, and a steam-engine of forty horse power. The supply of water in the summer is so irregular as to cause occasional suspension of part of the works for several hours of a day.

A. 5.—There is a distinct specific provision for ventilation by the windows being so contrived that the upper section of each opens by pulling a cord, which any of the operatives can effect according to his own wants.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—The overlookers have the charge of keeping up a proper ventilation; but every workman is at liberty to study his own convenience in this respect.

A. 8.—All machinery considered dangerous is fenced off as far as is practicable with reference to its proper uses.

A. 9.—Our workpeople live in a village close by the mills, and in adjacent cottages, and have means of their own, within a few minutes walk, to ensure personal cleanliness, and other comforts described in this query. They have the free use of fire and water in the manufactory, and are not restricted from remaining in the rooms during meal-time, when they prefer it to going home.

A. 10.—None under nine years old, and very few under ten. None have been previously employed in any other trade.

A. 11.—Not if a sufficient number could be procured at that age, but that is impracticable.

A. 12.—No recent alteration in our machinery has affected the number of children heretofore employed.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children, and employ none but such as reside in the immediate neighbourhood, under the care of their parents or legal guardians.

A. 17.—Eleven to twelve hours, and occasionally in some departments thirteen hours. In the fulling-department (which employs very few hands, say six men,) a still greater number of hours; but the workmen may take an occasional hour's sleep, the labour not requiring constant attention.

A. 18.—Children employed as piecers, of nine to twelve or thirteen years of age, work ten and a half to eleven hours; above that age, eleven to twelve hours.

A. 19.—Not more than twelve hours, exclusive of the hours of refreshment, with the exception of the fulling-department.

A. 20.—Every day, except Sundays and some holidays at Whitsuntide and Christmas.

A. 21.—It is impossible for us to answer this query; we keep no time-book; our operatives are paid by the piece or quantity of work done.

A. 22.—We keep no register of the time of working in the different departments, and are therefore unable to give a satisfactory answer to this query.

A. 23.—Children less than ten hours; adults less than eleven hours. We think the average will not exceed nine hours.

A. 24.—We never employ more than one set of children, and that set has never been employed or kept to work more than twelve hours during any one day of the last year, and those were children of from nineteen to eighteen years of age.

A. 25.—The usual hours were not exceeded last year; but sometimes an excess beyond the usual hours of work becomes necessary to make up for stoppages, from shortness of water, from breakage of machinery, or owing to some particular department failing to produce the requisite quantity of work. If this were not the case, a great portion of the workpeople would occasionally be deprived of a considerable part of their usual earnings, by the necessity of one operation in the manufacture of cloth waiting for the other; ex. gra. if the spinners are



are obliged to wait for the carders, the latter must work a little longer to put the former to work, and so on throughout all the different operations of cloth-making.

A. 27.—We have at no former time usually worked our manufactory for a greater number of hours daily than at present.

A. 28.—Any restriction imposed upon the working of machinery, by a reduction in the hours of labour or otherwise, will enhance the cost of production.

A. 29.—We are not aware of any inducement to a manufacturer to have his work continued through night, without an intermediate change of hands. Night-work is not the practice of this country, and we are unacquainted with the custom of manufacturers in other countries. Work done at night, and particularly after the workpeople are fatigued by their day's labour, is never so good as that performed in the day-time. There is no law or general understanding of the trade that regulates this.

A. 30.—We have no diminution of our accustomed hours of working in any branch of our manufacture.

A. 31.—A scarcity of children would constitute one objection, but supposing this objection did not exist, the general duration of the hours of labour in the operation in which children are employed would not be sufficient to remunerate a double set. We are principally engaged in giving attention to machines worked by adults, during which they have no muscular labour to perform, and they are therefore not unwilling to work eleven or twelve hours, which is as long as any manufactory can under ordinary circumstances require to expedite the work of the department in which they are employed.

A. 32.—Upon this ground, as well as believing that the work cannot be so well done, we have never attempted to employ a second set of hands.

A. 36.—The effect in reference to the fulling or felting operation would be ruinous, as a great part of it is carried on at night. A prohibition therefore of night-work in this operation would take away the employment of one third of the whole manufactory.

A. 37.—To enhance the cost of production, to diminish the comfort of the operatives who are paid by the piece, in short, to disable the British woollen manufacturer to compete with his foreign rival.

A. 38.—There is no operation in our manufacture which requires a particular temperature; it is therefore entirely regulated with reference to the comfort of the workpeople.

A. 41.—At no time beyond eight o'clock at night, except the fulling-mill.

A. 42.—None after seven o'clock, and these from fourteen to nineteen years of age.

A. 45.—From dark to seven o'clock, say two hours and a half in the winter-time.

A. 46.—A continuity in the process of fulling cloth is essential to the proper execution of that operation; in the course of which a certain degree of heat is generated, which is required to be kept up during the continuance of the process. If the temperature were not properly preserved, the cloth would be injured.

A. 47.—The cloth remains in the stocks twenty-four to thirty hours, sometimes forty hours.

A. 48.—Men of experience (adults) are usually employed.

A. 50.—By gas, generated on the premises.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 53.—Eight o'clock in the morning, half an hour for breakfast; one o'clock P. M., an hour for dinner; five o'clock, quarter of an hour for tea.

A. 54.—Some do, and some do not; optional with themselves.

A. 57.—Refractory or disorderly children are punished by dismissal, when slight correction by the overlooker (which is permitted) proves insufficient.

A. 58.—The overlooker of the children is authorized to inflict slight punishments by means of a small leather strap, half an inch wide, (which he carries in his pocket,) in case of disobedience or a perverse neglect of their work, without which it would be impossible to keep the children in any kind of order.

A. 59.—In case of petty delinquencies, where a stripe or two of the leather strap would be insufficient, the overlooker of each department in which children are employed is instructed to call a jury of half a dozen of themselves, before whom regular evidence is adduced; and should the delinquent be found guilty this juvenile tribunal awards the punishment, which is confined to the leather strap or a few hours solitary confinement. Should the verdict direct corporal punishment, it is never carried into effect without the sanction of the parents and the authority of the master. This plan has been attended with the most salutary effects.

A. 64.—Never, upon any occasion.

A. 65.—No houses are attached to our establishment for lodging workpeople. We possess a few cottages, which we let to some of the heads of departments, on the usual footing between landlord and tenant.

A. 66.—Persons employed in the manufactory from their infancy are uniformly more intelligent and skilful than those who have been taken into employment at later periods.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any alteration in the health of the people of the factory. It has been uniformly good.

A. 68.—No process is carried on that can have any injurious effect on the health of the people.

A. 69.—Our mill is not subject to the provisions of the present Act.

18th May 1833.

MACLEAN, STEPHENS, & Co.



Gloucestershire.

No. 8.

*Samuel Clutterbuck.*

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL CLUTTERBUCK, Minchinhampton.

- A. 1.—Minchinhampton in the county of Gloucester.  
 A. 2.—The manufacture of woollen cloth.  
 A. 3.—Very old works, but pulled down and rebuilt about fourteen years ago.  
 A. 4.—Water chiefly; in very dry seasons steam, to supply the deficiency; water thirty horse, steam thirty horse.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The mill is kept to a convenient temperature by means of windows to open and shut as required.  
 A. 7.—By consent of all.  
 A. 8.—When it is considered necessary the machinery is fenced off, but so little dangerous is it that no single accident has happened during the last fourteen years.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—I consider they come to work as piecers at about nine years of age, and this is generally their first employment of any kind.  
 A. 11.—Yes.  
 A. 12.—I know no difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—I lodge and maintain no children; I have no orphans in the manufactory, and the children live with their parents.  
 A. 16.—They are under their parents care when from the factory.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours each day, exclusive of meal-times.  
 A. 18.—All work alike as to time.  
 A. 19.—I have not exceeded the eleven hours in any instance, excepting where the stocks and gig mills have worked at night during short water.  
 A. 20.—Every day.  
 A. 21.—As there are occasional hindrances from breaking of machinery, repairs, &c., I cannot answer this question accurately.  
 A. 22.—They are all carried on together.  
 A. 23.—About eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 27.—Very rarely; my factory has generally gone on in a regular and moderate way. I therefore can give no answers to the questions up to A. 36. except as matter of opinion.  
 A. 37.—It is obvious that the more the number of hours water-power is employed with machinery, the more benefit will accrue to the proprietor.  
 A. 38.—The temperature of the season when that is comfortable; at other times steam heat to a moderate degree.  
 A. 39.—In the stoves for drying, about one hundred degrees.  
 A. 40.—Three or four occasionally, and for short periods.  
 A. 41.—None, excepting stocks and gig-mills during a short time of water.  
 A. 42 & 43.—Four or five with stocks, &c. as above, occasionally all night.  
 A. 45.—All night, with occasional rest during a non-supply of water.  
 A. 46.—In felting cloths it is advantageous to continue, but it is not indispensable.  
 A. 48.—Men generally, and boys from the age of fourteen and upwards.  
 A. 49.—It is advantageous, because the process of felting goes on better than it does at intervals.  
 A. 50.—By lamps and candles.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 52.—I am not aware of any.  
 A. 53.—Two hours each day.  
 A. 54 & 55.—Some who live near go to their homes, some eat their meals on the premises, but all do as they like.  
 A. 56.—As there is no restraint, I know not how to give any answer to this question.  
 A. 62.—Kindness is always shown to the children, and they are almost always obedient and tractable.  
 A. 64.—There is only one instance during the last fourteen years, when a boy was punished for inattention and insolence to his overlooker.  
 A. 65.—Some live in my cottages, others elsewhere; the master's superintendence ends with the hours of labour.  
 A. 66.—Those who have pursued any avocation from childhood are certainly preferable to such as come into the factories ignorant of the business they undertake to perform. This remark applies generally.  
 A. 67.—I know of no difference.  
 A. 68.—It is not necessary.  
 A. 69.—I know of no existing act of parliament by which my mill is regulated.  
 A. 78 & 79.—As I am not aware of any improper treatment having been at any time practised, I see no occasion for legislative interference.

SAMUEL CLUTTERBUCK.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. BARNARD and Co., Nailsworth.

Gloucestershire.

No. 9.

Edward Barnard.

- A. 1.—Nailsworth, near Minchinhampton.
- A. 2.—Manufacture of superfine black cloth.
- A. 3.—First portion very old; first employed as a cloth-mill about 1730; second portion erected in 1806; third portion erected in 1814.
- A. 4.—Water about half the year; the other half part water and part steam.
- A. 5.—Opening of windows, assisted by the rotary motion of machinery and the revolution of straps or belts from the drums in the lower floors through holes in the different floors, and through every story of the building.
- A. 7.—Left to the discretion of the workmen in each apartment.
- A. 8.—All are fenced.
- A. 9.—There is no need of such, as the work is not of a dirting description.
- A. 10.—Nine years the lowest we allow, but poor parents will bring their own children under that age. Very seldom have any children been employed at other trades.
- A. 11.—The youngest children are employed in piecing rollers at the spinning-billies, or winding bobbins for the weavers.
- A. 12.—There have been no alterations in machinery for thirty years past which makes any alteration in the employment of children.
- A. 13 & 14.—None.
- A. 15.—None. There may be orphans employed by us, but not lodged or maintained by us.
- A. 16.—They reside with some friend or guardian.
- A. 17.—Eleven; from six in the morning till seven in the evening in the summer; eight to eight in winter; two hours out for meals, except in the fulling-mills, where the work is often carried on by one man and one boy for sixteen hours per day.
- A. 18.—Eleven; all come and go at the same time except the persons employed at the fulling-mills.
- A. 19.—About ten boys and men have wrought thirteen hours per day for about six weeks during the last year.
- A. 20.—Fifty-two weeks, six days each week; three hundred and twelve days.
- A. 21.—Fifty-two weeks, sixty-three hours each week, three thousand two hundred and seventy-six hours.
- A. 22.—All goes on together.
- A. 23.—Ten hours and a quarter each day is the average.
- A. 24.—Eleven hours.
- A. 25.—None, except about ten men and boys above mentioned in A. 19. The reason, the goods in the department they worked in were got a little behind hand.
- A. 26.—In the fulling-mills the goods would be much injured if they were stopped every day after working eleven hours; also in roughing or raising stopping the mills would injure the goods.
- A. 27.—Never.
- A. 28.—The cost of production must necessarily be enhanced by shortening the time of labour per day.
- A. 29.—We never work our mills through the night except the fulling-mills or stocks occasionally, which requires the attendance of one man and one boy.
- A. 30.—We work the same number of hours all the year round, therefore can make no calculation on this question.
- A. 31.—There would be little objection to a change of hands every ten hours, if necessary.
- A. 32.—Never wanted to be tried by us.
- A. 33.—Never employed a night-set.
- A. 34.—That portion of the charge on manufacturing which is for rent and interest of capital on machinery would be reduced nearly one half if the mills and machinery worked double time.
- A. 36.—We want no night-work, and wish it prohibited here and elsewhere.
- A. 38.—The temperature of the open air, except in frosty weather, when the temperature is raised to fifty and fifty-five.
- A. 39.—Just to make the workpeople comfortable. No branch requires any particular elevation of temperature.
- A. 40.—None; no such process.
- A. 41.—At no time.
- A. 42.—None.
- A. 46.—In fulling cloth or kerseymeres it is sometimes necessary to keep moving for twenty-four hours and upwards.
- A. 47.—Never absolutely indispensable; but the goods would be better by continuous working from twenty-four to fifty and sixty hours.
- A. 48.—Boys of fifteen and men: only four such persons wanted by us.
- A. 49.—When a piece of cloth continues to felt and thicken towards the close of the operation, a stop for several hours would prevent its thickening any further, however desirable it might be.
- A. 50.—By lamps.
- A. 51.—Same as by day; open windows.

(APP.—B. 1.)

B 3

A. 52.



Gloucestershire.

Edward Barnard.

A. 52.—Never practised, therefore cannot state the effects; suppose injurious to health and morals.

A. 53.—One hour at breakfast, one hour for dinner, quarter of an hour for tea in the winter.

A. 54.—All may leave. Some prefer taking their meals in their workrooms.

A. 55.—A mere matter of choice to the workmen.

A. 56.—There would be no injurious effect. It would be better for all to go to their homes to meals, if not too far distant.

A. 57.—A small stick is sometimes employed.

A. 58.—A stroke now and then is inflicted on the children.

A. 59.—By the persons who employ them.

A. 60.—Very seldom.

A. 61.—With our sanction.

A. 62.—Never heard an instance of cruelty, therefore never interfered.

A. 63.—Never. We have often, when the men complain of the children, desired them to chastise them. The general answer is, "If we do, they will have us before the magistrate for striking them."

A. 64.—Never heard of any for the last thirty years.

A. 65.—Few live in their employers houses; generally in cottages they rent. They are generally very cleanly in their persons and houses.

A. 66.—They generally commence at nine years of age, and are of course much better workmen when grown up from having acquired habits of discipline, industry, and skill.

A. 67.—No difference whatever is discernible the last twenty or thirty years.

A. 68.—All our processes are healthy, therefore we never change the hands on that account.

A. 69.—We know of no particular act applicable to our mills.

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

A. 72.—None to state.

A. 73.—No act is known to operate on the mills in this neighbourhood.

A. 74.—Never.

A. 75.—No.

A. 77.—Never hear them complain.

A. 78.—We conceive that as we can prove that no abuses have existed in the cloth manufacture of Gloucestershire, that there is no necessity for any new enactment to include this county. We consider that any interference is unjustifiable, and will be seriously injurious both to employers and the employed.

A. 79.—The space occupied by each individual in our factory is at least one hundred square feet of floor and eight to ten feet high.

EDWARD BARNARD.

No. 10.

Messrs. Playne  
and Smith.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. PLAYNE and SMITH, Dunkirk Mills, Minchinhampton.

A. 1.—Dunkirk Mills, Minchinhampton, Gloucester.

A. 2.—Manufacturing broad and narrow woollen cloths.

A. 3.—Part very old; no date; part built in 1800, 1818, 1819, 1820, and 1821; believe it has been a fulling-mill more than two hundred years.

A. 4.—Water and steam; the water varies from forty to ten horses power.

A. 5.—Casements, air passages near the floor, wood shutters, and fans driven by the mill power.

A. 7.—By the foreman generally.

A. 8.—All, where it is practicable; very seldom has any person been injured; for the last twenty years we have had only one fatal accident; in no other case has any person been disabled.

A. 9.—There are stoves where they can dry their clothes, steam-pipes to warm the buildings in winter; fans, &c. for cooling, with other conveniences, have been introduced many years.

A. 10.—We have four under nine years of age working with their parents, who have not been employed in any other trade to our knowledge.

A. 11.—Children under this age can perform some part of the manufacture with ease; their parents in general are anxious to get them out as early as possible.

A. 12.—The introduction of most of the machinery in use by us has increased the demand for children generally.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—We neither lodge or maintain any children.

A. 17.—Varies from nine to thirteen hours; sometimes fourteen.

A. 19.—We have no memorandum.

A. 20.—We believe not more than three hundred and ten days.

A. 22.—We have generally but little variation, except milling and rowing.

A. 27.—Occasionally we have, for a short period.

A. 28.—We believe it does; rent and taxes being the same.

A. 29.—We have not worked our manufactory through the night at any time.

A. 30.



Gloucestershire.

*Messrs. Playne  
and Smith.*

- A. 30.—Our time varies so little, we have made no calculation.  
 A. 31.—We are aware of none.  
 A. 32.—We have had no occasion to try the experiment.  
 A. 33.—We have not.  
 A. 36.—It might be a serious loss, by preventing our executing orders in time, and our water power would be partly lost.  
 A. 37.—It will be a loss to the parents of the children and to the manufacturers, having the same rents and taxes to pay.  
 A. 38.—It varies from 40° to 70°; cannot be carried on well under 40°.  
 A. 39.—The drying-stove is sometimes as high as 90°.  
 A. 40.—Three generally, but not obliged to be there constantly.  
 A. 41.—None all the night, except the fulling-mills.  
 A. 42.—None all the night.  
 A. 43, 44, & 45.—We seldom employ any children after eight.  
 A. 46.—Milling or fulling.  
 A. 47.—Some cloths three days or more.  
 A. 48.—From eighteen years to fifty.  
 A. 49.—We find the cloths hollow, and not so firm as they ought to be.  
 A. 50.—Oil and tallow.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 52.—We never observed or heard of any difference in those in our employment.  
 A. 53.—Varies from half an hour to one hour each meal.  
 A. 54.—All leave if they choose, but some prefer staying on the premises, especially in winter, having comfortable places to eat their meals. Distance from the manufactory another reason.  
 A. 57.—Discharged if they do not answer our purpose; sometimes by small fines, which are put to the fund for charitable purposes for the workpeople.  
 A. 58 & 59.—Very seldom, except by the parents of the children. If severely by any other person complaint would be made to a magistrate.  
 A. 60.—We believe very seldom.  
 A. 61.—Never, except for wilful mischief.  
 A. 62.—We have in two instances discharged the parents of children for cruelty to them. In no other case we do not recollect having occasion to interfere.  
 A. 65.—In a few instances they do, but generally not; they are all at liberty to rent where they like; we never interfere with their domestic arrangements.  
 A. 66.—Children brought to the manufactory early generally make the best workmen.  
 A. 67.—We have never known much sickness amongst the workpeople; on the contrary, we consider them generally very healthy; we believe they enjoy quite as good health as those employed at any other work.  
 A. 68.—We never find it necessary, no part being unhealthy.  
 A. 69.—We do not understand the Act.

PLAYNE &amp; SMITH.

## ANSWERS of W. PLAYNE &amp; Co., Minchinhampton.

- A. 1.—Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire.  
 A. 2.—Woollen manufactory.  
 A. 4.—Both water and steam.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Windows.  
 A. 7.—Left entirely to the discretion of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—Fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have not.  
 A. 10.—Not under nine years, with our knowledge.  
 A. 11.—It does not.  
 A. 12.—No difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge any of them.  
 A. 17.—From ten to eleven hours.  
 A. 18.—Ten hours.  
 A. 19.—Twenty hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.  
 A. 21 & 22.—Three thousand and forty-six hours.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When we had a given time to execute any orders.  
 A. 26.—Not avoidable, on account of having orders to execute within a limited time.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—No difference.  
 A. 29.—Never do without a change of hands.  
 A. 30.—No difference.  
 A. 31.—No objection.  
 A. 32.—Has been tried, and answers very well.

(APP.—B. 1.)

B 4

A. 33.

No. 11.

*W. Playne & Co.*



Gloucestershire.

W. Playne & Co.

- A. 33 & 34.—We have, and changed them at twelve.  
 A. 35.—Change at twelve.  
 A. 36.—If when limited to time, we should not be able to execute certain orders.  
 A. 37.—Injurious to the people and manufacturer.  
 A. 38 & 39.—Same as a dwelling house.  
 A. 41.—About six weeks.  
 A. 42, 43, & 44.—Twenty-five till twelve at night, and twenty-five afterwards.  
 A. 46.—Certainly not.  
 A. 50.—Oil-lamp.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 52.—The few times they have been employed apparently have not hurt them.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour each time.  
 A. 54.—They have liberty to leave.  
 A. 57.—Reprimanded.  
 A. 58 & 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Only a few.  
 A. 66.—Generally speaking, those who have been employed in the factory from infancy do their work best.  
 A. 67.—Much the same.  
 A. 68.—No injurious effects.

W. PLAYNE &amp; Co.

No. 12.

ANSWERS of THOMAS T. GORDON, Upper Mill, Painswick.

Thomas T. Gordon.

- A. 1.—Upper Mill, Painswick, Gloucestershire.  
 A. 2.—Manufacturing woollen cloths.  
 A. 3.—All erected at one time; employed about twenty-six years; only employed by me since Michaelmas 1830.  
 A. 4.—Water power, irregular; in the summer months one half the power; it is about forty horse power.  
 A. 5.—Yes, windows in each floor, and doors that open to admit a free current of air.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all employed in the manufactory.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Sometimes as low as seven or eight years; but I have none at present under nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—It does; because children under that age would become chargeable to the parish, and they are, by employing them, kept off the parish.  
 A. 12.—About the same.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 65.—Some do. I cannot tell, having other business to look to.  
 A. 66.—Those employed when young make the best workmen.  
 A. 67.—I have only carried on business here three years, and their health has generally been good.  
 A. 68.—No; no part of our manufactory is unhealthy.  
 A. 69.—I presume it is.  
 A. 70.—I never have been informed against.  
 A. 73.—I never heard of any infringement.  
 A. 76.—Never any required.  
 A. 77.—I should think not.  
 A. 78.—As far as our own neighbourhood is concerned, I should think the present scale of hours sufficient, as the workpeople appear quite satisfied with the hours they now work.  
 A. 79.—None.

THOMAS T. GORDON.

No. 13.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM PALLING, Painswick.

W. Palling.

- A. 1.—Painswick, Gloucestershire.  
 A. 2.—The entire manufacture of woollen cloth, with the exception of weaving.  
 A. 3.—The mill rebuilt in the year 1818, and had been employed as a woollen manufactory for twenty years previous to 1818.  
 A. 4.—Water only, and of course irregular during the summer season, there being several mills above; the one immediately above is a grist-mill, which occasions a greater irregularity in the power than would occur if it was employed as a woollen manufactory. The average power is from five to six pieces a week.  
 A. 5.—The factory is ventilated by windows only.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated according to the feelings of those employed in the different rooms or workshops.

A. 8.



Gloucestershire.

W. Palling.

A. 8.—The only machine or parts of machinery fenced off are the water-wheels and a machine called a wool-twilly; the reason other machinery is not fenced is, they are not so close together as to endanger the lives of the children or persons employed in passing or repassing them, neither do we consider the construction of the machinery itself so dangerous as to render such a measure necessary.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—We have only in one instance employed a child below the age of nine years, and then at the request of his father, under whom he worked. Generally speaking, we do not employ children under the age of ten; cases may occur of their having been employed at other trades, though I cannot give an instance.

A. 11.—The work which children are usually employed at is well adapted to the ages of ten or twelve; a child of ten years will do equal work with one of twelve, and receive the same wages.

A. 12.—The alteration in machinery has been the means of employing a greater number of children under twelve years of age; but previous to the introduction of machinery children were employed at the ages of ten and eleven.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 17.—The usual hours are ten.

A. 18.—Ten hours. We make no difference for persons under the age of twenty-one.

A. 19.—The stocks in which cloths are milled or felted have occasionally worked successively from forty to forty-eight hours. The shearing-machines have also worked twelve hours. Both have been worked by adults only. The machine for roughing or dressing cloth has worked fourteen hours, and at this a boy of the age of sixteen has been employed.

A. 20.—Three hundred and nine.

A. 22.—The whole of the works have been carried on ten hours a day, except when the water has been short or an accident has happened to some of the machinery, which accident would not affect the whole.

A. 23.—Rather more than ten by adults.

A. 24.—Not more than ten, with the exception of the boy alluded to in answer to Q. 19.

A. 25.—The circumstances which render more than ten hours necessary are an extra demand for the manufactured article, or loss of time occasioned by an accident to some of the machinery.

A. 26.—A manufacturer may be so situated (and happily so) that an excess of ten hours would be unavoidable; for instance, if a manufacturer had to supply a merchant with a certain quantity of goods in a given time, and the order to such an extent that ten hours labour would not accomplish it in the time specified, he must either forego the order or exceed the regular hours.

A. 27.—Yes, we have.

A. 28.—The only difference in the cost of producing a given quantity would be as regards the rent of the mill or mill-hire; for instance, if a mill at 10*l.* rent per week produced ten cloths with ten hours labour daily the mill-hire upon each cloth would be 1*l.*, whereas by working fifteen hours daily the quantity produced would be fifteen cloths, which would be a saving of 5*l.* per week to the manufacturer, or in other words the mill-hire on each cloth would be only 13*s.* 4*d.*

A. 29.—I cannot believe there can be any inducement beyond what I have stated in answer to Q. 26. & 28. as to the first part of the question; and certainly one set of children could not work during the day and night without endangering their health, and I should also say, without running great risk of mutilating their limbs.

A. 30.—I think my observations on Q. 28. will apply to this.

A. 31.—Persons under the age of twenty-one, indeed I may say children of the age of ten or twelve, would not feel distressed at working twelve hours; but should it be necessary to have the works continued for sixteen or eighteen hours, I consider it would be as advantageous to the master as it would be beneficial to the children to have relays.

A. 32.—The system of relays we have never tried, never having occasion for their labour more than twelve hours in a day.

A. 33.—We never have employed a night-set.

A. 36.—The prohibition of night-work in some instances, indeed I conceive in several, would be attended with inconvenience and loss to the manufacturer.

A. 37.—The effect would be a positive loss to the manufacturer.

A. 38.—In the summer season we never have fires in any part of the factory, therefore the temperature of the mill is regulated by the weather; in cold weather we have fires for the comfort of the persons employed.

A. 39.—None of our workshops are heated, except for the comfort of those employed in them.

A. 41.—I cannot say; but what has been worked has been by adults, with the exception of a boy who assists the rougher or dresser.

A. 42.—One only, the boy alluded to at A. 41.

A. 44.—One only.

A. 46.—Yes, they are; the felting or milling of cloth.

A. 47.—I have known it essentially necessary to continue it for forty-eight hours.

A. 48.—Above twenty-one years.

A. 49.—If it was not continued, some cloth would never be sufficiently milled or felted.

A. 50.—Some part by oil, others with candles.

(APP.—B. 1.)

C

A. 51.



Gloucestershire.

W. Palling.

A. 51.—Windows only.

A. 52.—Constant night-work would produce, I conceive, great laxity of conduct and an inclination to intemperance.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Entirely optional; all may if they like.

A. 57.—I have known a small switch made use of, but the persons under whom the children work have frequently told me that confinement in the mill during their meals is the best plan.

A. 58.—Occasionally with a switch.

A. 59.—By the persons under whom they work.

A. 60.—Yes, but never severely.

A. 61.—Yes.

A. 62.—I have not.

A. 63.—I have always instructed him to chastise them for neglect of work or improper conduct. I have advised a small osier or hazel twig. I have never given him any instructions in writing.

A. 64.—Never any.

A. 65.—Only two instances. No control exercised with regard to cleanliness or moral improvement.

A. 66.—Those brought up from infancy are the best and most skilful workpeople.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any change either one way or the other; I believe they enjoy an equal share of health with persons employed in agriculture.

A. 68.—We do not.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any Act that refers to cloth factories.

A. 73.—I am not aware of any Act, therefore do not know if they conform or otherwise.

A. 77.—Certainly; if their evidence would operate to the prejudice of the master, the result to the person most likely would be loss of employment.

A. 78.—In my opinion, experience has shown that fines are not adequate to enforce obedience; the truck system, to wit. If masters convicted of paying wages in goods instead of money were subject to corporal punishment, I conceive it would effectually put a stop to that as well as improper treatment to children.

A. 79.—None.

WILLIAM PALLING, for J. PALLING and SON.

No. 14.

Matthew Rice.

## ANSWERS of MATTHEW RICE of Small's Mill, Painswick.

A. 1.—Small's Mill, in the parish of Painswick, in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Superfine woollen-cloth manufactory.

A. 3.—The works were erected at different times; but cannot specify the dates of such erections, or the time of its being first employed for its present purpose.

A. 4.—Fourteen horse water power in winter, varying to only seven horse power during four months in the summer season. The supply of water during the said four months is very irregular, sometimes enabling us to commence work at seven o'clock in the morning, and at other times not until ten or twelve o'clock in the day, and will then continue to flow till ten or twelve o'clock at night, and if not used at the time it will be an entire loss to masters and workpeople.

A. 5.—Windows the only provision for the ventilation of our factory.

A. 6.—The provision depends on the opening the windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated at the discretion of any of the workpeople.

A. 8.—Dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—All the workpeople have access to water to wash themselves, and may change their clothing at their pleasure.

A. 10.—We have occasionally employed children as low as at seven years of age.

A. 11.—Children from seven to twelve years of age are as capable of piecing and feeding the machines, as also queeling to the weavers, as those above that age.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have made no difference in the employment of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children.

A. 16.—All the children we employ are under the superintendence of masters and foremen.

A. 17.—Usually work eleven hours, and occasionally twelve or thirteen hours, per day.

A. 18.—Those under twenty-one years of age are required to work the same time as those above that age, because the one cannot work without the other.

A. 19.—The milling process has been occasionally carried on the whole twenty-four hours.

A. 20.—About three hundred and ten days work during the last year.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred hours work during the last year.

A. 22.—Generally the whole of our works has been carried on together.

A. 23.—The average time of work is about eleven hours (except Saturdays) per day, which is only nine hours.

A. 24.



A. 24.—The greatest number of hours has been about thirteen.

A. 25.—To supply urgent orders; and in consequence of the irregular supply of water power the usual hours of work has been occasionally exceeded. Gloucestershire.

A. 26.—Occasionally our orders require an additional portion of time beyond the regular hours of work. Matthew Rice.

A. 27.—Our works are carried on as great a number of hours now as formerly.

A. 28.—The hours of work have not been reduced; but if at any time it should be, such reduction of work would, in our opinion, greatly enhance the cost of manufacture.

A. 29.—A change of hands in many instances would spoil the article of manufacture.

A. 30.—A limitation of hours of work in any branch would increase the cost of production where it depends on water power.

A. 31.—Fresh sets of children would spoil the article of manufacture.

A. 32.—We have occasionally tried fresh hands, and they have invariably spoiled the article of manufacture.

A. 33.—We have not employed a night-set of hands.

A. 36.—As we have only water power, and that being very irregular, a prohibition of night-work would be a material loss.

A. 37.—A farther reduction of working hours would enhance the cost of manufacture.

A. 38.—We require no heat whatsoever, but to make the workpeople comfortable in the winter.

A. 39.—A moderate heat for drying wool and cloth in the winter.

A. 40.—Usually two hands are employed in such process.

A. 41.—Only occasionally worked at night, to use the irregular supply of water, which would otherwise run by without being used at all.

A. 42.—No children employed at night-work.

A. 46.—It is necessary occasionally to continue the milling of cloth all night, partly because it cannot be staid during the process without injury to the cloth, but chiefly to make use of the irregular supply of water.

A. 47.—It should be continued during the process of milling, which varies from fourteen to twenty hours.

A. 48.—Persons employed in such processes are all males from eighteen to sixty years of age.

A. 49.—If the process of milling be staid before the cloth is finished, it would materially injure it.

A. 50.—Our works are lighted with lamps and candles.

A. 51.—No ventilation required at night for the milling of cloth.

A. 52.—No ill effects from night-work, it being only occasionally done.

A. 53.—One hour per day for all the workpeople, as they have breakfast before they come to work.

A. 54.—All leave the works at meal-time except those employed in the milling of cloth, which commences at seven o'clock.

A. 55.—If those who are employed in the milling of cloth were to leave, it would prove an injury to the cloth, and a material loss to the manufacturers.

A. 56.—It is immaterial where the workpeople have their meals.

A. 57.—Disobedient children are remonstrated with.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments are not inflicted.

A. 64.—No complaints whatever against us or our overlookers at any time on the subject of punishments.

A. 65.—A few live in our houses, and every precaution is used to promote their moral and social improvement.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are in general the best workmen, and the most careful to avoid accidents.

A. 67.—In general they are healthy.

A. 68.—There are no injurious effects from any of the processes of manufacture.

A. 69.—The present Act is not applicable to our mode of manufacture.

A. 77.—The workpeople would readily give evidence against their masters, if required.

A. 78.—We do not require any legislative alterations.

A. 79.—We have no objection to the restriction of children from work until they are nine years of age, provided the legislature will adopt means for the maintenance and education of such children; and a limitation of hours for those from nine to fourteen years of age, and after fourteen years of age to be allowed to work to the advantage of themselves, and at the convenience of their employers.

18th May 1833.

MATTHEW RICE.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN APPERLY, Rodborough near Stroud.

No. 15.

John Apperly.

A. 1.—Rodborough parish near Stroud.

A. 2.—Manufacturing broad and narrow woollen cloths.

A. 3.—Greater part newly erected, about three years.

A. 4.—Water-power, irregular.

A. 5.—Windows and fireplace.

(APP.—B. 1.)

C 2

A. 7.



Gloucestershire.

John Apperly.

- A. 7.—At the discretion of all employed.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous parts.  
 A. 9.—Wool-stove and fire-places.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—Generally under twelve for roller-joining.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Neither maintain or lodge any; no orphans.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 18.—Some thirteen, some eleven, some ten.  
 A. 19.—Stocks occasionally all night.  
 A. 20.—All the year excepting Sundays, holidays, or floody times.  
 A. 25.—I cannot say there has been any, excepting cutting or milling cloth or kerseymere, to fill up an order.  
 A. 26.—It is not avoidable at certain times.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 30.—My factory or mill being water-power, of course if we worked less hours it would waste my property.  
 A. 31.—No relays in the factory wanted.  
 A. 32.—No, because it would be inconvenient and unnecessary.  
 A. 36.—The cloths would be injured, and soap wasted.  
 A. 37.—If the hours are lessened I expect I must give up my factory.  
 A. 38 & 39.—Temperate.  
 A. 41.—I cannot say exactly, but not many nights.  
 A. 42.—No children.  
 A. 50.—By lamps and candles.  
 A. 51.—Fire-places and windows.  
 A. 53.—One hour at eight in the morning, and one hour at one o'clock.  
 A. 57.—Exchange them for fresh hands.  
 A. 64.—None at all.  
 A. 65.—Only two families in two tenements.  
 A. 67.—All the men, women, and children are healthy and well.  
 A. 68.—I have no dangerous processes.

JOHN APPERLY.

No. 16.

Robert Bamford.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT BAMFORD, Hope Mill, Rodbro'.

- A. 1.—Hope Mill in the parish of Rodbro', county of Gloucester.  
 A. 2.—Woollen-yarn spinning.  
 A. 3.—Built at once; the rooms being large, lofty and airy. Began to be employed for the present purpose in July 1829.  
 A. 4.—About seventeen horse water-power; irregular in the summer; but generally water enough for the purposes required.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Nothing but large lofty rooms, and plenty of windows, which the workpeople open and shut at their own pleasure.  
 A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all, without any restriction from the overlooker or manufacturer.  
 A. 8.—Not particularly fenced off, although every precaution is taken to avoid accidents, which never occur, except through pure carelessness.  
 A. 9.—There is no room set apart for this purpose, but very good accommodation to put on their working dress, and a pump of fine spring-water close to the factory, that all may wash at their pleasure.  
 A. 10.—A very small proportion are employed at seven years, who have not worked at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—We are obliged to employ children under twelve years, because there would be a difficulty in finding a sufficient number above that age, and the parents are anxious to find a place of quiet easy work at a much earlier period.  
 A. 12.—There has been no alterations in machinery used in my trade to affect the age of children required.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 16.—A foreman, who is deputed to look after the children, but whose salary does not depend on the quantity of work performed.  
 A. 17.—Ten hours per day.  
 A. 18.—Ten; no difference in respect to age.  
 A. 19.—I have not exceeded eleven hours per day the last ten years, not being required in my trade.  
 A. 20 & 21.—The manufactory has been regularly employed during the last year, except the time lost by short water, which cannot be ascertained.  
 A. 22.—I generally arrange that the whole works shall go on together.  
 A. 23.—Prior to 1st of January 1833 eleven hours per day, except Saturdays, and on that day only eight hours.  
 A. 24.—Never more than eleven, and now only ten; Saturdays eight only.

A. 25



A. 25 & 26.—Never exceeded the usual or regular hours under any circumstances, not being necessary in my trade.

A. 27 & 28.—Eleven hours regularly before the 1st of January 1833, but now only ten; but all my servants are paid by the day, and not by piece.

A. 38 & 39.—Having no steam, the factory is comfortably heated by fires in winter, and the accommodations before stated render it sufficiently airy in the summer.

A. 41.—Not one.

A. 46, 47, 48, & 49.—Our trade differs from the manufacture of cloth; we can begin and leave off at any time.

A. 50.—Oil-lamps.

A. 51.—Same as by day, but my factory is not open at night.

A. 52.—Never requiring night-work, cannot tell what may be the result of such employ.

A. 53.—One hour for each meal.

A. 54 & 55.—They all seek their own pleasure; the greater part living near generally go home; those who do not have their meals brought to the factory by some member of the family. It cannot affect the employer whether they go home or remain during the meals.

A. 56.—The preceding remarks will apply to this.

A. 57.—Generally discharged, and others taken in their stead, and the example frequently operates to command better obedience.

A. 58.—Not with my knowledge or consent.

A. 62.—I always requested they may be dismissed rather than any improper punishment should be inflicted, which I believe is generally attended to.

A. 63.—I have always requested that the children may be treated kindly, and in such cases of disobedience as render them useless I have given orders for their dismissal.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—I have only two houses for the accommodation of workpeople, and I generally choose men of good conduct to occupy them.

A. 66.—More steady and useful in their work, and more scientific in their ideas.

A. 67.—The workpeople generally look well in constant and regular employ, but in the absence of employ they soon show poverty and wretchedness, particularly since the introduction of the Beer Bill.

A. 68.—They pursue that branch of the business which their strength and capacity entitle them.

A. 69.—Not that I am aware of.

A. 77.—I have no idea of their being under apprehension on that head.

A. 78.—I cannot conceive that any legislation for the working people in this part of the country can be necessary; with regard to my own, I believe they are perfectly happy, healthy, and contented.

A. 79.—None.

ROBERT BAMFORD.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM FLUCK, Pitchcombe Mill, Standish.

No. 17.

William Fluck.

A. 1.—Parish of Standish in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Woollen-cloth manufactory.

A. 3.—Erected at different times, but cannot specify the dates of such erection, or when the time it was first employed for its present purpose.

A. 4.—Sixteen horse water power in winter, varying to about eight horse power during four months in the summer season; the supply of water during the said four months is very irregular as to time, sometimes enabling us to commence working at seven o'clock in the morning, and at other times not until nine or twelve in the day, and will then continue to flow to ten or twelve o'clock at night, and if not used at the said time it will be an entire loss to master and servants.

A. 5.—Windows.

A. 6.—On opening the windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of any of the workpeople.

A. 8.—Dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—All the workpeople have access to water to wash themselves, and to change their clothing at their pleasure.

A. 10.—We have occasionally employed children as low as seven years of age.

A. 11.—Children from seven to twelve years of age are as capable of piecing and feeding the machines, also quilling to weavers, as those above twelve years of age.

A. 12.—It has made no difference.

A. 13.—None.

A. 16.—We have no orphans.

A. 17.—Usually work eleven hours, and occasionally twelve or thirteen hours per day.

A. 18.—Those under twenty-one years of age are required to work the same time as those above that age, because the one cannot work without the other.

A. 19.—The milling process has occasionally been carried on the whole twenty-four hours.

A. 20.—About three hundred and ten days.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred hours.

(APP.—B. 1.)

C 3

A. 22.



Gloucestershire.

William Fluck.

- A. 22.—Generally the whole has been carried on together.
- A. 23.—About eleven hours per day, except Saturday, which is in general nine hours.
- A. 24.—About thirteen hours.
- A. 25.—To supply urgent orders, and in consequence of the irregular supply of water-power, the usual hours of work have been occasionally exceeded.
- A. 26.—Because occasionally our orders require an additional portion of time.
- A. 28.—The hours of labour have been reduced; in consequence it has enhanced the cost of manufacture.
- A. 29.—A change of hands in many instances would spoil the article of manufacture.
- A. 30.—A limitation of hours in any branch would increase the cost of production were it depends on water-power.
- A. 31.—Fresh sets of children would spoil the article of manufacture.
- A. 32.—We have occasionally tried fresh hands, and they have invariably spoilt the article of manufacture.
- A. 33.—We have not employed a night-set of hands.
- A. 34.—By working more than one set of hands would prove injurious.
- A. 35.—We have no general night-work.
- A. 36.—A prohibition of night-work would be a considerable loss to the manufacturer, especially where it depends on water-power.
- A. 37.—A farther reduction of working hours would be a material loss to the manufacturer, as it would enhance the cost of manufacture, particularly where it depends on water-power.
- A. 38.—The usual temperature for the summer season is as the weather may be; during the winter sufficient firing is allowed to make the workpeople comfortable; we require no further heat than the above described.
- A. 39.—A moderate heat.
- A. 40.—Two persons.
- A. 41.—Cannot recollect how many nights during last year, but we know that it was but very few, chiefly to use the irregular supply of water.
- A. 42.—No children have been employed for the special purpose of night-work.
- A. 43.—A few hours, but cannot recollect how many.
- A. 44.—None for the special purpose of night-work.
- A. 45.—A few from eight to twelve o'clock.
- A. 46.—It is indispensably necessary that we drive the stocks the twenty-four hours for the milling of cloth.
- A. 47.—During the whole time.
- A. 48.—The ages usually are from sixteen to fifty or sixty; all males.
- A. 49.—The reason why it is indispensable, for if the cloth is let go cold time after time it spoils the piece of goods.
- A. 50.—With lamps and candles.
- A. 51.—The windows.
- A. 52.—Do not know the effects which night-work has on the constitution, but those who work at milling cloth are in general healthy.
- A. 53.—Two hours each day.
- A. 54.—In general they do leave their works, and are entirely at their own disposal.
- A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.
- A. 56.—None.
- A. 57.—Discoursing with them, and instructing them.
- A. 58.—None at all by our knowledge.
- A. 59.—It is strictly forbidden by us to all our overlookers.
- A. 60.—None.
- A. 61.—Never has been sanctioned by us.
- A. 62.—Always forbidden corporal punishments, and do not know of any being inflicted.
- A. 63.—When we take foremen into our service, we caution them not to use corporal punishment.
- A. 64.—Not one complaint has been alleged against us or our overlookers.
- A. 65.—None of the workpeople do live in our houses.
- A. 66.—We believe those that are brought up to work from their infancy do make decidedly the best workmen, and are less liable to accidents, as they are in general more careful.
- A. 67.—We believe the health of the people is much the same as for the last ten years.
- A. 68.—We do not make any selection of persons, as we have no injurious effects of any particular process.
- A. 69.—It is not applicable to our manufacture.
- A. 70.—We never have been informed against for any thing.
- A. 77.—No reason to believe they are afraid of displeasing their masters.
- A. 78.—Cannot; we think the thing is working well and comfortable in our neighbourhood.
- A. 79.—We should have no objection to a limitation of hours, say from nine to fourteen years of age, provided the legislature will adopt means for the maintenance and education of such children which otherwise would become burdensome to their parents and parishes; and after the age of fourteen to be allowed to work for the convenience of themselves and their employers.

14th May 1833.

WILLIAM FLUCK.



## ANSWERS of GEORGE D. HARRIS, Stroud.

Gloucestershire.

No. 18.

George D. Harris.

- A. 1.—Stroud.  
 A. 2.—Fine broad cloth.  
 A. 3.—Not known, having been employed by me but about two years.  
 A. 4.—Water; a regular supply.  
 A. 5.—Windows that open in every room.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All are properly fenced.  
 A. 9.—None appears to me necessary.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because they are better taught, and more effective for roller-joining from nine to twelve, when early taught.  
 A. 12.—Am not aware of any alterations in machinery that affects this question.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 17.—From ten to eleven hours.  
 A. 18.—Ten hours if above fourteen years; some may have occasionally worked eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—None more than eleven hours, except the fulling-stocks.  
 A. 23.—Not eight hours.  
 A. 25 & 26.—Never exceeded.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Profit.  
 A. 30.—This, on reflection, must be obvious, even to a M.P.  
 A. 31.—Difficulty in finding competent hands.  
 A. 32.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 33.—Have not employed a night-set of hands.  
 A. 37.—Increase of machinery, and expence in producing the same number of yards of cloth.  
 A. 38.—From sixty to seventy.  
 A. 39.—Boiling heat.  
 A. 40.—Two.  
 A. 50.—By candles and lamps.  
 A. 51.—Same as by day.  
 A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—At their option.  
 A. 55.—Their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—An inconvenience to the persons employed.  
 A. 57.—A strap.  
 A. 58.—Not after the manner of soldiers.  
 A. 59.—By their masters.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Never.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are preferable.  
 A. 67.—Have occupied but two years.  
 A. 68.—I know of no injurious effect from any process in my manufactory.  
 A. 69.—No Act of Parliament applicable to my mills.  
 A. 79.—The less parliamentary interference in the manufacture of this district, the better for employers and those employed.

GEORGE D. HARRIS.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM HELME, New Mills, Stroud.

No. 19.

William Helme.

- A. 1.—New Mills in the parish of Stroud principally; a small part of the building in Painswick.  
 A. 2.—Kerseymeres; buffs, whites, scarlets, and blacks.  
 A. 3.—The building was erected in 1766. The deeds of the estate call the place New Mills in the time of Charles II., and state its being then used as a fulling-mill.  
 A. 4.—Both water and steam-engine; the water irregular, but the works are driven regularly by the application of the steam-engine when the water is deficient.  
 A. 5.—Not any; the size of the rooms in which the children and greatest numbers work would not make it necessary. Room in which one man and five children work, thirty feet long, twenty feet wide, eight feet six inches high, or five thousand one hundred cubic feet. Another room, one man and five children, thirty-three feet long, twenty feet wide, eight feet six inches high, or five thousand six hundred cubic feet. Another room, one man and seven children, fifty-three feet long, twenty feet wide, nine feet high, or nine thousand five hundred and forty cubic feet. Another room, two men and eight children, thirty-three feet long, eighteen feet wide, nine feet high, or five thousand four hundred and twenty-seven cubic feet.  
 A. 6.—There are some causes which I apprehend tend to the constant ventilation of the rooms mentioned in A. 5. There are several large holes in the ceilings of the rooms through which the straps to drive the machines in the floors above pass; and the carder and scribbler cylinders, about seven and nine feet in circumference, revolving about eighty or an hundred times per minute, must keep the air in motion.  
 A. 7.—The windows and doors are kept open or shut at the discretion of the persons employed.

(APP.—B.1.)

C 4

A. 8.



Gloucestershire.

William Helme.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—None; all arrangements for personal cleanliness are at the discretion of the workpeople. I consider the workpeople very cleanly.

A. 10.—We leave the foremen of the engines to engage them; he says he employs them more according to their size than their age, and only seldom before nine or ten.

A. 11.—No, if we could find a sufficient number at the wages we have paid since 1825, of 2s. 6d. per week. The joiners work is of the lightest description.

A. 12.—Since I have known the cloth manufactory, from 1814, I do not recollect any alteration in machinery which renders requisite any alteration in the proportion of children employed.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 15.—We lodge and maintain none of the children whom we employ.

A. 17.—Our regular hours are ten hours for five days and eight on Saturday; those are the hours we agree for for the week's wages; if any workman works more hours he is paid extra for them.

A. 18.—Fifty-eight hours per week. We make no difference, having had very little occasion to work extra hours in that branch where the children are employed.

A. 19.—The greatest number of hours that the billy-men or slubbers and joiners children have worked is eleven hours; the greatest number of hours that the people employed at the shearing-machines (which persons are principally above eighteen at the least) is fourteen hours.

A. 20.—Every day except Good Friday, Christmas-day, Whitmonday, and half a day on Stroud fair.

A. 22.—Our works have been carried on at the same time, with the exception of the cutters working extra hours when no other part has.

A. 24.—Eleven hours, five days in the week, for a period of ten or twelve weeks during the twelve months.

A. 25.—We were spinning for another manufacturer a small quantity.

A. 26.—I consider it unavoidable. Stocks or the fulling of cloths must be kept on beyond the regular hours occasionally as well as the gig-mills.

A. 27.—Our regular hours have always been ten hours on five days and eight on Saturday, paying extra for any time beyond this. We have very seldom worked much overtime except the cutters.

A. 28.—Have had no occasion to reason or calculate on the subject.

A. 32.—No; we have had no occasion to exceed our regular time for the children's work to render it necessary, according to our opinion.

A. 33.—Never employed a night-set.

A. 37.—A decrease of consumption, from an increased price of production.

A. 38.—We pay no attention to temperature, we merely have fires in the winter for the comfort of the people.

A. 46.—It would be better for the milling or fulling process of double-milled kerseymeres to be continued during twenty-four hours, but as we make very few of them we do not do so.

A. 48.—A millman, generally above twenty; and a boy or boys, from fifteen to twenty.

A. 49.—I only state it to be preferable.

A. 50.—By lamps and candles.

A. 51.—None.

A. 52.—Have had no opportunity of forming an opinion.

A. 53.—One hour, from twelve to one, for dinner.

A. 54.—They please themselves.

A. 55.—If they stay, it is for the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—They do as they like, and I do not know any difference that it would make.

A. 57.—If frequently disobedient they are discharged, sometimes they are beaten with a leather strap on the back.

A. 58.—No other than as mentioned in A. 57.

A. 59.—By the slubbers.

A. 60, 61, & 62.—I have never troubled myself about it for the reason mentioned in A. 64.

A. 64.—I have never had a complaint since I carried on the business in 1818 to the present time, before a magistrate, or from the parents, or from the children, on the subject of punishment, to the best of my recollection.

A. 65.—We have only seven cottages, which are occupied by our workpeople; if they did not conduct themselves properly they would have notice to quit. Their houses are kept very neat and clean.

A. 66.—I have no observation to make on the subject.

A. 67.—I think it remains much the same; from the list of the people, there seems to be very little illness.

A. 68.—We do not consider any of our processes of manufacture injurious, and make no change of employment on that account.

A. 69.—I believe not.

A. 79.—To express my satisfaction that this inquiry has been instituted, feeling confident that it will relieve the manufacturers of this neighbourhood from the obloquy to which they in common with the whole body of manufacturers of the kingdom were held up, for the over-working and ill-treatment of the children employed by them.

WILLIAM HELME.



## ANSWERS of CHARLES HOOPER, Eastington.

Gloucestershire.

No. 20.

*Charles Hooper.*

A. 1.—Eastington parish, in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Manufacture of fine woollen cloths and kerseymeres.

A. 3.—One of the manufactories has been used for the manufacture of fine cloth for about five hundred years past, and has been several times rebuilt; another has been built and employed for the same purpose about thirty-five years; the other about twenty-five.

A. 4.—Water and steam; the water is very irregular; water-power about one hundred horse power, steam about ninety horse power.

A. 5.—There is not any distinct provision for the ventilation of my manufactories, but windows made to open, which has always been considered quite sufficient, as the rooms are lofty and airy.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows, as stated above, with window-frames in the stair-cases only partially filled with glass.

A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of the foreman and persons employed.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of my machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—I have no arrangement of this description, neither is there any necessity for such, as my workpeople live near, and the temperature of the manufactories is much the same as a well-ventilated parlour, and their clothes are not so much soiled as to require a change.

A. 10.—The lowest age at which I admit children is nine years, and I am not aware that any of them have been employed at other trades previously.

A. 11.—The nature of the work at which I employ children does not absolutely require that they should be under twelve years of age, but if they were not employed before that age they would in the course of two years become too big for the work, require higher wages, and not perform the work so well.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery used in my manufactories have not affected the age at which the work of children is required.

A. 13.—I do not.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any of the children in my employ, and they have all homes.

A. 17.—Eleven hours, excepting on Saturdays, when all persons in my employ are worked only eight hours, being dismissed three hours earlier.

A. 18.—Eleven hours. Children in my employ under thirteen years of age do not average in the year more than from nine to ten hours per day.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Not having kept an account, and having been frequently stopped by breakages, I cannot answer this question.

A. 21.—I am not able to answer this question for the reasons stated in A. 20.

A. 23.—Ten hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours for a very short period only.

A. 25.—The extra work was required in consequence of the manufacture having been stopped for some time from a flood.

A. 26.—I do not consider that this excess beyond the regular hours of work is avoidable, as it would often occasion a serious loss and inconvenience if the working occasionally two or three extra hours per day were prohibited, particularly in dry seasons.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 29.—I consider there are three causes which may induce a manufacturer to continue the hours of labour beyond the usual time; first, to provide for an extraordinary demand; second, to supply orders in a given time; third, to produce an article at a less cost, to enable him to undersell the fair trader.

A. 30.—The limitation of the hours of work would increase the cost of production.

A. 31.—Never having tried the plan I cannot answer practically, but should think that the introduction of two sets of hands would cause the work not to be performed so well.

A. 33.—I have not.

A. 36.—The prohibition of night-work would prevent the supply of cloth within a given time, and making up of time lost by casualties.

A. 37.—I think the further reduction of working hours would prove injurious to the trade, as it must increase the cost of production, and lay the manufacturers more open to foreign competition.

A. 38.—Temperature does not affect the working of my manufactories, except stove-drying.

A. 40.—Three men.

A. 41.—Not at all during the whole night, excepting the fulling department.

A. 47.—Sixty hours.

A. 48.—Men usually employed in this process are generally upwards of twenty-five, and boys at seventeen years and not under.

A. 49.—Because the discontinuance of the process would prevent its further progress, and thereby render the completion of the manufacture impossible.

A. 50.—By candles and oil-lamps.

A. 51.—No extra provision.

A. 52.—Those persons who work at night for me are my steadiest and most responsible servants.

A. 53.—From eight to nine o'clock in the morning, and from one until two o'clock in the day.

(APP.—B. 1.)

D

A. 54.



Gloucestershire.

Charles Hooper.

A. 54.—All persons in my employ leave at the meal-times, except those who may remain for their own convenience.

A. 56.—I should not sustain any inconvenience if every person in my employ was obliged to leave the manufactory during the meal-times, but it would inconvenience those persons who work for me and live at a distance, from one to two miles, from the manufactories, especially in wet weather.

A. 57.—If the authority of the foreman is disregarded by the children they are brought before the master, which seldom fails to produce obedience. Those children who are considered most deserving are always first promoted, and this proves a great stimulus to obedience.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments never resorted to except in extreme cases.

A. 59.—It is then inflicted by the parents or foreman.

A. 60 & 61.—I have not known a case of corporal punishment during the past year in either of my manufactories.

A. 62.—I have not forbidden corporal punishment, but have given orders that before it be resorted to I must be informed of the case.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—My workpeople live principally in the same parish (or adjoining) as that in which my manufactory stands, and their houses belong to a variety of landlords, but none of them live in those belonging to me.

A. 66.—The difference is very great in favour of those who have been employed in the manufactory from their infancy.

A. 67.—From my own observation, I should not hesitate to state that the health of the people working in the manufactories now occupied by me has decidedly improved.

A. 68.—I do not consider any of the operations carried on in my manufactories prejudicial to the health of those brought up in them.

A. 69.—Yes, it is.

A. 70 & 71.—I have not.

A. 73.—I am not aware.

A. 74.—I have not heard of such a case.

A. 75 & 76.—Never.

A. 77.—I do not think they are.

A. 78.—I cannot, neither do I consider that any legislation is required for the regulation of such manufactories as mine, as no tyranny or oppression is resorted to, and the children are better provided for and more comfortable and healthy than those of the same class of parents residing in this neighbourhood employed in agriculture and otherwise.

A. 79.—I have noticed since the introduction of the Beer Bill that a demoralization has taken place amongst my workpeople, who spend in those houses that portion of their wages which would enable them to provide many comforts for their families which they now deprive them of, and I attribute this principally to the encouragement that the beer-houses give to the people to stay when they receive their wages, by giving them credit for what they drink from one pay-day to another, and I think the Bill in contemplation will increase this evil by allowing more leisure in the evening.

17th May 1833.

CHARLES HOOPER.

No. 21.

N. & J. Jones.

## ANSWERS of NATHANIEL &amp; JOSEPH JONES, Minchinhampton and Stroud.

A. 1.—Parish of Minchinhampton one mill, and Stroud one mill, &c.

A. 2.—Woollen cloths, principally for the East India Company.

A. 3.—No idea whatever.

A. 4.—Water-power, varying, according to the seasons, from thirty-five horse power down to fifteen horse power.

A. 5.—Opening of windows.

A. 6.—Merely opening windows, nothing more being necessary.

A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all. The people have all an opportunity to open and shut the windows according as the weather is too hot or cold.

A. 8.—Not particularly fenced, but of such construction as not to be generally considered dangerous. If accidents occur, they arise from carelessness. The principle of our machines, with the apparatus for driving them, is such that they cannot be fenced off throughout so as to prevent the possibility of an accident.

A. 9.—The workpeople have an opportunity to wash themselves, and also they may change their clothes; but there is no room set apart for the purpose, nor have we, from experience, ever deemed it necessary.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; in some few instances they have been employed two and three years prior.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does require the employment of children under twelve years of age, because there are initiatory processes suited to lesser children, and which can be performed without detriment to their health.

A. 12.—No recent alteration so as to affect the number or age of children required.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—One orphan. None of the children are lodged or maintained by us.



Gloucestershire.

N. & J. Jones.

A. 16.—One orphan under the care of an elder sister aged about twenty-five years.

A. 17.—Ten hours per day, but if emergency require their services for a longer time, we pay them accordingly.

A. 19.—Twenty-four hours per day, meal-times excepted, the day principally for purposes of spinning, &c., and the night for milling and roughing (two distinct departments, and different hands employed.)

A. 20.—Our manufactories were regularly employed during the last year, except from short water, (the extent of which cannot be ascertained,) or delay occasioned by repairs.

A. 22.—When we have a sufficiency of water we prefer driving the works altogether; but as the power is so very uncertain, we are obliged frequently to drive them separately.

A. 23.—Ten to eleven hours per day.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours per day.

A. 25.—Our trade being governed by tender is unavoidably irregular as regards quantity, therefore we require them to work a greater or less number of hours, according to the nature of the contracts.

A. 26.—The preceding answer applies to this question, namely, the fluctuation as regards the quantity of orders, which if wanted against a certain time for shipping, if the hours were absolutely restricted, in many instances we must decline shipping orders.

A. 27.—The nature of our trade is subject to so many contingencies, that although during the last year our workpeople have sometimes exceeded the regular hours per day, at present, our being without orders, they do not work so many as ten hours per day, nor even eight hours.

A. 28.—As it is impossible to govern water-power in the same way as with steam, because of its great irregularity, the fixing of hours for working would very much depreciate the value of water-power mills.

A. 29.—We have no object in working extra hours, except to expedite orders of emergency which cannot be got up in the day, in which case the children are paid for the extra hours above ten hours, and which they are generally allowed by their parents to keep for their own use, which makes them anxious rather than otherwise to work over-hours.

A. 30.—Water-power is so very very uncertain we are obliged to avail ourselves of it as the stream serves, or else let it waste, except where there is a very large mill-pond sufficient to hold what may collect during the time of its not being employed, which conveniency we are without.

A. 31.—Except that the work cannot be quite so uniformly done by different hands, no objection to have relays of children or persons under twenty-one years of age; but it frequently happens they cannot be procured.

A. 32.—We have occasionally had relays of hands, but which were with difficulty obtained; and only upon this ground do we see any objection to it, except for the sake of uniformity of work, which is certainly a consideration.

A. 33.—When we have employed relays of hands they have taken day and night work alternately.

A. 34.—It is usual in our business to employ certain sets of hands to do the earlier processes of manufacture, which is principally performed in the day; but the latter processes, such as milling, roughing, &c., being continuous, require night-work in addition.

A. 36.—The continuous part of the manufacture, viz. milling, roughing, &c., is such as to render night-work indispensably necessary; indeed the prohibition of night-work would so seriously interfere with special orders, they could not be undertaken.

A. 38.—Our manufacture is such as not to be particularly affected by any certain degree of temperature. We merely have fires kept in the winter season for the comfort of the people.

A. 39.—No extra degree of heat used in any process, except for the purpose of drying wool and cloth during the winter season.

A. 40.—Four or six hands, as occasion may require.

A. 42.—About fifty occasionally.

A. 43.—Sometimes till six, seven, eight, nine, and not later than ten o'clock at night; beyond this we cannot particularize.

A. 44.—About fifty.

A. 45.—Not later than ten o'clock.

A. 46.—Milling and roughing.

A. 47.—Varies according to the quality of the article under operation.

A. 48.—Above twenty-one years.

A. 49.—The process of milling having been begun, the value of the cloth would be greatly deteriorated by a suspension of that process, and the expences increased thereby.

A. 50.—Candles.

A. 51.—Same as by day (windows only).

A. 52.—We have not noticed that it has produced any injurious effect upon the persons employed.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—Entirely at their own option.

A. 56.—They have already the opportunity to do so.

A. 57.—Dismissal after having used reproof in vain.

A. 58, 59, 60 & 61.—Not with our sanction.

A. 65.—Only one family in our employ.

(App.—B.1.)

D 2

A. 66.



Gloucestershire.

*N. & J. Jones.*

A. 66.—Because there are certain initiatory processes to be performed, which gradually qualifies them for succeeding branches of the trade.

A. 67.—Not conscious of any.

A. 68.—We have no process particularly injurious connected with our trade.

A. 69.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 76.—Evidence was to have been obtained, if bad conduct required it.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—If the parents of children could maintain and send them to school until they are nine years of age, we think it would be very desirable they should not be employed at an earlier age; but if, on the contrary (as is the case at the present time), rather than children should beat the streets they would be better at work, because there are processes of such an easy nature that children of a more tender age could perform without injury to health, and as their parents frequently work in the same mills, they are therefore more under their control. But, as before said, if means and inclination can be found to send them to school by the parents, it would be very desirable no children should be allowed to work under nine years of age.

NATHANIEL & JOSEPH JONES.

No. 22.

*Thomas Jones.*

## ANSWERS of THOMAS JONES, Clothier, Chalford.

A. 1.—Situate in Bisley parish one mill, another mill in Stroud parish.

A. 2.—Woollen manufactory.

A. 4.—Water-power, which varies with the seasons from sixteen horse power down to six horse power.

A. 5.—Windows.

A. 6.—Opening of windows only.

A. 7.—The people may open and shut the windows as they please.

A. 8.—The machinery is of such a nature it cannot be fenced off so as to prevent a possibility of accident, but there is nothing particularly dangerous, and if accidents occur it arises from negligence.

A. 9.—No particular accommodation, but the people have access to water so that they may keep themselves cleanly, and they may dress or undress if necessary.

A. 10.—Employed at six years of age, but at no other trade than the woollen manufactory.

A. 11.—Yes; because there are processes which younger children can perform without injury to health, and which prepare them for after stages in the same trade.

A. 12.—No recent alterations affecting the number of children required.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—The whole of the children that work for me live with their parents.

A. 16.—The billy-men whom they work with.

A. 17 & 18.—Ten hours per day.

A. 19.—I have occasionally employed my works or some of them the whole twenty-four hours, including meal-times; the spinning processes have been done chiefly in the day, and milling, roughing, &c. by night.

A. 20.—The whole time, except delayed by repairs, short water, or want of orders.

A. 22.—I have preferred to drive the whole of my works together, but from shortness of water have been obliged sometimes to do otherwise, in which case the carding and spinning power has been driven by day, and the milling and roughing by night.

A. 23.—Ten hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—When I had more orders than could be possibly completed by adhering to the regular hours.

A. 26.—Sometimes I get ship orders, which could not be executed without resorting to extra hours, and which orders I must otherwise forego.

A. 27.—Yes, I have, for at the present time the workpeople are not employed half ten hours per day.

A. 28.—Water-power would be lessened in value materially under a restriction of hours.

A. 29.—Water-power is so very uncertain, I am obliged to conform to the stream, but where there is steam-power it is more at command; I do not know of any existing law relating to the hours of working.

A. 30.—A limitation of hours for working water-power would depreciate the value very materially, because unless there be a sufficiently large reservoir to hold the water during the hours proscribed, which cannot sometimes be provided, the power in such cases must waste.

A. 31.—No objection to fresh sets of hands where they can be obtained, except that the work is not performed so regularly as by one set.

A. 32.—Relays of hands have sometimes been tried, but not frequently, on account of the difficulty to obtain them and the want of uniformity in the work.

A. 33.—The few instances when I have had relays of hands they have worked night and day alternately.



- A. 35.—Alternately.
- A. 36.—A serious interference with orders of emergency, especially shipping orders.
- A. 37.—It would not be in my power to undertake a shipping order if the hours of working were restricted.
- A. 38.—No artificial heat is used in reference to the work, except for the purpose of drying wool and cloth in the winter season. Fires are only kept for the convenience of the people.
- A. 39.—I cannot say.
- A. 40.—Four or five, as occasion requires.
- A. 46.—Milling and roughing.
- A. 48.—Twenty-one years and upwards.
- A. 49.—Because the process of milling and roughing having been begun, a suspension would so much injure the texture of the cloth that it could not afterwards be recovered.
- A. 50.—Candles.
- A. 51.—Same as by day, windows.
- A. 52.—I have not observed any injurious effect.
- A. 53.—One hour breakfast and one hour dinner.
- A. 54.—Just as they like.
- A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.
- A. 56.—They may do so already.
- A. 57.—If found refractory they are first admonished, and if without effect they are then discharged.
- A. 58.—Not that I know of.
- A. 60.—No.
- A. 62.—I have never heard of any improper punishment, or I should have interfered to prevent a recurrence.
- A. 66.—There are progressive stages in the manufacture of cloth, therefore children which are employed in the early stages are thereby gradually prepared for the succeeding ones.
- A. 76.—Evidence might have been obtained if bad conduct required it.
- A. 77.—No.

THOMAS JONES.

Gloucestershire.

Thomas Jones.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM LEWIS, Stroud and Minchinhampton.

No. 23.

William Lewis.

- A. 1.—Stroud and Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire.
- A. 2.—Woollen-cloth manufacture.
- A. 3.—I have two factories, one of which has been in possession of myself and family upwards of forty years, and the other about twenty-seven years, during which periods several additional buildings have been erected.
- A. 4.—Steam and water, the latter irregular, particularly during the summer and autumn months. The average water-power through the year is from about sixty to eighty horse; the steam-power is about eighty horse, of which forty only is now in use.
- A. 5.—Well ventilated by windows and doors.
- A. 6.—On the opening of windows and doors.
- A. 7.—By all the persons employed.
- A. 8.—They are.
- A. 10.—The lowest age at which any child is employed by myself is thirteen; my piecework servants employ five only under nine and five at nine years of age; all the others are above the age of ten.
- A. 11.—In some processes children of the age of nine or ten can be advantageously employed.
- A. 12.—Not for the purpose of working the recently improved machinery, but so far only as it has led to the production of an increased quantity of manufactured goods.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—I have six orphans in my employ, who are under the protection of relatives and guardians.
- A. 17 & 18.—Ten hours.
- A. 19.—During the short seasons of water it has been necessary to make good ten hours work out of the twenty-four by working some of the water-power in the hours of night as well as day, which has been regulated according to the supply of water.
- A. 20.—Every day except Sundays, and a few holidays which are usually kept.
- A. 21.—Cannot say, not having kept any account.
- A. 22.—Generally every department has been employed at the same time.
- A. 23 & 24.—Ten hours.
- A. 25.—During the irregular supply of water the hours of work have been varied, but not exceeded by machinery worked by water.
- A. 27.—Only under particular circumstances, such as orders which would not admit of delay in their execution, and to make good the time lost arising from accidents, when an extra hour or two per day has been worked.
- A. 28.—The cost of manufacture must be lessened to those who employ the capital vested in mills, machinery, &c. the greatest number of hours.

(APP.—B. 1.)

D 3

A. 29.



Gloucestershire.

William Lewis.

A. 29.—To lessen the cost of manufacture, and enable the manufacturer to execute additional orders.

A. 31.—In my trade such a system would prove very injurious if adopted.

A. 32.—It has been tried, but did not answer, from the work proving irregular.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 36.—It would be very injurious to all manufacturers using water-power, and to those entirely dependent on it it would be ruinous, besides depriving thousands of workpeople of employment several months in the year, and thus compelling them to apply to their parishes for support.

A. 38.—The temperature of the seasons, except in the winter months, when all the workshops are heated by fires and steam for the comfort of the servants.

A. 39.—About one hundred degrees in the stoves for drying wool and cloth in the winter months.

A. 40.—Three or four men in the day only, and those only at short periods.

A. 41.—None, except the water-power, in the dry season.

A. 42.—None, except with the water-power, in the dry season.

A. 43.—Regulated by the supply of water.

A. 44.—Occasionally from eight to ten in the dry season at machinery worked by water.

A. 45.—Depends on the supply of water.

A. 46.—In the process of felting it is advantageous though not indispensable to be continuous.

A. 47.—None.

A. 48.—Men, and boys from the age of fifteen.

A. 50.—Principally with candles; some lamps.

A. 51.—Same as in the day. See A. 5.

A. 52.—Never witnessed any bad effect from night-work.

A. 53.—All the workpeople employed at machinery propelled by steam and water; dine at one o'clock, all others at twelve o'clock; one hour allowed to all. In the summer months the labour commences at seven o'clock in the morning, and discontinues at six, in the winter months from eight to seven.

A. 54.—All at liberty to go where they please.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Strict injunctions have been given by me to the overlookers and the persons under whom the children are employed never to inflict severe or unnecessary punishment on them, and no complaint has ever been made to me of the violation of such injunctions.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—They reside where they please.

A. 66.—They are notoriously more skilful.

A. 67.—They are now in the enjoyment generally of good health, quite equal to what they were ten years ago.

WILLIAM LEWIS.

No. 24.

William Marling  
& Sons.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM MARLING &amp; SONS, Ham Mills, Stroud.

A. 1.—Ham Mills, parish of Stroud, in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Manufacturers of superfine woollen cloths in all its branches, except dyeing.

A. 3.—The premises have been employed in the manufacture of woollens more than one hundred years; a second mill erected in 1814, a third in 1825, a fourth in 1832.

A. 4.—A steam-engine of thirty horse power, and three wheels of ten horse power each; during the summer and autumn months the water is very short in the daytime, and in the shortest time of water there is about ten horse power of water in the night, viz. from six in the evening to six in the morning.

A. 5.—In every third window is a casement, which ventilates the factory.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows.

A. 7.—As a particular heat is not required to be kept up in any parts of the factory, the ventilation is controlled at the discretion of all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced.

A. 9.—There are no particular rooms set apart for this purpose, but there are ample conveniences on the premises for every one who choose to avail themselves of them, such as washing themselves and drying their clothes.

A. 10.—We have no child working in the factory under nine years of age; last year there were ten or twelve under that age, but they were introduced at the wish of their parents or guardians; the children are not worked generally in any way before they come into our factory.

A. 11.—It requires them under twelve years of age, because there are not enough children above that age to do the work necessary to be performed by children.

A. 12.—A less proportion.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Not a child whom we employ is lodged or maintained by us.

A. 17.—The usual hours are eleven per day; but they vary from ten to thirteen hours, as their particular labour may be in greater or less demand.

A. 18.



Gloucestershire,

*William Marling  
& Sons.*

A. 18.—In the manufacture of superfine cloth there are four branches in which children and young persons are employed, viz. weaving, spinning, dressing, and shearing; the former branch is for the most part done at the weavers own houses, and there generally very young persons (eight years old) are employed, but of course no legislative enactment can affect them. Where the weaving is done in factories they work about eleven hours per day; they are generally employed at the age of nine, and continue in it three or four years, when they are removed to the dressing and shearing departments, which are sometimes worked twelve hours per day, so that young persons from the age of nine to thirteen work from ten to eleven hours, and from the age of thirteen to twenty-one ten or twelve hours per day.

A. 19.—The process called fulling is often started Monday morning, and kept on without stoppage till Saturday night; this process does not employ more than six persons. Some parts of the manufacture have varied during the past year from nine to fourteen hours per day, at most.

A. 20.—Three hundred days, ending 31st March.

A. 21.—About three thousand four hundred.

A. 22.—Cloth-picking, from eight to four in winter, and from eight to six in summer, performed by women; wool-picking, the same hours, also by women; spinning, from eight to eight in winter, meal-time one hour, and from six to seven in summer, meal-time one hour and a half; weaving, the same; dressing, six to eight in winter, and from six to eight in summer, meal-time one hour and a half to each day; pressing, six to nine, meals two hours.

A. 23.—Eleven hours.

A. 24.—The young persons employed in the shearing and dressing department have, in a few instances, worked twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When the demand for goods has been great, as in the case of a general mourning, every person works as many hours as he is able, but the extra number of hands is generally occasioned by accident from breakage of machinery; the workman and master are anxious to have the lost time made up.

A. 26.—To ensure a regular supply of manufactured goods, the retailer finds it often necessary to enter into a contract with the manufacturer to take a certain quantity of goods per month for a given time, and the manufacturer finds it convenient, as it ensures him a regular demand. Now when a breakage occurs, it is absolutely necessary that an extra number of hours should be worked to enable the manufacturer to perform his contract; but in every case the master is not more desirous of making up the lost time than the workman.

A. 27.—We are now working ten hours per day, but our usual hours are ten and a half or eleven.

A. 28.—We have never found it an advantage to work a greater number of hours than the workpeople are well able to perform.

A. 29.—In this county, night-work in manufactories is very unusual, except in the fulling process, and we know nothing to induce a manufacturer to continue the working of children through the whole or great part of nights, as the inferior manner in which the work would be done would, we think, more than counterbalance any advantage he might get by having an extra quantity of work done. At the same time, we are sure it would be extremely inconvenient in case of a hurried demand to introduce two sets of hands, as the hurry generally continues only a week or two. By the time the arrangement was made and got to work the demand would have ceased, and two sets would be no longer required.

A. 30.—Our usual hours having been from ten to twelve per day, we have not had the opportunity of judging from experience; but we conceive these to be the most advantageous to the workpeople and the masters, and our opinion is, that we can manufacture goods quite as cheap from ten to twelve hours per day, as by working longer days; on the other hand it is our belief that if these hours are reduced the cost of production will be increased, but to what extent we cannot say.

A. 31.—It is seldom we require the labour of children more than an hour beyond the usual hours of ten hours per day, and it is evidently impracticable to introduce an entire fresh set for so short a period; but if in any manufactory the labour of children is required during the greater part or the whole night, fresh sets of children we think must be an advantage, as it is certain the one set of children could not perform the work required.

A. 32.—Relays of children have never been tried by us.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of children.

A. 34.—One set of children perform all the labour we require of them, without in any degree injuring their constitutions, therefore any alterations that would introduce two sets of children to do the work of one would be as injurious to the workpeople as to the manufacturer, because the labour of children under thirteen years of age is seldom required more than eleven hours per day, and above that age it does not average more than eleven hours and a half; besides, we think two sets could not be found for all the manufactories.

A. 36.—During eleven months in the year it probably would not produce any effect, but on particular occasions of urgent demands for our manufacture it would be a great hardship if prohibited from working extra hours to supply that demand. See A. 26.

A. 37.—By a specific regulation of the hours of labour the manufacturer will be prevented from employing his works in the execution of urgent and extra orders, which will have the effect of driving that part of the trade to countries where the manufacturers are not clogged by unnecessary legislation. We conceive it out of the power of any legislature to control or regulate the demand for goods, as it results from the wants of the people; that demand from various causes not being uniform and regular, but is constantly ebbing and



Gloucestershire.

William Marling  
& Sons.

flowing, it is absolutely necessary that there should be some degree of elasticity in the producing power, and that it should not be bound down to certain prescribed and arbitrary rules. By prohibiting our manufactories from being worked certain hours the legislature will be throwing another advantage into the hands of foreign manufacturers, which, in addition to the advantage they have at present in the low price of wages resulting from the difference in the low price of corn, would, we fear, give a death-blow to the English manufacturers. If the British Parliament could regulate the hours of all manufactories in the world, these objections would vanish; but as our great competitors abroad would be left entirely free, it is plain to us that if the hours of labour in our manufactories are reduced, we shall be no longer able to compete with them who have so much in their favour at present; and the consequence must be, that such a measure would most completely and effectually prevent the overworking of every part of the manufacturing population, as it would take the work from them and give it to other nations.

A. 38.—The comfort of the workman only is considered in regulating the temperature of our manufactory.

A. 39.—No particular degree of heat required.

A. 41.—Except in the fulling process, no part of our works have been employed a whole night during the last year.

A. 42.—None under sixteen years of age.

A. 43.—Excepting fulling, and mechanics not any.

A. 44.—Six.

A. 45.—All hours.

A. 46.—It is indispensable that the process of fulling should be continuous on particular sorts of cloth.

A. 47.—The maximum of time cannot be stated; it is customary to work the whole week day and night.

A. 48.—From fifteen to seventy years; the senior fulling-man is generally one of the most respectable persons on the manufactory.

A. 49.—Fulling is a process producing heat by its own friction, and if stopped during this process of thickening the cloth is injured. The number of hours for fulling one piece of cloth varies from twelve to eighty hours.

A. 50.—By lamps.

A. 51.—Opening the casements as in the daytime.

A. 52.—The best and most industrious are generally selected to perform night-work, and we never found night-work injurious to the habits or health of those employed.

A. 53.—From half past eight to nine for breakfast, and from one to two for dinner.

A. 54.—The works are stopped during the hours for meals, and every person is allowed to do as they please during that time.

A. 55.—The convenience of the workpeople only is consulted during the hours for meals.

A. 56.—Every comfort the working class can require is provided for them in the factory for their meals; and if they were compelled to leave the factory to take their meals it would be a great hardship, as many of them live a considerable distance from the manufactory, and do not return to their homes until the labour of the day is ended; it would be an advantage to the manufacturer that every person should leave the factory during meal-times.

A. 57.—Fines, and the fear of being discharged.

A. 58.—If they are, it is contrary to our orders.

A. 59.—Corporal punishment not allowed.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—Our general and particular orders are to discharge rather than inflict punishment.

A. 63.—Corporal punishments are verbally forbidden.

A. 64.—No complaint has ever been alleged against any person connected with our establishment.

A. 65.—We have seven respectable families living on our premises.

A. 66.—The most skilful are those who have been employed in factories from infancy; and in proof of this, all our foremen, who have risen entirely by their merit, were employed in factories as under:—William Morgan, foreman of spinners, began to work in a factory at the age of seven years, and has been so employed ever since. Joseph Fluck, foreman of dressing, began to work in a factory at the age of ten years, and has been so employed ever since. John Davis, foreman of finishing, began to work in a factory at the age of eleven years, and has been so employed ever since. Charles Cox, foreman of shearing, began at the age of five years, and has been so employed ever since. Charles Ricketts, foreman of the cutters, began at the age of nine years, and so employed ever since. Nelson Lediard, engineer, began at the age of ten years, and so employed ever since. James Spratt, foreman of weaving, began at the age of five years, and so employed ever since.

A. 67.—It may be here remarked, that the situation of our factories is particularly well situated to preserve health, there not being in the whole borough a single establishment that is not standing alone, distinct from any other building. We therefore cannot report improvement or deterioration for ten years past, but should say that since our recollection our working class have been and still are as fine and healthy a race of people as are to be found in any county in England.

A. 68.—There is no process in our manufacture that produces any injurious effects, consequently no change is required; but in this, as in all other cases, those who merit the best places are sure to have them.

A. 69.



A. 69.—It is not.

A. 78.—We suggest that children under nine years of age be prohibited from working in factories; and as to further interference on the part of the legislature, we should say, "Let it all alone."

A. 79.—It is with regret we have heard of the proposal of a plan for regulating the labour of young persons above the age of seventeen or eighteen, and we most earnestly beg the Commission of Inquiry to look well into the effect likely to be produced by such a measure. This is the very age when it is all important that persons should be closely employed. We do therefore, on behalf of the working classes, and the welfare of society in general, most earnestly beg that no such regulation may be made. It is absolutely impossible that the manufactures of this country can be carried on without occasionally working various hours, and such persons must be employed as are not restricted from employing their labour in any manner they please. Manufacturers, therefore, instead of employing young men from seventeen to twenty-one, will be compelled to dismiss them, and throw them on the wide world, where, finding themselves outcasts and useless appendages to society, their last resource we fear will be to the beer-houses, whence they will be compelled by dire necessity to issue forth by night to obtain that by plunder which they would formerly gladly have earned by their industrious labour. In making this statement, we beg the Commission will give us credit for higher motives than those of an interested nature; besides, it is clear that the difference to us cannot be great in the wages of a youth of eighteen or twenty years of age and a man above twenty-one years of age.

7th May 1833.

WILLIAM MARLING & SONS.

Gloucestershire.

William Marling  
& Sons.

#### ANSWERS of NATHANIEL SAMUEL MARLING, Stroud.

No. 25.

N. S. Marling.

A. 1.—No. 1. Vatch Mills, parish of Stroud, county of Gloucester. No. 2. Upper Vatch Mills, parish of Stroud, county of Gloucester. No. 3. Pig-house Mill, parish of Painswick, county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Woollen cloths and kerseymeres manufactured from German and Saxony wools; the goods are chiefly dyed black, and of the finest description.

A. 3.—My factory No. 1. was burnt down and rebuilt in 1827; No. 2. was rebuilt in 1830; No. 3. was partly rebuilt in 1823.

A. 4.—Mill No. 2.; the power is water only; used solely for the purpose of fulling; on the ground floor; the power as regular as the average of water-power in the neighbourhood, and of the power of six horses; the upper floors are weaving-shops, all performed by hand. Mill No. 1. contains three steam-engines, together sixty-six horse power, and two water-wheels of twelve horse power each; the water-power regular; both water-power and steam used daily. Mill No. 3. contains a steam-engine of thirty horse power and one water-wheel of ten horse power; the latter only used at present; power regular; used solely for the purpose of fulling.

A. 5.—Windows and doors at each end of the factory.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of windows and doors.

A. 7.—The workman who happens to be nearest the windows or doors regulates the heat or cold to suit the convenience of the shop generally; never heard of any misunderstanding; if any should arise the foreman is bound to see justice and fair play, or I should discharge him.

A. 8.—Having had accidents arising from neglect of this sort, of late years I have carefully had all dangerous parts fenced off.

A. 9.—Persons on coming to work generally are cleanly, and although the cloth when finished is black, it is not dyed black until nearly finished, so that the workpeople have the advantage of working on white wool in spinning, carding, weaving, &c., most other cloths except black being dyed in the wool; some blacks are dyed in the wool, but by far the greater part is dyed when the cloth is nearly finished; this mode gives a decided advantage to the workpeople as to cleanliness and health; and a stranger in passing through the neighbourhood is immediately struck with the contrast between the condition and appearance of the workpeople, as compared with Leeds and other districts where they work on coloured wool and not on white. I have no arrangements for change of clothing except when, in rainy or inclement weather, they arrange among themselves and neighbours to change their clothes and put them in the stove or engine-loft to dry.

A. 10.—There are a few children I employ at the age of eight or nine years, but I believe they have not been previously engaged in other trades.

A. 11.—Directly; I employ but fifteen or sixteen children under twelve years of age; there are many in my factory at a less age, but are employed by their parents or others who work by the piece.

A. 12.—I am not aware of any alteration in machinery the last twenty years affecting the employment of children of this age.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 18.—Eleven hours.

A. 19.—Sixteen hours in the fulling department.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

(APP.—B. 1.)

E

A. 21.



Gloucestershire.

N. S. Marling.

- A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and eighty-four hours.
- A. 22.—All work together, except from accidents, or shortness, or an over-supply of any kind of work.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours.
- A. 24.—Eleven hours.
- A. 25.—Fulling cloths is the general exception, also dressing or raising the pile.
- A. 26.—Fulling and dressing are absolutely necessary beyond the regular hours, as it would affect the fabric and dress of the cloths.
- A. 27.—I have some years ago averaged the working hours one hour per day more than at present.
- A. 28.—The difference is not perceptible in the cost of goods.
- A. 29.—Pressing orders, and a difficulty in obtaining persons competent to continue the works at night.
- A. 30.—I consider the hours I work quite sufficient to produce a manufactured article on the best of terms, to compete with any manufacturer who works a greater number of hours.
- A. 31.—I can conceive of no objection.
- A. 32.—Not in my experience.
- A. 33.—I have not.
- A. 34.—I employ only one set of hands, and by day only.
- A. 36.—The effect would be to destroy the application of the power in many water-mills, as in the summer season there is more water by night than by day; it would also be highly injurious in case of the urgency of foreign orders.
- A. 38.—I have no artificial heat.
- A. 41.—I never work the whole of my works by night, with very few exceptions; it is confined to fulling and roughing or raising the pile.
- A. 42.—I do not recollect any children having been so employed.
- A. 46.—Fulling and roughing or raising the pile.
- A. 47.—Some descriptions of cloths require the fulling to be completed, which sometimes takes thirty, forty, or fifty hours.
- A. 48.—Men, and a boy from fifteen to twenty years of age.
- A. 50.—By lamps, called Liverpool lamps.
- A. 51.—The opening of doors and windows.
- A. 52.—I have such little night-work that I can draw no general inference from its effects.
- A. 53.—I commence work at seven o'clock and stop at six; one hour for meals, from one to two o'clock.
- A. 54.—My factories are situated in the country; some walk to enjoy the air; some lie down on a piece of cloth and go to sleep; some go out in the fields to play; they please themselves; there is a field belonging to the factory, and most of the children play there when the weather is dry.
- A. 56.—The effect would be a great benefit to the manufacturer; he gets more mischief done in meal-times than any other by breaking of windows, throwing stones, balls, and other youthful frolics.
- A. 57.—Their discharge, and the consequent anger of their parents or guardians.
- A. 58.—I allow no person to correct any child except the father or mother thereof, and leave it to their discretion; nevertheless it is more than probable a foreman may sometimes strike a child with a strap or stick, but since my commencement in business fourteen years ago I do not remember ever having a complaint relating thereto.
- A. 63.—My foremen have instructions to discharge any unruly child or children, and inform the parents the cause of such discharge, but not inflict corporal punishment.
- A. 64.—None for fourteen years.
- A. 65.—I have eight families living in my own houses; no control or superintendence whatever is exercised over them; an infant and Sunday school is established on the premises, and some of all the families are engaged in them.
- A. 66.—Those persons who are accustomed to work in clothing factories from infancy are generally the best workmen, the employment being progressive from one kind of work to others, as their age and talents fit them for more superior situations.
- A. 67.—They now are, and were ten years ago, comparing equal numbers taken indiscriminately, equal to any population in England, florid, healthy, and of good stature. I should say, from the establishment of schools and the greater interest taken by the higher classes of society for the welfare of the poor, their health and moral condition has improved.
- A. 68 & 69.—No.
- A. 77.—When manufacturers have been summoned before magistrates I believe there has been no difficulty or hesitation on the part of the workmen to give evidence.
- A. 78.—I am not aware of any existing law affecting the woollen trade. I have no objection to a law prohibiting infant labour under nine years of age, and regulating the hours of labour from that age to fifteen.

NATHANIEL SAMUEL MARLING.



## ANSWERS of JOHN WILLIAM PARTRIDGE, Bowbridge, near Stroud.

Gloucestershire.

No. 26.

*J. W. Partridge.*

A. 1.—Parish of Stroud, county of Gloucester; four factories and extensive dye-house.

A. 2.—Manufacturing broad superfine cloths, kerseymeres, and Spanish stripes, and cleansing cloths for an extensive dyeing establishment, and carrying on the business of a public dyer.

A. 3.—No. 1. was erected about 1795; No. 2. is a very old building, but altered in 1824 to its present purpose; No. 3. was erected in 1802; No. 4. was erected about 1780.

A. 4.—At No. 1. our power is wholly from water, at No. 2. our power is wholly steam, at No. 3. our power is partly steam and partly water, and at No. 4. our power is wholly water; our whole steam-power is about equal to eighteen or twenty horses, our whole water-power about equal to thirty horses; our water-power is very irregular in the summer from May to November, varying according as the season is wet or dry, but always irregular in summer.

A. 5.—There is not any.

A. 6.—Windows are made to open on every floor, and the buildings are not crowded.

A. 7.—The ventilation is left to the discretion of the workpeople, except that in summer they are recommended to keep open the windows.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery which admit of it are fenced off; some parts must be left open for the people to work them, and some straps must be left open to throw in and out of motion; if these latter were boxed up, and a child had its hand entangled in the machine, great mischief might be done before the machine could be stopped.

A. 9.—Only that those who work at coloured work may use soap out of the mill to wash themselves with.

A. 10.—Eight years.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require children under twelve years of age, but those of eight or nine years can well bear it; and the parents, from the difficulty they experience in providing for their children's necessities, and their utter inability to send them to school, much prefer to bring them to work; and especially when the parents themselves work out from home, they do not like to leave children of that age at home.

A. 12.—No, there has not been any recent alteration affecting the employment of children.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any child whom I employ.

A. 17.—The time on our premises is twelve hours, but half an hour breakfast and an hour dinner are deducted, making the actual time of work ten hours and a half.

A. 18.—Generally the hours are as specified in A. 17, but if an order is received which is required to be executed in a short time, then persons in our employ under twenty-one years are required to work additional hours.

A. 19.—Some part of our works have been continued on particular occasions during the whole day and night, meal-times excepted.

A. 20.—All the year, except when accidents to the machinery stopped us for a short period while repairs were made, which was three or four weeks in the year.

A. 21.—I cannot ascertain.

A. 22.—They all proceed together, except accident prevent, want of water in the mill-pond, or want of orders.

A. 23.—About ten hours and a half at the outside for those parts in which children are employed.

A. 24.—Young children never more than fourteen hours in any one day, and that is of very rare occurrence; some few children between fourteen and eighteen years old have worked occasionally all day and night once or twice a week on urgent orders.

A. 25.—When goods have been required in less time than it was possible to manufacture them, working only by day, chiefly in spring and fall, for ship-orders, and frequently when the water is short.

A. 26.—This excess of hours is not avoidable at some particular times, because the goods for ship-orders are frequently required in less time than they could be manufactured in abiding by the usual hours of work, and more especially when the power is water, and the orders are required in a short season of water.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—If the hours for working water-power were arbitrarily fixed, the value of most water-mills would be decreased thirty or forty per cent.

A. 29.—I know of no "existing law, regulation, or understanding of the trade" in Gloucestershire respecting the hours of labour in clothing factories. The only inducement I know of to work extra hours is that of executing an order for which there is not sufficient time allowed to perform by day, for it must be remembered that in a manufactory of power to make twenty pieces weekly twenty pieces may be made in the same time required for making one piece.

A. 30.—The same work cannot be carried on by alternate sets of hands without great injury, but the chief pecuniary loss would accrue to owners of water-power if they should be by any means impeded or delayed in the use of it. The workpeople would suffer under such a regulation much more than their employers, for they have not enough to eat now, and if you prevent their employment you must find some other means of feeding them.

(APP.—B. 1.)

E 2

A. 31.



Gloucestershire.

*J. W. Partridge.*

A. 31.—The work produced by different hands will not work well together in one piece of cloth.

A. 32.—Parents would not send their children to any factory for half a day while a whole day's work could be obtained at some other place. On some branches of the work, such as joining and feeding, relays might be employed, but they would in that case earn so little that there would not be enough inducement to work.

A. 33.—We seldom or never work children all night; they sometimes work over-hours, the produce of which their parents suffer them to retain for their own use, and this renders them anxious for such employment.

A. 36.—An impossibility of executing the real orders required in less time than usual to make a piece of cloth; orders generally for shipping, and which, if not supplied in time, are totally lost.

A. 38.—We do not require any artificial heat in summer, and in winter more for the sake of the people than as being necessary to our processes, except in our drying-stoves.

A. 39.—The drying-stoves are kept up to about ninety degrees Fahrenheit.

A. 40.—From two to four, according to the pressure of business.

A. 41.—I cannot say; certainly not forty nights.

A. 42.—Perhaps six or seven.

A. 43.—One or two hours frequently in the evening; and it has occurred, though rarely, that they have worked six or seven hours and all night.

A. 44.—Three or four.

A. 45.—On some occasions all night, but very seldom. They frequently work an hour or two over hours in the evening.

A. 46.—Not indispensably; but fulling and dressing at the gig-mill are performed much better if uninterruptedly.

A. 47.—Inapplicable to our trade, except in the above instances, which require about eighteen hours of uninterrupted work, but which we very seldom attempt, rather putting up with the inconvenience than encourage night-work.

A. 48.—Men, and boys from fourteen to twenty years old.

A. 50.—By oil-lamps and candles, but gas is now erecting in the neighbourhood.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 52.—Except a watchman, no one person works a sufficient number of nights to affect his general habits.

A. 53.—The general allowance out of twelve hours is half an hour breakfast and an hour dinner.

A. 54.—None need remain in the factory to their meals.

A. 55.—Those who do so do it by choice; few of them remain in-door to their meals during summer, but during the winter they get round the fires we allow them in the mills.

A. 56.—In the winter they would be much worse off, not having any comfortable place near at hand to resort to; and if there were a beer-shop near, all the wages would go there.

A. 57.—If refractory after repeated admonition, they are discharged, and their parents then punish them generally.

A. 58.—We do not know of any such, though it is possible it may have occurred.

A. 59.—By those whom the children work under, if inflicted at all.

A. 60.—No.

A. 61.—No; but to some degree of corporal punishment I should not object.

A. 62.—No; I would rather encourage it in a moderate degree; and if any thing improper had been inflicted, I should certainly have heard of it, which I have not.

A. 65.—Some few live in our houses, but distant from the factory, and not at all under our control when from the factory.

A. 66.—I do not know that I have any hands at work except those who have been at the work from infancy; I have known one or two such cases, but those persons never could attain so much proficiency or earn so much money as the others.

A. 67.—We have but few old servants in our factory, not having in the last two years been so extensively engaged in that department, but those that we have are generally healthy, and have always been as much so as any class of people whatever.

A. 68.—There is no occasion for it; none of our processes are injurious.

A. 69.—No.

A. 76.—It might be if there were any ill conduct.

A. 77.—Not in cases where the masters behave ill, because the public opinion of the neighbourhood would be a sufficient protection.

A. 78.—It might be advisable to enact that no children should work in a mill if under nine years of age, and that no children under fourteen should work more than twelve hours each day; but parents would not suffer their children to work if they could get bread without, and if laws are made to interfere with the right of the poor to earn his bread, some other provision must be made. The chief difficulty is to provide a sufficient quantity of remunerating work for all our labourers; no regulations can be beneficial, because if there be not work enough for all, competition will keep down the price of all labour, and each man will undergo greater difficulties in his attempts to earn a livelihood; and if by law you fetter his means through imposing restraints on the work of his children, you may relieve these children from work, but in that case you must consign them to starvation.

JOHN WILLIAM PARTRIDGE.



## ANSWERS of WILLIAM STANTON &amp; SONS, Stroud &amp; Rodborough.

Gloucestershire.

No. 27.

*William Stanton  
& Sons.*

A. 1.—We have two manufacturing establishments, Stafford Mills in the parish of Stroud and Lodgemore Mills in the parish of Rodborough, distant one mile and a quarter from each other, and both situated in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—The manufacture of wool into cloth.

A. 3.—A portion of Stafford Mills was erected more than forty years since; other parts have been erected eighteen, fifteen, ten, seven, five, and two years since. One portion of Lodgemore Mills was erected twenty years since, the other seven years since.

A. 4.—We have both water and steam power at each; the water is tolerably regular, but necessarily varies with the seasons.

A. 5 & 6.—We have no specific provision for ventilation further than the opening of windows. Our rooms are not so crowded as to render the atmosphere impure, and therefore ventilation is not made a primary object.

A. 7.—The opening of the windows is, for the most part, left to the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 8.—All machinery we consider to be more or less dangerous; the most dangerous parts are fenced off, and no one can be injured with common care and precaution.

A. 9.—None whatever.

A. 10.—Till the lists are made out we cannot state the age of the youngest child in our works; we never wish to have any child employed under nine years of age, but as our roller-joiners (and these are our youngest hands) are procured and paid by the billy-spinners, very young hands are occasionally brought into our works; if so young as nine the billy-spinner is generally the parent, for it is not his interest to employ children so young.

A. 11.—Many of our joiners are above twelve years of age; however, as the work is particularly light, we find children from nine to twelve years of age capable of performing their daily tasks without any appearance of fatigue. If the spinner were compelled to employ children above twelve years of age, he would be obliged to give them more wages, and would probably make two big children do the work of three small ones.

A. 12.—The alterations in machinery have not for the last twenty years tended to change the proportions of children employed under twelve years of age, but the abundant supply of infant labour has of late years tended to advance the ages at which children are admitted into factories; twenty years since, when trade was brisk and children scarce, they were eagerly sought for and admitted at six and seven years of age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Our dressers and finishers work on an average twelve hours a day, exclusive of meal-hours, excepting on Saturday, on which day they work nine hours in the summer and eight hours in the winter.

A. 18.—Our spinners average about eleven hours a day exclusive of meal-hours, and on Saturday nine hours and eight hours; the roller-joiners of necessity work the same time; we do not recognize the ages of children in any of our arrangements.

A. 19.—Our fulling-stocks have occasionally been kept going day and night, from Monday morning till Saturday night.

A. 20.—Every day, with the exception of Sundays, Christmas Day, and five or six other days now difficult to particularize.

A. 21.—It is quite impossible to answer this question correctly; the fulling of cloth requires to be continuous; to guess at the average of last year, we think our stocks must have worked ninety hours in each week; our fulling-stocks are chiefly driven by water-power on the ground floor, and the spinning and finishing are in the rooms above.

A. 24.—Our finishing process has occasionally been going on from six A.M. till eight P.M.; and if all under twenty-one years of age are classed as children, then have our children been employed, meal-hours included, fourteen hours a day.

A. 25.—In the months of April and May, when the demand for goods is great.

A. 26.—Unquestionably it is avoidable by the expenditure of additional capital in the creation of more power, room, and machinery.

A. 27.—We formerly did work more hours a day; but of late years we have erected steam-engines, enlarged our buildings, and increased our machinery.

A. 28.—Of necessity, the more pieces produced in a given time by a given power, the less will be the charge for rent on each piece.

A. 29.—We can scarcely be expected to state our belief on a system which with us has no existence.

A. 30.—We can give no practical answer to this question; it probably refers to the cotton manufacture.

A. 31.—Having never overworked one set of children, we have never speculated on the advantages of employing two sets.

A. 32.—We believe the system of relays has not been tried in the west of England, at least we have never adopted it.

A. 37.—A diminution of wages commensurate with the decrease of time; the price of labour would not advance; the supply of hands would still be superabundant.

A. 38.—The usual temperature in summer is from fifty-five to sixty-five degrees, in winter from thirty-five to forty-five degrees; our operations are not impeded at any temperature above the freezing point.



Gloucestershire.

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 William Stanton  
& Sons.
 

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A. 39.—The most desirable temperature is about fifty degrees, just high enough to keep oil in a liquid state.

A. 41.—Our works, excepting fulling, are not carried on by night.

A. 46.—The process of fulling is indispensably continuous; if the heat be checked, the cloth is injured. We have no boys under sixteen years of age employed in the fulling process.

A. 47.—This depends on circumstances which are continually varying; the fulling of a piece of cloth requires from twelve to forty hours.

A. 50.—By Argand lamps and candles.

A. 52.—The workmen in our fulling-mills do not exhibit externally any ill effects.

A. 53.—Sometimes half an hour each, breakfast and dinner; sometimes an hour each.

A. 54.—Those who live near leave the works at meal-times; the others remain.

A. 55.—It is optional with the people themselves.

A. 56.—Great prosperity to the neighbouring beer-shops.

A. 57.—The fear of being discharged is the only hold we have on their obedience.

A. 58.—Not with our sanction; we have given orders to discharge, but not beat, all disorderly children.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 64.—Certainly not against ourselves, and, to the best of our belief, not against any of our foremen or overlookers.

A. 65.—They live chiefly in houses, varying in distance from the works one quarter of a mile to four miles; we have only five or six houses in which our overlookers chiefly reside.

A. 66.—Our people have been bred up in factories; we never engage men unacquainted with the trade; as we require additional hands, we shift our young people from one process to another, according to their age, handiness, and activity.

A. 67.—We have no reason to infer that the health of the people of this vicinity has been or is at all deteriorated by the factory system.

A. 68.—We deny that any injurious effects arise from any process in our manufacture.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 79.—In conclusion we have only to observe, that overworking of children, and ill-health resulting therefrom, will not be found to exist in the manufacturing districts of Gloucestershire.

WILLIAM STANTON and SONS.

No. 28.

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 O. P. Wathen.
 

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ANSWERS of O. P. WATHEN, for Messrs. Wathen and Cork, Woodchester.

A. 1.—Woodchester, Gloucestershire, called Woodchester Mills.

A. 2.—Superfine Saxony broad cloth.

A. 3.—These mills were rebuilt in 1803 and 1804.

A. 4.—One half of this mill is worked by two powerful water-wheels, and the other half by a forty horse steam-engine.

A. 5.—Every other window has a swing-sash, which the people in each room open or shut at pleasure, just to suit their own feelings.

A. 6.—Every room in the manufactory is very airy, but the ventilation depends on opening the swing-windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation of every room is regulated by the persons working therein.

A. 8.—Every dangerous part is most securely fenced off.

A. 9.—None; it is left to their own discretion.

A. 10.—It is seldom any children are employed under ten, and then principally by their own parents; at present there are only two children under that age, and they are nine.

A. 11.—No, not absolutely under twelve; but it is considered an advantage to families to give their children employment from nine and ten years of age.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—In summer from six in the morning to eight at night, allowing two hours out for meals.

A. 18.—No difference is made.

A. 19.—No day longer than fourteen hours, allowing two hours out for meals.

A. 20.—Every day excepting Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday, Fast Day, Whit Monday, and at the election for the borough of Stroud.

A. 21.—Cannot say exactly, but answered in A. 17. & 20.

A. 22.—Different persons are employed in every department, and all are working at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—It is a very rare occurrence to exceed the working hours before named.

A. 26.—Yes, it is avoidable.

A. 27.—We have occasionally formerly worked the manufactory to later hours, but we do not consider any advantage is derived from working by night beyond regular or reasonable hours.

A. 28.—No.

A. 29.—It is not practised in these parts.

A. 30.



A. 30.—No, because the people are either paid by the day at the rate of ten hours or by the piece, and therefore extra work can only be to produce more manufactured goods.

A. 31.—None whatever; but would be advantageous.

A. 32.—Answered before, as the practice is not followed in these parts.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—Night work can only be required occasionally, to execute large or foreign orders by a limited time.

A. 37.—The working hours of this manufactory are by no means too severe for any of those employed, and a reduction of the working hours would be a loss to the employers, as both water and steam power would be lost to them, and a serious injury to the servants.

A. 38.—We use no artificial heat, except from fire-places in the different rooms; and those employed attend to the fires in the winter or cold weather, and the rooms are kept comfortably warm. We only require a sufficient heat to prevent the oil used with the wool in the scribbling machines from congealing.

A. 50.—In the winter evenings we use the Argand lamps and candles.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 53.—Eight to nine in the morning, and twelve to one or one to two in the middle day.

A. 54.—They do as they please, but many have their meals sent at the stated hours to them in the factory.

A. 56.—They may do so if they please.

A. 57.—Force is never resorted to. If any child or youth does not conform, they are discharged.

A. 58.—Never with the knowledge of the masters.

A. 62.—Yes. If ever we have heard of a father beating his child, we have threatened to discharge him if repeated, excepting it is done with moderation.

A. 63.—We have directed our foreman to forbid any child being beaten verbally, and if ever practised to report thereon, that the person may be discharged.

A. 65.—They live in their own houses; not at all under the control of their employers after they leave the manufactory.

A. 66.—In the different departments those who have been initiated early in the specific process of manufacture they follow are in riper years better workmen, and get better wages.

A. 67.—This factory is proverbially very healthy.

A. 68.—There are no injurious effects to be apprehended from any part of our manufactory.

A. 79.—None, excepting that I do not consider the Bill now before Parliament applies to this neighbourhood.

O. P. WATHEN.

Gloucestershire.

O. P. Wathen.

#### ANSWERS of ROBERT S. and EDWARD DAVIES and Co., Stonehouse.

No. 29.

R. S. and E. Davies.  
and Co.

A. 1.—Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

A. 2.—Manufactory of woollen cloths.

A. 3.—It was first employed as a woollen manufactory upwards of one hundred years ago; a considerable addition was made to the buildings about thirty to forty years ago.

A. 4.—Both steam and water; the latter very irregular on account of want of supply in the summer and floods in the winter, which occasionally prevent the working of the steam-engine.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening of windows.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—This clause does not apply to our manufactory.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—Yes, for roller-joining at the billies.

A. 12.—Has made no difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—The average about twelve hours.

A. 18.—Under twelve years, ten hours, exclusive of meals.

A. 24.—No set of children has been employed more than ten hours.

A. 25.—In cases of accidents to machinery, &c.

A. 26.—Because the whole process of the manufactory would be delayed by the stoppage of any one branch.

A. 27.—No.

A. 31.—If in cases of accidents we work the mill beyond the regular hours, we have a different set of men and children, having two mills.

A. 36.—In case of an accident to any one branch of machinery, a delay and loss of wages to the workpeople employed in every other branch.

A. 38.—The temperature of 55° to 60° would be preferable to any other degree.

A. 46.—The milling of cloth, as well as the roughing or dressing.

A. 48.—Men and boys of sixteen years of age and upwards.

A. 50.—Gas and oil lamps.

(APP.—B. 1.)

E 4

A. 52.



Gloucestershire.

*R. S. and E. Davies  
and Co.*

A. 52.—We do not employ persons by night, excepting in milling and dressing, and it has no ill effects upon their habits.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast; one hour for dinner; half an hour in the evening.

A. 54.—Every person is at liberty to leave the manufactory at meal-times.

A. 57.—The children are generally very attentive to their work, to insure a constant employment.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—If a child is disobedient and not attentive to his work, our foreman is directed to discharge him.

A. 66.—We prefer those who have been employed from their infancy.

A. 67.—The people in our factory have been remarkably healthy for the last ten years, and are so at present.

A. 69.—No.

ROBERT S. and EDWARD DAVIES and Co.

No. 30.

*John F. Lewis.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS, Oil Mills, near Stroud.

A. 1.—The parishes of Stonehouse and King Stanley, both in the county of Gloucester.

A. 2.—Manufacturing superfine broad and narrow woollen cloth.

A. 3.—Some part of these mills must have been erected one hundred years or more, and no part of them later than thirty years. During the memory of man it was always a cloth mill.

A. 4.—Water-power only, irregular according to season.

A. 5.—We have casements in our factory for ventilation.

A. 6.—The provision depends on the opening these windows.

A. 7.—It is controlled at the discretion of all or of any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts of our machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—Our men are generally provided with a great coat, and females with cloaks, pattens, and umbrellas. My operatives are all personally cleanly.

A. 10.—Eight years. I have none who have worked at other trades.

A. 11.—Yes, because the quantity of labour required is so small.

A. 12.—Less.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14.—We employ no apprentices.

A. 17.—Eleven hours and a half a day is the most any person working for weekly wages are employed; too often there is a great falling off from these hours.

A. 18.—From nine hours to eleven hours and a half. Our weekly operatives generally come and go at the same time as each other.

A. 19.—Our milling (or fulling) has been frequently going for the twenty-four hours; our finishing fourteen hours; but those parts where children are employed eleven and a half at most.

A. 20.—About three hundred.

A. 22.—As a great part of my works are done by the piece, I have no means of specifying the times each department has been carried on.

A. 24.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 25.—During the last year our regular hours were not exceeded.

A. 26.—During excessive short water in summer it may be necessary to extend the hours, because the children sometimes play for hours in the day. Our general plan is to work the children in the day, and do the milling in the night, because the milling do not require regular attending.

A. 27.—Yes; before the panic in 1825 and 1826.

A. 28.—The sweeping reductions that have been made in profits and wages inclines us not to overwork ourselves, and the only difference is, do we pay as much taxes and rent for turning out a small as a larger quantity of goods?

A. 29.—Large manufacturers, with expensive clerks, overlookers, and assistants, must drive on; and as the corn laws prevent an increase of trade, extra hours and reduction of wages follow each other.

A. 30.—To limit the hours of milling and dressing cloth would be very detrimental, but where children under twelve years are employed it would only add to the cost.

A. 31.—To produce as great a quantity of goods as possible with their power, which generally is steam, where extra hours are required.

A. 32.—In manufacturing fine cloths the children are not required to work extra hours; it is the dressing and finishing that requires extra time.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—No, nor never will, till I can get better profits and pay better wages. Master and man may work ten or twelve hours a day just to rub on, but no eighteen or twenty hours a day for us without better pay. My father used to get more profit by one piece of cloth than I can by twenty; it does not however follow that I shall make twenty for his one. The hope of reward sweetens labour.

A. 36 & 37.—If you prohibit night-work in the milling, dressing, and finishing of fine cloth, the effect will be that eight out of ten employed in the cloth-mills will have their hours

of



of labour reduced to about six hours a day, because the cloth could not be finished, and would not be made.

A. 38.—The temperature of the atmosphere any thing above freezing.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—Our milling, dressing, and finishing processes, at which men from sixteen years old and upwards only are employed, are the only parts of our manufactory that has been employed in the night, and these are all piece-workers, so I have no account of their time.

A. 46.—The milling or felting of cloth.

A. 47.—I have known cloths in short water five days and five nights continuous in this process.

A. 48.—Men; sometimes a very strong boy to help. The personal labour is very little to either, and plenty of time to sleep. They are well paid, and it is a very healthy process.

A. 49.—It requires a heat produced by moisture and the continued pressure of the machine, any interruption of which is detrimental to this process.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—None of our apartments are crowded. No special provision for night ventilation.

A. 52.—As it is our piece-workers that work by night, I conclude that their habits become more industrious.

A. 53.—The piece-workers what time they please; our weekly people enjoy their breakfasts at home, and are allowed half an hour dinner-time.

A. 54 & 55.—As many as please. Those who live at a distance prefer taking their meals in the factory entirely for their convenience.

A. 56.—Some of them would get over to Mrs. Knight's at the Kidly Wink, and others would frequently be out in the rain.

A. 57, 58, & 59.—All my children work by the hour, and are only paid for the time they work. If they do their work bad, and will not mend, I dismiss them.

A. 60 & 61.—If they are guilty of any gross misconduct, I correct them with an inch strap. I have only had occasion to inflict chastisement five times in the last three years.

A. 62.—I have forbid corporal punishment.

A. 63.—My instructions are, that if children want beating I will do it myself.

A. 64.—I have never had a complaint against myself or any overlooker for punishment inflicted.

A. 65.—Some of them do; we employ only moral characters, and have no complaint whatever to make of domestic uncleanness.

A. 66.—We universally find that where children are employed from infancy they arrive at those branches where greater skill is required and greater wages given.

A. 67.—I should think the health of the people improved, being in my opinion cleaner in their persons and habits.

A. 68.—We have no injurious processes in the manufacture of woollen cloths.

A. 69.—I believe not.

A. 77.—Certainly not.

A. 78 & 79.—I would suggest, that if our government were to busy themselves to get us a good trade, the parents of children would be better employed at better wages, and would not then let their children go to work till they were well able. I have people in my employ that will not let their children go to work because they can keep them without, and send them to school, and others that would be in the workhouse if they did not send them to work simply because they cannot find them bread without labour.

16th May 1833.

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM HOOD, Stonehouse.

A. 1.—Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

A. 2.—Woollen manufacture.

A. 3.—One part is old, and has been erected many years; an addition has been made within the last ten years; it has been used for its present purpose probably for a century.

A. 4.—The power is water, and therefore irregular, varying according to the seasons. The power is probably about forty horse.

A. 5.—There is no distinct provision for ventilation besides windows.

A. 6.—Windows are kept open when considered necessary by the workmen themselves.

A. 8.—All parts considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople clean themselves and change their clothes if they think fit, having plenty of water at their command; no particular arrangements are made.

A. 10.—Some children come to learn as early as seven years of age, and I never inquire if they have been otherwise employed.

A. 11.—My work does require the employment of children under twelve years of age, because they are best adapted to the work, being short and not obliged to stoop, and it affords great relief to the parents.

A. 12.—There is no material difference.

A. 13.—Only to learn the business; not to work.

A. 15.—None employed by me are orphans, except elderly people able to take care of themselves.

(APP.—B. 1.)

F

A. 16.

Gloucestershire.

John F. Lewis.

No. 31.

William Hood.



Gloucestershire.

William Hood.

- A. 16.—All children employed at this mill are under my control.
- A. 17.—Vary from ten to twelve or thirteen.
- A. 19.—As we are dependent on water, which varies considerably, it is impossible to say exactly; sometimes the mill is going for two hours, and the next two nothing is done.
- A. 20.—Can't say exactly; suppose about two hundred.
- A. 22.—All worked alike.
- A. 23.—Eleven.
- A. 24.—Twelve.
- A. 25.—When work was brisk.
- A. 26.—It is avoidable, because no one is compelled to carry on a manufactory, but when business is brisk the people prefer working a greater number of hours to increase their earnings.
- A. 29.—I have no other inducement to continue the working beyond the usual hours of labour than that of doing more business, and it is immaterial to me whether it be done by the same or other hands, but the people prefer not changing, because when water is short they would lose the opportunity of working, and consequently earning money, unless allowed to do so by night.
- A. 30.—As mine is all piece-work, the increase or diminution of hours and prices of labour is immaterial.
- A. 31.—I have no objection to a change, but I think the persons employed would object, as it would decrease their earnings.
- A. 32.—I have never tried it for reasons stated in the last answer.
- A. 33 & 34.—I have not employed two different sets of people on the same work.
- A. 35.—Only a part of my manufactory is carried on by night, and that only in the summer months, and no change takes place.
- A. 36.—If persons were not allowed to work by night during the summer months I should shut up the mill, because I could not afford to pay rent for water and not use it when I liked, or as it came down the stream.
- A. 37.—My opinion as to a further reduction of working hours is, that if such were the case people would go more to the beer-shops, because they would be idle.
- A. 38.—About sixty-five or seventy degrees in summer; about fifty-five in winter, the mill being warmed by steam-pipes. We could not work if it were freezing in the rooms.
- A. 39.—We do not want it very warm; it is inconvenient to the persons employed; sixty-five or seventy degrees quite warm enough.
- A. 40.—There is no difference of heat necessary for different processes.
- A. 50.—By oil-lamps.
- A. 51.—Doors and windows.
- A. 52.—The same as by day.
- A. 53.—Two hours in twelve, unless they prefer working to earn higher wages.
- A. 54.—They do as they like; some stay, others go away.
- A. 57.—Discharging them.
- A. 58.—But very seldom.
- A. 59.—By the persons who employ the children.
- A. 60.—Yes.
- A. 61.—Both.
- A. 62.—They have been used so seldom and so slightly, that I have not interfered.
- A. 63.—I have given no instructions.
- A. 64.—Proceedings were once taken against my foreman, and the complaint immediately discharged by the magistrates as frivolous.
- A. 65.—Some of them; but I don't interfere in their domestic arrangements; they are happier left to themselves.
- A. 66.—Persons brought up from their infancy are more skilful of course, and earn better wages.
- A. 67.—No change either way to my knowledge.
- A. 68.—No particular processes carried on here which have injurious effects.
- A. 69.—I don't know what Act is alluded to.
- A. 77.—All persons will readily give evidence if called on, and we have no wish to prevent them.
- A. 78.—I think all laws and all penalties for regulating the hours of labour of children or other persons very absurd, and instead of suggesting others would recommend those enacted to be repealed, and leave masters and servants to make their own agreements. Acts of this sort are more likely to cause animosity between the workman and his master; and if a law be made making out what hours a person may work, the industrious man who would willingly work a greater number of hours will go to the public-houses, and become idle and drunken, instead of earning money for the support of his family, who will become burthensome to the parish. This is my opinion.

WILLIAM WOOD.

No. 32.

William Boughton.

WILLIAM BOUGHTON, manager of Messrs. Kirby, Beard, and Kirby's pin manufactory, situate in Westgate-street in the city of Gloucester, states in answer to the paper of queries on behalf of the said firm that the hours of working in their factory never exceed ten hours and a half per day, and very seldom work more than nine or ten hours per day; and as every branch



branch of their work done is paid for as piece-work, they never place any restraint upon any of their hands, or task them, and their workpeople are allowed to go in and out of the factory whenever they please. The factory is well ventilated, and is at all times kept clean and wholesome, and no children are employed (except one) under eleven years of age, who are allowed to return home to their parents, relations, or guardians at least three times a day. No corporal punishments are inflicted upon any persons employed in the factory, young or old.

The said William Boughton further states, that this true answer, with the papers hereunto annexed, has been exhibited and placed in a conspicuous part of Messrs. Kirby, Beard, and Kirby's pin manufactory frequented by persons in their employment for two days.

In witness my hand this 30th day of May 1833.—WILLIAM BOUGHTON.

Westgate Street, Gloucester.

Gloucestershire.

William Boughton.

ANSWERS of Messrs. LEWIS and DUTTON, Wotton-under-Edge.

No. 33.

Messrs.  
Lewis & Dutton.

A. 1.—Dyehouse Mills in the parish of Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire; new mills, in the parish of Kingswood, Wilts.

A. 2.—Manufacture of fine woollen cloths and kerseymers.

A. 3.—Dyehouse Mills, erected in 18.—; New Mills, erected, we should suppose, about thirty years ago; both mills always used as woollen manufactories.

A. 4.—Dyehouse Mills, steam-power fourteen horse; New Mills, water-power, irregular; about forty horse power, more or less.

A. 5.—No distinct provision, but doors and windows opened at the discretion of the workpeople, and without interference in any manner on the part of the masters or overlookers.

A. 6.—Yes.

A. 7.—Entirely at the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 8.—All are fenced off carefully.

A. 9.—No specific arrangements exist, but most of them attend to it for their own comfort and convenience.

A. 10.—Only one so young as eight years; never of course worked at any other trade.

A. 11.—We consider from ten to twelve the best age for children to commence learning some of the more simple processes.

A. 12.—We know of no recent alterations on which this question will bear.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have no orphans, and the parents or guardians are at liberty to call upon the children at any time they please.

A. 17.—From ten to twelve hours per day.

A. 19.—With the exception of milling cloth (which employs with us only three people), we have not exceeded fourteen hours, and usually not more than ten working hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and sixty-five days, less fifty-two for Sundays.

A. 22.—Our works are carried on simultaneously.

A. 23.—Between ten and eleven hours.

A. 24.—Never exceeded eleven hours.

A. 25.—Our only irregularity has been occasioned by an irregular supply of water, varying of course with the seasons.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, because we have no control over the supply of water.

A. 28.—Certainly.

A. 29.—To supply orders that are to be executed against a given time, and to save an extra outlay for machinery and premises, what we could not calculate upon being regularly worked.

A. 30.—Certainly, more or less in every process, but to what extent we cannot say.

A. 31.—The few hours we want to work beyond the regular day are not sufficient to answer either the purpose of the master or of the servant to have relays.

A. 33.—We have not employed a night-set of hands.

A. 36.—With the exception of the three millers of cloth, we have no night-work.

A. 37.—It will interfere with the master's profits and the workpeople's comforts.

A. 38.—We never require a higher temperature in our manufactory than thirty-three degrees.

A. 39.—The common temperature of the atmosphere.

A. 41.—None, with the exception of milling.

A. 46.—We consider the fulling of cloth requires to be commenced, and carried to its conclusion without interruption.

A. 47.—It depends upon the nature of the cloth to be milled, varying from sixteen to seventy-two hours.

A. 48.—A considerable degree of strength is indispensable, the age varying from seventeen or eighteen upwards.

A. 49.—Because the shrinking process is carried on by the degree of temperature generated by friction.

A. 50.—Argand lamps and candles.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—We know of no ill effects.

A. 53.—One hour at nine for breakfast, one hour at two for dinner.

A. 54.—All may leave, but some for their own convenience bring their food with them.

(APP.—B. 1.)

F 2

A. 56.



Gloucestershire.

Messrs.

Lewis &amp; Dutton.

- A. 56.—Optional with the workpeople, immaterial to the master.  
 A. 57.—Expostulation and turning off.  
 A. 58.—Very slight if any, and never with our approbation.  
 A. 59.—Corporal punishments not allowed.  
 A. 63.—All our regulations with regard to children are included in expostulation and turning them off.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—We have a few tenements in the occupation of our workpeople, but we never interfere in their domestic arrangements further than friendly advice.  
 A. 66.—We cannot decidedly answer the question, our observation only extending over about six years, but we should give the preference to those who have been early initiated.  
 A. 67.—We know of no alteration.  
 A. 68.—The woollen manufactory is particularly healthy in all its branches.  
 A. 69.—We know of no Act to which you refer.

LEWIS &amp; DUTTON.

No. 34.

Llewellyn Ford.

## ANSWERS of LLEWELLYN FORD, Wotton-under-Edge.

- A. 1.—Wotton-under-Edge, county of Gloucester.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of superfine broad cloths and kerseymeres.  
 A. 3.—Erected entirely in 1817, and used first for its present purpose in 1825.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power entirely.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 6.—Ventilation depends on the opening of the windows, doors, &c.  
 A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—None required.  
 A. 10.—Between eight and nine years; none previously employed at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—The nature of the work does not in particular require it, but children at eight years of age will be quite as well in some processes of the manufacture, it being of so mild a nature, provided they are not worked more than eleven or twelve hours per day. Could not get children if confined to twelve years.  
 A. 12.—Has made no difference to me as to the number or age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Live with their parents.  
 A. 17.—Twelve working hours; Saturdays only nine hours.  
 A. 18.—Eleven working hours; make no difference to age, not thinking the hours of work too long. Saturdays work only seven hours.  
 A. 19.—Not more than stated in A. 17.  
 A. 20.—Above two hundred and ninety-eight.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand four hundred and fifty.  
 A. 22.—No difference.  
 A. 23.—About eleven.  
 A. 24.—Only one set of children in my employ.  
 A. 25 & 26.—Not exceeded.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Never done any thing of the kind, consequently cannot form an opinion.  
 A. 30.—I work as regular as I can the number of hours specified before, therefore cannot judge.  
 A. 31.—Cannot tell.  
 A. 32.—Not been tried by me, my business not requiring the same.  
 A. 33.—Never work at night, not having enough work for one set of hands.  
 A. 37.—I am of opinion that if a still further reduction of the working hours was to take place, viz. less than twelve hours per day, it would be injurious to the workman by cutting short his time, which would consequently reduce his wages and his condition worse than it is at present.  
 A. 38.—The temperature depends entirely on the weather, nothing being used in any process of the manufacture where the workpeople are employed.  
 A. 39.—190°, and this in the open air away from the factory.  
 A. 40.—Two, and only about half an hour a day, and that at about a dozen different times.  
 A. 50.—Lamp and olive oils when required, which is only a few hours in winter.  
 A. 51.—None required.  
 A. 53.—From eight till nine in the morning, and from one till two in the afternoon.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—None allowed.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 65.—Not live in my houses.  
 A. 66.—Do not find but little difference as to skill or general character in those who have been previously and those recently employed; with regard to skill, much depends on their natural abilities.  
 A. 67.—Have not been in business so long.

A. 68.



- A. 68.—None necessary in any process.  
 A. 69.—Am not acquainted with the Act; my rooms are from ten to twelve feet high.  
 A. 78.—Not knowing what the law is, cannot form any opinion thereon.  
 A. 79.—In this part of the country I don't consider any alteration to be necessary, but should there be any alteration made, would recommend a scale of working hours per day according to the age of the persons employed, beginning from eight years; none under.

LLEWELLIN FORD.

Gloucestershire.

Llewellyn Ford.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM PERRIN, Wotton-under-Edge.

No. 35.

William Perrin.

- A. 1.—One room for machinery in a mill situate in the parish of Wotton-under-Edge, county of Gloucester; workshops in the parish of Kingswood and county of Wilts.  
 A. 2.—The manufacture of superfine broad cloths.  
 A. 3.—Cannot state the date of erections, but believe they have always been used for their present purpose.  
 A. 4.—Water; and as part only of the mill is now employed, it is regular.  
 A. 5.—Sash-windows.  
 A. 6.—On opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all or any who feel the need of air.  
 A. 8.—They are.  
 A. 9.—The works and workshops are healthy, so that nothing of the sort is needed.  
 A. 10.—About nine years; not employed at any other trade previously.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because they do not require so much wages; and in many instances a child at eight or nine years is equally capable of the work as one at twelve years, as it requires attention only, and is not laborious.  
 A. 12.—It has made scarcely any difference with me.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None lodged or maintained, as all come from and return to their parents or guardians daily.  
 A. 17.—About ten hours daily.  
 A. 18.—About ten hours daily, all.  
 A. 19, 20, & 21.—No account having been kept, it is impossible to reply correctly to these queries.  
 A. 22.—All at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Not more than ten hours daily.  
 A. 24.—Not exceeding eleven hours.  
 A. 25.—In the summer season, when the water has been previously short, and a few days rain have made it more plentiful, was disposed to take the opportunity of working longer.  
 A. 26.—Certainly not avoidable from the above and many other circumstances.  
 A. 27.—Yes, formerly.  
 A. 28.—Not in my case, but in many instances it must be so.  
 A. 29.—Sometimes for want of power, and to get goods ready for the market by a certain time.  
 A. 36.—No night-work needed by me.  
 A. 37.—Enhance the value of the power and injure the workman, unless the master could give him as much wages for a less number of hours.  
 A. 38, 39, & 40.—No heat required above the usual temperature.  
 A. 46.—No, as I do neither the fulling or dressing myself; it is done at a neighbouring mill.  
 A. 53.—Two hours daily; one from eight to nine, and the other from one to two o'clock.  
 A. 54.—All leave them.  
 A. 57.—When disobedient we generally discharge them.  
 A. 58.—They have been occasionally.  
 A. 59.—Usually by the person injured.  
 A. 61.—Not with my prior, but they have with my subsequent sanction, when they have been deserved.  
 A. 62.—Yes, when I have considered that children have been punished undeservingly.  
 A. 63.—No particular instructions ever given.  
 A. 64.—Never for thirty-six years.  
 A. 65.—Very few, and have no control over them but as it respects their work.  
 A. 66.—Those employed in the trade from their infancy are certainly preferable to those taken into employ at later periods.  
 A. 67.—Not aware of any difference; I consider the people healthy.  
 A. 68.—Not required.  
 A. 69.—No.  
 A. 78.—I think that the magistrates are quite sufficient for this purpose in any case of complaint, and that there is no need of further legislation.  
 A. 79.—I think the present inquiry very useful, in order to ascertain where abuses do exist; still I am of opinion that it would be unjust to lay others under injurious restrictions, with whom there are no abuses.

WILLIAM PERRIN.



Somersetshire.

No. 36.

William Naish.

## SOMERSETSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM NAISH, for Naish &amp; Co., Bristol.

- A. 1.—Castle Precincts, city and county of Bristol.
- A. 2.—Preparing sewing cottons, and manufacturing the same into balls, skeins, bobbins, &c.
- A. 3.—The building now used was erected for the special purpose, and removed into from the old one in the year 1827.
- A. 4.—Entirely hand-power.
- A. 5.—Yes; a circulation of fresh air is kept up by means of sash-windows in the sides of the building and ventilating sky-lights.
- A. 6.—By constant or occasional open doors or windows, as circumstances require and as the weather permits.
- A. 7.—By the overlooker, or in his absence the workpeople.
- A. 8.—No parts of our machinery are dangerous.
- A. 9.—We have fires in winter, where those who come wet may dry their clothes; we have also water-closets and a supply of soft water, &c. for washing, introduced at the erection of the premises, and every person is required to keep themselves clean; fresh spring-water is daily provided for drinking.
- A. 10.—As shown by the list, we sometimes employ them as young as nine years; we do not recollect any so young were previously employed.
- A. 11.—A small part of it from its extreme lightness and simplicity.
- A. 12.—No alteration affecting power has taken place in our machinery.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17, 18, & 19.—About ten.
- A. 20.—About three hundred and ten.
- A. 21.—About three thousand one hundred.
- A. 22.—No division of labour.
- A. 23.—Ten, holidays excepted.
- A. 24.—About ten.
- A. 27.—Some years ago we occasionally worked extra hours, owing to a lack of machinery.
- A. 28.—The difference consisted only in the extra cost of gas light and firing.
- A. 29.—We know of no cases, nor are we acquainted with the inducements to manufacturers to do so.
- A. 30.—No account.
- A. 31.—When any extra hours are required here they rarely exceed one or two, which render fresh relays unnecessary.
- A. 32.—Unnecessary; not done.
- A. 37.—We presume ten hours working to be unexceptionable.
- A. 38.—The temperature of our manufactory is generally the same as in dwelling houses.
- A. 39.—Enough to keep the workpeople warm (except in as mentioned in A. 97).
- A. 40.—There is no difference in our process, excepting as stated in A. 79.
- A. 50.—In winter evenings we light up with coal-gas.
- A. 51.—Same as before stated for ventilation by day.
- A. 52.—No night-work; manufactory is closed by eight.
- A. 53.—One hour and a half for dinner, and some who occasionally go out to tea are allowed three quarters of an hour.
- A. 54.—In fine weather they generally all leave at dinner-time.
- A. 55.—When any stay in, it is generally for their own convenience.
- A. 57.—A set of rules for the conduct of the workpeople hangs in the manufactory, conformity to which is enforced by small fines, which form a fund for their relief when prevented from working by sickness.
- A. 58.—It rarely happens a girl is struck; if corporal punishment is thought necessary, the overlooker generally refers it to their parents.
- A. 59.—If struck in the factory, generally done by the overlooker.
- A. 60.—We are aware they are sometimes struck as above.
- A. 61 & 62.—We have not thought it necessary to interfere, being of the slight nature as before described.
- A. 63.—None given.
- A. 64.—No.
- A. 65.—They reside with their parents or families, yet, as occasion offers, endeavour is made to enforce their moral and social improvement; a portion of Scripture is read among them every morning.
- A. 66.—We cannot speak so decidedly to this query as to refer to names, but in general those who have been longest in our employ are considered most competent.
- A. 67.—We have perceived no remarkable difference, excepting during the prevalence of any epidemic; however, we do not recollect having lost one by death during that period.
- A. 68.—We have no injurious process.
- A. 69.—Our manufactory is not, strictly speaking, a mill, nor do we conceive it comes within



within the provisions of the Act if it be the contemplated Ten Hours Act which is here meant.

A. 73.—Not personally acquainted with any.

A. 78.—We are not enough acquainted with the regulations of those factories which we conceive are implied to be able to give an opinion.

A. 79.—We have a small manufactory at Montpelier near Bristol, where three girls are employed, in which is a room for drying the goods heated by means of a stove. The girls do not work in this room, and have seldom occasion to enter it, except to take in and out the goods.

WILLIAM NAISH.

Somersetshire.

William Naish.

#### ANSWERS of J. S. WARD, Bruton.

No. 37.

John S. Ward.

A. 1.—In Bruton, but I employ women and children in the neighbouring villages winding silk at their own houses; those are paid by the pound.

A. 2.—Winding and twisting silk.

A. 3.—At different times during the last fifty years.

A. 4.—By steam and water; the irregularity of the supply from water is considerable in a dry season.

A. 5 & 6.—The factory is ventilated by opening windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is generally by the order of the foreman, but any of the workpeople may open the windows if they please.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—There is nothing in a silk-mill generally to acquire dirt; the hands are always at liberty to wash, water being always near at hand.

A. 10.—I prefer taking them at the age of eight, but they have sometimes been sent as young as seven, but they then only work about seven or eight hours; there is no other trade for the employment of children in this town.

A. 11.—Children who are taught early make the best hands.

A. 12.—A greater proportion.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Very few; I suppose this applies to apprentices.

A. 16.—They are under the superintendence of the foreman.

A. 17.—We profess to work eleven hours and a half, but we are not strict to five minutes at the meal-times; I should say therefore eleven hours and a quarter.

A. 18.—No difference, except that the young children do not work before breakfast, nor in the winter after candles are lighted.

A. 19.—When the hands work over-time, they work thirteen hours and a quarter, Saturday excepted, for which they are paid for an extra day's work.

A. 20.—All the year except three weeks, when they keep their annual holidays.

A. 21.—I don't know; I worked very little over-time the last year.

A. 22.—Only my spinning-mills work over-time when warp is in greater request than shute, and then I require less than twenty hands for that purpose.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter.

A. 24.—Children are very rarely worked more than eleven hours and a quarter; it is only the few that work at the spinning-mills are required to do so.

A. 25.—When the demand for warp is pressing, which requires more machinery, viz. more spinning-mills, as before stated.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, unless I disappoint my employer, who will give his work to other throwsters.

A. 27.—Not for the last three years.

A. 29.—I do not work all night, and have never exceeded the ten hours extra labour per week for the last three years.

A. 31.—It would not be worth while to employ different sets of hands for the trifling excess of time I wish to engage them, nor could I obtain such extra hands in this town if I wanted them.

A. 37.—The effect of the still further reduction of hours would be the necessity of procuring (if possible) more hands and more machinery to obtain the present return of silk from the mill.

A. 38.—I should think about sixty degrees in winter. Our only object is to make the hands comfortably warm.

A. 39.—The silk factory does not require any certain degree of heat.

A. 41.—I seldom work over-hours, and then only ten hours in the course of the week. I never work my hands all the night.

A. 46.—Not necessarily continuous.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—Only by windows.

A. 52.—My people are generally healthy.

A. 53.—I profess to allow forty-five minutes at each meal; but I do not object to fifty minutes, that is, the factory door is not shut till that period.

A. 54.—All are expected to leave the mill at the meal-hours, unless from the state of the weather.

(APP.—B. 1.)

F 4



Somersetshire.

*J. S. Ward.*

weather. We allow the more distant hands to stay in the mill, and have their victuals brought to them.

A. 57.—The best means, and which I have constant recourse to, are extra pence on the pay-day for those who have no complaint made against them by their superintendent.

A. 58.—We so rarely have recourse to corporal punishment that I may say it is abolished.

A. 59.—The overlookers report to me if they behave improperly.

A. 60.—I do not sanction corporal punishment.

A. 62.—I have had no occasion to forbid punishment, as my overlookers are not disposed to take such responsibility on themselves. They often say, "that child does not deserve her penny this week for good behaviour."

A. 63.—I have never given written instructions; my general order is, inform me when the hands do any thing improper.

A. 64.—One complaint only has been made during the last three years; it was against my then foreman, who gave a girl a cut with a small cane. The imprudent mother, who preferred the complaint, has since repented and confessed her folly. The child's fault was perversely wasting the silk, in consequence of which I was obliged to discharge her for a season.

A. 65.—I do not provide houses for any of my people except the foreman and my late foreman, who, after sixty-three years service without losing a day's work during his servitude, has recently retired.

A. 66.—The skill of those who are initiated in their infancy is very superior to those who commence working at a later period.

A. 67.—My factory for the last ten years has been generally healthy. I do not know that there has been any deterioration or any decided improvement.

A. 68.—I am not aware that there is any injurious effect from the process used in my factory.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—The workpeople are not in the least afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence. I am sure my people have no reason to be afraid.

A. 78.—I should say of the silk-throwing mills, leave them alone. The workpeople are at present satisfied, for though their wages are low, they are convinced that their masters cannot afford them more wages for their labour.—N. B. In the list of hands given to the Commissioner it is to be observed that those people who work at their own houses are not included, they having the control of their own time.

J. S. WARD.

No. 38.

Messrs.  
Brittain & Houston.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. BRITTAIN &amp; HOUSTON, Frome.

A. 1.—Frome, Somerset.

A. 2.—Manufactory of white and buff kerseymeres.

A. 3.—Erected in 1823; some little addition in 1829.

A. 4.—Steam-power, ten horses, regular.

A. 5.—A part of each window opens.

A. 6.—Depends on opening the windows entirely.

A. 7.—At the discretion of both men and women employed.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—Proper accommodation for purposes mentioned erected same time with the mill.

A. 10.—Some mothers bring them as early as seven years of age, the employment being so very light.

A. 11.—It requires children under that age, the employ being so trifling; at a fuller age too much wages would be expected.

A. 12.—We believe not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Generally eleven hours.

A. 18.—About eleven hours; the youngest are favoured at all times.

A. 19.—On particular occasions, with shipping orders, &c. a few of our people have worked all night perhaps six or eight nights during the year, as we could not execute our orders without, and the people are glad to do it, and paid above the average rate of wages on such occasions.

A. 20.—The whole year, excepting four or five days holidays.

A. 21.—Cannot say, as we keep no account; believe not more than twelve hours per day throughout the year.

A. 22.—The whole works together.

A. 23.—No particular account at any time kept; our people commence and leave at different times; some part at five o'clock, leaving at seven, with two hours for meals; others, the females, come at six and leave at seven, having two meal-hours and tea-time.

A. 24.—Our works are very regular; but on some occasions the children have worked from six in the morning until nine or ten at night, but on such occasions the biggest are detained, and extra time allowed for refreshment between meal-hours, and sometimes refreshments are given them.

A. 25.—On occasions of orders given at particular seasons of the year, and which depend



on those seasons, whether particularly severe or mild, early or late; also with shipping orders, with which a limited time must be necessary, and is at all times given.

A. 26.—By no means avoidable; a suddenly severe season, or on the contrary, a very forward and hot season not only increases the demand for certain goods, but shortens also the time required for their production. Shipping orders also must at all times be forwarded early and late, being always limited as to time; on such occasions, in particular, extra hours and night-work is quite unavoidable.

A. 27.—The greater part of it not more time formerly than at present.

A. 29.—It would be found impossible to have children or adults in waiting to supply the place of others for only a few hours, or on particular occasions a night or two.

A. 30.—Were we to shorten the hours of work, we should certainly find an increase in cost of production in nearly all parts of the manufactory.

A. 31.—Division of labour has made children and adults more perfect in their various branches, so that they could not be removed from one part of the manufactory to another; and it would be very expensive, and on that account impossible to have a fresh set of hands in waiting where they are only very occasionally required.

A. 32.—It has not been fully tried by us, as we do not often require them; when we have required, we have of course detained the most able, and by extra pay and providing refreshment, as well as working some part only the half night, who have been relieved by others, we have managed as much to the satisfaction of the people as our own.

A. 36.—Goods with which a limited time were given would be thrown on our hands if not finished by the day given, and no future orders given from such quarter.

A. 37.—A certain increase in the cost of production, larger warehouses, and more machinery, with an increase of rates and taxes, increase of capital employed, &c.

A. 39.—We have only a stove for drying cloth, which is only a very little hotter than our hottest summer's day.

A. 40.—Four or five men; men only.

A. 41.—About six or eight whole nights.

A. 42 & 43.—Only six or eight children. About eight hours.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Many have an hour, others three quarters of an hour, some only half an hour.

A. 54.—All generally leave.

A. 55.—Their own convenience and pleasure.

A. 56.—No injurious effect to the trade.

A. 57.—No severe means.

A. 58.—Very seldom indeed.

A. 59.—Very occasionally by the foreman.

A. 62.—We have forbidden such steps.

A. 63.—No instructions verbal or written; severity always forbidden.

A. 64.—No complaint at any time whatever.

A. 65.—A few families, six or eight, with all proper steps taken to enforce cleanliness.

A. 66.—Our trade is of the light fancy description, and in some branches require clever good hands, whom we generally take in very young, and find them much more clever on that account; the burlers in particular are of this description.

A. 67.—Neither, we believe.

A. 68.—There are no processes particularly, if any degree, injurious.

A. 69.—We believe by no means subject.

A. 78.—With us, and at nearly all the mills in these parts, the workmen's own children are employed in preference to others, and are in most cases with their fathers in the factory, who place them according to their capacity, and are permitted to advance them so soon as they are capable of undertaking higher branches; we believe any interference would not by any be desired, and would prove injurious to the workpeople and families, as to the masters.

RICHARD BRITTAIN.

HENRY HOUSTON.

ANSWERS of J. W. LITTLE, Frome. Referred to in the Deposition of Mr. Little,  
24th May 1833.

No. 39.

J. W. Little.

A. 1.—Frome, Somerset.

A. 2.—Dressing woollen cloth in the part rented by me.

A. 3.—Answered by the owners.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 6.—One square may be opened in a window.

A. 7.—By the persons employed.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.

A. 19.—Fifteen hours.

A. 20.—The whole year to average twelve hours a day.

A. 50.—With oil and candles.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 52.—Should suppose the effects were bad.

A. 53.—Half an hour.

A. 54.—Very few.

A. 55.—Their own convenience.

A. 57.—Threatening them with loss of work.

A. 58.—No.

A. 67.—They appear very healthy.

(APP.—B. 1.)

J. W. LITTLE.

G



Somersetshire.

No. 40.

G. W. B. &  
G. Sheppard.

ANSWERS of G. W. B. & G. SHEPPARD, Frome and Rodden. Referred to in the Deposition of Mr. William Sheppard, 24th May 1833.

A. 1.—Spring Gardens Mills, Frome, and Rodden Mill, Rodden, Somerset.

A. 2.—Manufacture of cloth and kerseymere.

A. 3.—Three mills at Spring Gardens, built respectively in 1809, 1815, and 1824. Rodden Mill, formerly a corn-mill, used for clothing, and enlarged 1793, burnt down and rebuilt in 1812, added to in the year 1825, again added to in the year 1829.

A. 4.—Both steam and water, the latter very irregular, particularly in the summer.

A. 5.—There is no provision for the ventilation of the factories, except windows, there being no necessity for such.

A. 6.—The provision depends upon the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The windows are opened and shut as the workpeople find convenient.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have fires in the winter through the mills in the different rooms, or pipes from the steam-engine to warm them, and a drying-stove on the premises, where they may dry their clothes in wet weather.

A. 10.—Very few are employed under ten years, and they have nothing to do that can be called work, or that would tire them so much as their usual running about. We know nothing of the children before they come to us.

A. 11.—It does not; but we conceive if children do no work till twelve years of age, idle habits will be acquired, and they will never make good servants.

A. 12.—They have not made any alteration.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 17.—They come at six in the morning, and leave work at eight in the evening; out of which they have one hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner, so that they work twelve hours.

A. 18.—Very few children under twelve years work more than ten hours; from that age and upwards they work as the other people do, twelve hours, though none of them have any laborious work to perform.

A. 19.—It is impossible for us to say, as different parts work different times. The milling frequently goes on day and night; the spinning seldom if ever more than ten hours; the cutting and gigging departments have occasionally worked a whole night, but very rarely.

A. 20.—We have no means of knowing correctly; but, besides Sundays, we may have stopped from seven to ten days, perhaps more.

A. 21.—We have no means of answering this question.

A. 22.—The spinning in general ten hours; the feeding from ten to twelve, sometimes fourteen; the cutting in general twelve hours; the gigging in general twelve hours.

A. 23.—It is impossible for us to answer this question.

A. 24.—The younger children have never worked more than ten hours; but occasionally the same set of older ones have worked through the night; but they always, in such case, have two hours, from twelve to two, to lay down, and a quarter of an hour at eight o'clock for supper.

A. 25.—The regular hours have only been exceeded to make up lost time, that the workpeople might have full wages, or on an extraordinary press of orders.

A. 26.—If a manufacturer undertakes a contract, and an accident stops his works, if he is not at liberty to work beyond the regular hours he might be subject to great loss. The India Company and other parties, in giving contracts, impose a heavy fine if the order is not executed by a certain day; and in cases of water-mills during the summer, if the mill is not allowed to work when it can, the workpeople will not earn half wages, and the manufacturer would lose half his trade.

A. 27.—We have not usually worked our manufactory more than at present, except for some months, when one factory was under repair. We let both sets relieve each other, and work extra time in the other.

A. 28.—We think the cost is enhanced by working at night, as neither so much work in proportion is done, nor is it done so well.

A. 29.—We do not know; if there was any law to forbid it, we suppose it would not be done.

A. 30.—If the hours of work were limited, the cost of production must be increased, as a manufacturer must make a greater outlay in machinery or reduce his trade if the hours of labour were reduced two hours out of twelve; he must either reduce his trade one sixth, or purchase one sixth more machinery.

A. 31.—In that case children would be likely to be more worked than at present, as they would work for two masters, and so change from one to the other, and work in two sets on the same day.

A. 32.—Never having regularly used night-work, we have never tried.

A. 33.—Not having regularly worked by night, we have not done so.

A. 35.—Not having regularly worked by night, when we have occasionally worked a night, we have not changed the set.

A. 36.—We never use it but on very urgent occasions, but we conceive that cases would occur where a manufacturer would be greatly inconvenienced by a prohibition.

A. 37.—Our answer to A. 30 applies to this question; the facts prove themselves.

A. 38.—It is different at different times during hot and cold weather, varying from fifty to sixty degrees; but the best temperature is that which is most conducive to the comfort of the workpeople, but no particular temperature is necessary.

A. 39.



Somersetshire.

G. W. B. &  
G. Sheppard.

A. 39.—In our cloth and wool drying stoves, which are entirely detached from our mills, a high degree of heat is necessary, ninety to one hundred and twenty degrees.

A. 40.—From eight to ten men are usually employed, but they are in the stoves only a few hours in the day, being employed also about other things, and the stoves are not used in fine weather when we can dry without them.

A. 41.—We have no means of knowing how many times our works have been worked by night during the last year, but parts of them have so worked occasionally.

A. 42 & 43.—From thirty to forty children may have been employed at night-work at different times; when they have, they stop a quarter of an hour about eight o'clock, and again two hours from, twelve to two, during the night; perhaps five or six times they may have worked a night.

A. 44.—Not more than sixteen children in one room, or more than thirty altogether.

A. 45.—They work on all night, stopping, as we before stated, a quarter of an hour at eight o'clock, and two hours from twelve to two.

A. 46, 47, & 48.—The milling or fulling process is necessarily continuous, sometimes for more than forty-eight hours, and the cloths are much injured in many cases if the work stops. The dressing or finishing process also requires frequently twenty-four hours or more, and a cloth is materially injured when obliged to be stopt when at work, or, as we term it, when in season, or warmed by the friction of the gig-mill; if it is stopped in that stage, it never again acquires the lustre and appearance required; it is difficult to state a maximum of time, for no two cloths will come forward in the same manner. Both men and boys are employed in the milling and finishing, the latter from twelve years of age and upwards; each gig-mill employs one gig man and three boys, nor can the man work without them, so that if the boys time is shortened, the gig man's must be the same, and his wages reduced.

A. 50.—By lamps and candles.

A. 51.—There is none but windows; and as only a part of our mills work ever by night, there is more circulation of air than by day.

A. 52.—Working so seldom, we have never observed any effects on the habits of persons employed.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Those who live near go home, others go to workpeople's houses near, and others remain in the mill.

A. 55.—It is entirely left to the option of the workpeople and children; they may go or remain, as they like.

A. 56.—Were we to oblige them all to leave our premises at meal-times, it would subject many to great inconvenience, and as our factory is distant from the town, would occasion fatigue.

A. 57.—We have no arrangements for this purpose.

A. 58.—Occasionally; but if done with any severity the parties know, on complaint being made to the master, the person offending will be fined or discharged.

A. 59.—By the workmen under whom the boys are employed.

A. 60 & 61.—We never order corporal punishment to be inflicted, but we know it is done occasionally, and conceive where a number of boys are employed, light punishment of the kind is necessary; we never knew of a girl being beaten.

A. 62.—When complaints have been made (which are very rare), we have always taken notice of them.

A. 63.—There have been no particular or written instructions, except generally, that no severe punishment of any kind is allowed.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Our workpeople live in their own houses; we mean, they rent them as other persons do.

A. 66.—We generally find those who have been brought up from children in the factory more skilful and industrious than others who may have come in at later periods, for we consider habits of idleness contracted in childhood most frequently grow up into dissipation and vice as the persons advance to manhood, and we therefore always prefer to advance our people from step to step in the factory, rather than take grown-up hands whom we have not known.

A. 67.—The health of persons employed in our manufactory has been uniformly good; if any fever or epidemic of any kind has prevailed in the town, we have observed always how very few of the factory people or children have taken the infection, and our medical men have made the same remark. Most of the workmen and women in our factories having been brought up there through the different gradations from children, their general good health is the best evidence we can give of the facts stated.

A. 68.—We have no processes, the effects of which are found to be particularly injurious.

A. 69.—Our mills are not subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 79.—We beg the commissioners to remark the general state of our workpeople as to their morals, education, and health; that there are no such things as distortions, and but very few cases of injury from accident; nearly all the children can read, and a lending library is established in our factory. Take as many children from any parish or town where there are no manufactories, and see if they are generally so well conditioned.

G. W. B. &amp; G. SHEPPARD.



Somersetshire.

ANSWERS of G. M. GEORGE, Hapsford Mill, Great Elm. Referred to in the Deposition of Mr. G. M. George, 25th May 1833.

No. 41.

G. M. George.

- A. 1.—Called Hapsford Mill, in the parish of Great Elm, Somerset.
- A. 2.—Woollen broad-cloth, scribbling, carding, spinning, milling, and dressing.
- A. 3.—Milling part upwards of one hundred years, scribbling and carding forty years, and an additional part built about ten years.
- A. 4.—Steam and water, regular; steam ten-horse power, water about the same.
- A. 5.—Doors and windows to open.
- A. 6.—Opening of windows, and other casual means.
- A. 7.—Opened by the workpeople whenever they like it; entirely at their own discretion.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—Wash and clean themselves at their own discretion; my work being mostly of light colours, little washing is required beyond what is usual with all persons.
- A. 10.—One under nine years; at no other trade.
- A. 11.—Yes, because children are most capable.
- A. 12.—None.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—Children go home every evening.
- A. 17 & 18.—From ten to eleven hours per day.
- A. 19.—A very few days in the year fifteen hours, but no children under twelve years old more than eleven hours.
- A. 20.—About two hundred and seventy days.
- A. 21.—Can't tell exactly.
- A. 22.—All the work is carried on generally together.
- A. 23.—Not exceeding ten hours.
- A. 24.—At the gigs (dressing) boys above twelve years of age have occasionally worked sixteen hours, but none under that age.
- A. 25.—When any particular cloths were much hurried.
- A. 26.—Not to be avoided on pressing occasions, if we desire to please our customers.
- A. 27.—Yes, before I had the steam-engine.
- A. 28.—No; since my steam-engine it has cost less, and labour diminished.
- A. 29.—Can't say what the inducement is to others; I don't do it myself.
- A. 30.—None.
- A. 31.—Difficulty, I suppose, in getting hands suitable for the business.
- A. 32.—Need no extra hands myself.
- A. 33.—Don't require night-work.
- A. 37.—My decided opinion is, that ten hours a day average is long enough for any children to be employed.
- A. 38.—We have good fires in each room in the winter, and always a regular comfortable temperature.
- A. 39.—None in particular.
- A. 50.—By candle, to make up the regular ten hours.
- A. 53.—Half an hour each meal-time, out of eleven or twelve hours.
- A. 54.—Some leave, some do not; are at liberty to do just as they like.
- A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.
- A. 56.—They would have to go two miles to their homes.
- A. 57.—Verbal admonitions.
- A. 58.—None.
- A. 62.—Have always forbid corporal punishment.
- A. 63.—My orders are to discharge them if disobedient, but never any corporal punishment to be inflicted.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—A few of my workpeople live in my own houses, but are under no particular control.
- A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are of course better acquainted with the trade, but I don't think it makes much difference as to character.
- A. 67.—I don't know any change.
- A. 68.—I have no injurious process.
- A. 69.—I never saw the present Act.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—I don't know about any mill but my own, but believe all are well conducted in this neighbourhood.
- A. 74.—Have heard of none.
- A. 78.—The children employed in my factory are hearty, fat, and cheerful, and I never saw any more happy and contented; I think the average of ten hours a day quite long enough for all under ten years of age to be worked.

G. M. GEORGE.



## ANSWERS of THOMAS SPACKMAN jun., Charter-house, Hinton.

Somersetshire.

No. 42.

T. Spackman jun.

- A. 1.—Charter House, Hinton, county of Somerset.  
 A. 2.—Milling and dressing.  
 A. 3.—Erected in the year 1795, and then employed as now.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power and is regular.  
 A. 5, 6, & 7.—Ventilation by windows, which are under the entire control of all the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—They are.  
 A. 9.—Not any.  
 A. 10.—Only four children employed between the ages of nine and twelve; others in my employ are all above twelve; cannot say if previously employed.  
 A. 11.—It does not at the manufactory I am now speaking of.  
 A. 12.—They have not at the mill I am speaking of.  
 A. 13.—I do not.  
 A. 17 & 18.—From seventy-three to eighty-four hours per week.  
 A. 19.—Twenty-four hours.  
 A. 20.—Suppose about three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Suppose about six thousand four hundred hours.  
 A. 22.—All are continued during the day, with the exception of the time allowed for meals in the dressing department.  
 A. 23.—Twenty-four hours for fulling.  
 A. 24.—Sixteen hours.  
 A. 25.—The hours of work are increased or diminished according to the character of goods in course of manufacture.  
 A. 26.—Irregularity in hours of work can only be avoided by keeping an increased number of servants, which would render their employ uncertain.  
 A. 27 & 28.—I have not.  
 A. 29.—In most cases the work cannot be so well performed by different hands.  
 A. 30.—In milling the expence is greatly increased by limitation of time, and the work cannot be properly executed; in most other branches of the woollen trade the cost of production would be much increased.  
 A. 31 & 32.—In most cases I consider it best for each set of hands to finish the work they began, and therefore object to relays.  
 A. 33.—Five nights in the week I have employed a night set of hands (men and boys), who take on at eight o'clock in the evening, and work till five next morning, taking three quarters of an hour for meals.  
 A. 34.—Time too long.  
 A. 35.—The same set uniformly by night.  
 A. 36.—Very injurious to the manufacture of cloth in certain process.  
 A. 37.—I consider it would generally tend to throw the parties into society likely to injure them in a moral and pecuniary point of view.  
 A. 38, 39, & 40.—The temperature may vary from 56 to 70 degrees; it is of little importance what is the state of it.  
 A. 41.—Certain parts every night, Sundays excepted.  
 A. 42 & 43.—Four children; hours of work from eight o'clock in the evening till five next morning; three quarters of an hour for meals during that period.  
 A. 46 & 47.—It is indispensable that the process of milling should be continuous, and it sometimes requires six days for stout goods.  
 A. 48.—Men, and boys from sixteen to twenty-one years of age.  
 A. 49.—For the purpose of making a good felt.  
 A. 50.—Candles and oil.  
 A. 51.—Windows and doors.  
 A. 52.—Do not notice any particular effect.  
 A. 53.—One hour, from nine till ten, in the morning, and one hour from two till three, in the afternoon.  
 A. 54, 55, & 56.—At the option of the workpersons.  
 A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Usually remonstrance, and if that do not avail, discharge from work; corporal punishment not sanctioned.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 66.—Greater skill and better morals.  
 A. 67.—Cannot speak to any change.  
 A. 68.—Do not find such change necessary.  
 A. 69.—I am not aware.

31st May 1833.

THOMAS SPACKMAN jun.



Somersetshire.

No. 43.

Messrs.

Nalder &amp; Hardisty.

ANSWERS of Messrs. NALDER & HARDISTY, Pilton and Shepton Mallet. Referred to in the Deposition of Mr. Wm. Hardisty, 1st June 1833.

A. 1.—One factory at Lower Darshill in the parish of Pilton, and one at Middle Darshill, and two at Upper Darshill, in the parish of Shepton Mallet in the county of Somerset, and one at Coomb Lane, also in the said parish of Shepton Mallet.

A. 2.—Manufacturing crape, and throwing silk, and making gros de Naples.

A. 3.—The whole of the factories were erected for the purposes of clothing long before the establishment of the manufacture of crape in the neighbourhood; the crape trade has been carried on about twenty-one years, and the gros de Naples three years last December.

A. 4.—In the factory at Lower Darshill and one of the factories at Upper Darshill both steam and water is used, but the steam-engine at either factory is only employed in the summer when the water is short; the power at the lower factory is about ten-horse, and that at the upper about four-horse; the other two factories are worked by water only, requiring very little power; the factory in Coomb Lane is worked by hand.

A. 5.—As the process of manufacturing crape requires no application of heat, other than for the comfort of the people employed, the ventilation is left entirely to their own option; the lower factory is supplied with heat by the introduction of hot air in the winter, the other factories by stoves and steam apparatus.

A. 8.—The whole of the dangerous part of the machinery is fenced off.

A. 9.—As the work about which the people are employed is not of a filthy nature, and as they have two periods in the day at which they leave the factory, it is not considered necessary that any arrangements of this sort should be made.

A. 10.—The work at which children are employed is so very light, in the winding of silk, that they may be enabled to accomplish it even at five years of age; the earliest age that we employ them is about eight years old; we are not at all aware of any of them being employed at any other trades previously.

A. 12.—No alterations have been made.

A. 13.—We do not employ any apprentices.

A. 17.—The usual hours at which our factories are worked is from six to a quarter past eight, from nine to one, and from two to seven o'clock in the summer, and as long as these hours will afford light; in the winter the hours vary, but the working time is the same, viz. eleven hours and a quarter, except Saturdays, when the people work only ten hours and a quarter.

A. 18.—We refer to the former reply, all being worked the same number of hours.

A. 19.—The greatest number of hours for the last year our people worked was twelve hours and three quarters. It is very rare indeed that they are required to work out of the usual hours, and then any who desire it are generally allowed to leave at the usual time.

A. 20.—The works are carried on regularly daily, except three or four periods in the year when the hands have a few days holiday.

A. 27.—It has been always worked the same number of hours as at present.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner, all.

A. 54.—It is considered they all leave at meal-hours; those who stay do it for their own convenience.

A. 57.—Generally very slight fines on the whole of the hands.

A. 65.—There are not more than four or five small cottages attached to the manufactory and these are occupied by mechanics; at Darshill and at Coomb Lane there are six cottages occupied by weavers.

A. 66.—Children are generally more handy than grown-up persons at swift engines, and consequently better calculated to take stations at throwing-mills than hands introduced grown up.

A. 67.—The trade not being unhealthy, and the hours of working not very extended, the health of the people has been uniformly good.

A. 68.—None whatever.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 73.—We know of no mills subject to the Act in this neighbourhood.

A. 78.—As our factories do not come within the Act, we have no means of judging; and as all our hands appear to be perfectly satisfied with the present regulations, we are not aware that any legislative provisions would be attended with material benefit to the children.

A. 79.—We employ a number of hand-weavers also, who take their work home and are paid by the yard.

10th May 1833.

NALDER & HARDISTY.

ANSWERS of CHARLES WILKINS, Twerton. Referred to in the Deposition of Mr. Charles Wilkins, 23d May 1833.

No. 44.

Charles Wilkins.

A. 1.—Twerton, in the county of Somerset.

A. 2.—Broad cloth only.

A. 3.—The buildings consist of two distinct mills, called the Upper and Lower Mills. The Lower Mill was first used as a cloth manufactory in 1800, when it was enlarged, and again in 1817. The Upper Mill has been used to its present purpose about forty years; enlarged about twenty-six years since, and again in 1828.

A. 4.—Steam and water.



A. 6.—The ventilation is wholly by means of windows.

A. 7.—The windows are opened at the option of the workpeople, but of course under the control of the foreman in case of any neglect.

A. 8.—The machinery from whence danger can be reasonably apprehended is, in all cases where it is possible, fenced off.

A. 9.—It is considered nothing of the kind is required, or would be used.

A. 10.—Six or seven children have been employed in these works at six years of age, but these invariably work with their parents, are employed by them, and do not work more than five to six hours per day; the ages that children are first employed by Charles Wilkins and Co. are generally from eight to ten.

A. 11.—The only reasons for the employment of children under twelve years of age are, economy on the part of the employer, the interests of the parents, and the benefit to the children themselves, by substituting habits of industry for idleness.

A. 12.—No alterations have recently taken place which affect the employment of children.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—The required hours of work are in some cases eleven each day, in others eleven and a half, but from various causes, especially in winter, the average is less.

A. 18.—The children are, many of them, necessarily employed the same hours as the men with whom they work. The youngest children are those who quill for the weavers, and these for the most part work with their parents, who regulate their hours of labour. (See A. 10.)

A. 19.—The whole works have never been employed more than the usual time; but from a partial stoppage for repairs, and to make up for lost time, part of the workmen were employed for fourteen hours on three different occasions, one day each time.

A. 20.—The works are always employed, except two days at Christmas, two at Whitsuntide, and half a day at Easter, two other half days for holidays, and one day when a dinner was given to the workpeople.

A. 23.—The average has certainly not exceeded eleven hours each day, not including Saturday, when the work is only eight hours, or sixty-three hours in the week.

A. 24.—There is but one set of workpeople, whether children or adults.

A. 25.—Only when by some accident a part of the works have been stopped, making it necessary to recover the lost time.

A. 26.—Not avoidable, because as the whole manufactory is conducted upon a regular system, if the time lost by one part is not made up, the rest must necessarily be stopped an equal time, and thus the whole of the workpeople would be thrown out of employment.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—We believe that the inducements to any manufacturer to continue his work beyond the accustomed hours of the trade can be only two; first, that his premises are not sufficiently extensive to enable him to produce the goods required in the usual hours; or, secondly, that by working a greater number of hours at the same wages given by others for the smaller number, he obtains his goods cheaper at the expence of the workmen. (See A. 31.)

A. 30.—If the hours of work were reduced, the wages continuing the same, the cost of production must be correspondingly greater.

A. 31.—When the labour is constant, and sufficient to employ two sets of workmen or children, it must be to the advantage of the employer to have them, could they be got; if the additional work be only occasional it would be impossible to get them, as every person requiring work seeks out for constant employment.

A. 32.—We know of no case in which it has been tried.

A. 33.—The only part of our works carried on by night is the fulling-mill; this is done by the piece. The men regulate their own hours, and there are a sufficient number to relieve one another.

A. 36.—We apprehend no bad effects would arise from such prohibition, except in the case of the fulling department; but in this it would produce incalculable mischief, as the felting process requires continuous working, or the cloth is neither so well felted, and done at a greater waste.

A. 37.—Any reduction in our hours of work would necessarily involve a reduction in the prices of labour, and also an increase in the expense of manufacture from the standing still of the works and machinery, which forms a very considerable item in the cost of production.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—The average temperature of the rooms this day, the 17th of May, is under seventy degrees. The best temperature suited to our work, and that which we endeavour to obtain, is a medium warmth, or about sixty-five degrees; but certainly the heating of the manufactories was principally for the comfort of the workpeople.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, half after eight till nine; one hour at dinner, from one till two; half an hour at tea, half after four till five.

A. 54.—All may, and the greater part do; some few prefer having their meals brought to them.

A. 55.—Whenever it is otherwise it is the sole choice of the individual.

A. 56.—Already the case.

A. 57.—Generally by reduction of wages, which is in fact punishing the parents, and making them responsible for the conduct of their children.

A. 58.—Not for defect in work; but in some gross cases, such as running away and petty theft.

A. 59.—By parents, or in the presence of parents.

(APP.—B. 1.)

G 4

A. 60.

Somersetshire.

Charles Wilkins.



Somersetshire.

*Charles Wilkins.*

A. 60.—Yes, as above.

A. 63.—General but not written instructions are given to the foreman to report all cases deserving punishment to their employers.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—The difference in skill depends so much upon the peculiar talents of individuals, that it would be impossible to specify particular cases, but it is evident that early habits must greatly contribute to the improvement of mechanical dexterity.

A. 67.—The workpeople employed in this factory are in the enjoyment of good health, and it is not known that any change for the better has taken place.

A. 68.—No process employed by us is injurious to health.

A. 69.—We know of no Act applicable to woollen manufactories.

A. 70 to 77.—We profess ourselves friendly to the general principle of the proposed Bill, and think that some legislation might be beneficial both to the workmen and to the trade. We should wish to see the hours of labour restricted to some definite period, allowing for cases of stoppage for repairs, by which the workmen would be protected from all unreasonable demands on their exertion during periods of comparative activity; employment would be thrown over a greater space of time, the work better performed, and the men benefited; they would also in some measure be protected from that species of injustice which is afraid to lower wages nominally, but does so actually by demanding more labour for the same money. We should ourselves say that eleven hours labour a day is what, from the nature of their employment, the workpeople, whether adults or children above ten years of age, are fully equal to, which they would willingly give, and the masters may reasonably require. We think any fixed hours for meals very objectionable; we should prefer, when the daylight is long enough to admit of their beginning work at six o'clock in the morning, to allow one hour for breakfast, from nine till ten, and one hour at dinner, from two till three, in preference to the half hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea, being convinced that the men would after their leaving their work at seven o'clock, go home and enjoy their tea with their families, whereas, having had their tea at five o'clock, many of them upon leaving work go immediately to the beer-shops, and in some cases we are convinced merely for want of something to do. We cannot now avoid remarking, the introduction of beer-houses in this parish has been attended with the most deplorable results; children of both sexes are now habitually frequenting them, whereas before their introduction such habits were quite unknown; nor can this excite surprise, when we state there were formerly only two public-houses and two retail breweries, and directly on the passing of the Beer Bill, no less than twenty beer-shops were opened in addition to the two regular public-houses; these beer-shops, to be profitably kept open, can only be done so by holding out inducements formerly not resorted to; and we find it impossible entirely to prevent the children and young persons in our employment from frequenting them, notwithstanding our most strenuous endeavours to do so.

CHARLES WILKINS.

No. 45.

*Charles Wilkins.*

DEPOSITION \* of CHARLES WILKINS, Cloth Manufacturer, Twerton near Bath, sworn before Leonard Horner and S. Woolriche, 23d May 1833.

You are, I believe, an extensive manufacturer of broad cloth?—I am, under the firm of Charles Wilkins and Company.

To what number of persons do you give employment?—About eight hundred upon the premises, and from two to three hundred at their own houses.

What is the extent of your moving power?—We have two steam engines, one of thirty and the other of thirty-four horse power; and we have water-power, which is equal to from one hundred to one hundred and twenty horses, the water-power being liable to irregularity.

Do the children and adults necessarily work together, so that any interruption to the labour of the children must be followed by a similar interruption, as to time, to the labour of the adults?—In most cases it would, and it would materially tend to interrupt the manufacture.

Would the limitation of the time of young persons employed by you between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one, as proposed by Lord Ashley's Bill, be a serious interference with your manufacture?—It would be so.

Do you ever work beyond what may be considered your regular hours of daily labour?—Very rarely.

Are you of opinion that the limitation of the hours of labour of young persons from fourteen to twenty-one, as proposed in Lord Ashley's Bill, would have a tendency to injure their moral habits by leaving them so much more time at their own disposal?—In some measure I think it would be so; but in answer to this question I would beg to refer to the general observations I have made at the conclusion of the printed queries.

\* This Deposition was accidentally omitted in the printing of the First Report.



Is there any difference in the length of time in the employment of your people on a Saturday?—The working hours on a Saturday never exceed eight hours and a half.

Does the power stop at the intervals for meals?—It does in all cases in which the children are employed.

Are there any written or printed regulations in your factory?—There are a few written regulations.

Have you any objection to furnish the Commissioners with a copy of these?—None; and I now deliver a copy.

Have parents ever applied to you to shorten the hours of labour of their children employed in your factory, or said that their health was injured by over-work?—Never.

Have serious accidents frequently occurred in your mills?—Certainly not frequently. Since 1804 there have been not more than five or six.

Is there any medical man specially attached to your factory?—There is not.

Do you pay any special attention to the education of the children employed in your factory, or give encouragement to schools in your neighbourhood to which the children may go?—I perhaps had better state in answer to this question, that there are three Sunday-schools and an infant daily school. The Established Church Sunday-school has nearly two hundred children; the infant daily-school, which is attended by the clergyman of the Established Church, has nearly a hundred children; the Wesleyan Methodists Sunday-school has about rather more than two hundred children, and the Baptist Sunday-school has also about one hundred and thirty children. The population of this parish is a little more than two thousand.

What is your impression of the general moral character of the people in your employ?—Certainly they are so generally.

Have you any knowledge of the usual diet of the workpeople in your employ?—I have no doubt that they in general live well, but from my own knowledge I cannot speak to any particular diet.

Is there any particular age at which young persons in your factory are considered to have ceased to be children?—No precise age; but when able to maintain themselves they almost universally throw off the authority of their parents, and, speaking generally, this commences from fifteen to seventeen years of age.

Is there any precise age at which the wages earned by the children in your factory are paid to them for their own use, and not to their parents or guardians?—Certainly not; the wages are generally paid to the children themselves, unless when their parents are working with them in the factory.

What is your opinion of the general state of health of the people in your employment throughout the year?—Generally good.

CHARLES WILKINS.

1832.

From the great increase of beer-houses in this parish, and the consequent increased drinking which it has occasioned, much to the injury both of the workpeople and ourselves, we have considered it absolutely necessary, as much for their benefit and respectability as for our own protection, to enforce the following

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1st. Any person whatsoever who shall leave his or her work without first informing the clerk or foreman of their respective shop of such their intention shall be fined 1s.

2d. Any slobber who shall, without permission, leave his employment, by which the work of his engines, and feeders and piecers, must necessarily be suspended, will, in addition to the fine, be required to pay the amount of such feeders and piecers wages.

3d. Any mule-spinner absenting himself without leave will also be required, in addition to the fine, to pay for the lost time of the piecers.

4th. Any weaver having a loom driven by power absenting himself without leave for part of a day shall be fined 1s., and for a whole day 2s.

5th. Any young woman found drinking in a public-house at any time, whether during the hours of work or not, will be liable to a fine of 1s., and any such who may make a practice of frequenting public houses will on no account be employed in any capacity whatever. It is hoped that young women who are disposed to live respectably will consider it a disgrace to associate with such persons.

6th. Incomings, or what are called shop dues, of any kind whatever, are strictly forbidden; and if any such should be enforced, the parties concerned shall be fined in the full amount of the dues paid; but no fine will be considered a sufficient compensation for such a breach of rules. As it is scarcely possible this rule can be evaded without the knowledge of the foreman of the shop, he will be held responsible, and fined in the same amount as the parties so offending.

7th. All waste or sweeping is to be removed daily from each shop to a place appointed, and for any neglect in this respect the shop will be fined 2s. 6d.

8th. Every power-weaver is required to clean the gear, and all other parts of his loom, at least once a week, under a penalty of 1s.

9th. All workmen are required to keep their respective windows clean, and to pay for such as may be broken. In case of necessity, the foreman will decide to whom any window shall belong.

(APP.—B.1.)

H

10th.

Somersetshire.

Charles Wilkins,



Somersetshire.

*Charles Wilkins.*

10th. A book will be kept for the entry of all offences, and for an account of imperfect and bad work of all kinds, to which reference will be made from time to time; and such workmen who shall be often found infringing these rules, or otherwise negligent in their work, will be discharged.

11th. All money paid as fines shall go to form a fund for the relief of those who are in sickness or distress, the management of which shall be under the direction of a committee selected from the most respectable of the workmen.

C. WILKINS &amp; Co.

1832.

## ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF ORDER.

The object of this society is to ensure a better observance of Sundays, and to check the great evils of idleness and drunkenness, which the number of beer-houses lately opened has greatly contributed to aggravate and encourage.

There is scarcely a parent to be found who, whatever his own habits may be, will not admit that the Sunday spent in idleness by his children, will have a manifest tendency to encourage vice, which in all probability must end in misery.

The members of this society will therefore engage to use their influence that all young persons shall attend some place of public worship, and those members who have families will see they shall both attend public worship and belong to a Sunday-school so long as their age may require it. By young persons is meant all those who are under the age of twenty-one years, and Messrs. Charles Wilkins and Co. will require that all such in their employment shall attend public worship at least once every Sunday.

The members of this society engage not to drink in a public-house or beer-house in Twerton on a Sunday, except under very particular circumstances.

A committee will be formed of some of the most respectable and influential persons in the employment of Messrs. Charles Wilkins and Co. to enforce the rules of this society, and Messrs. Charles Wilkins and Co. will lend all their assistance for such purpose, and will always regard with friendly feelings those who conform to the rules of this society.

The committee already appointed are,—

|                |   |   |               |
|----------------|---|---|---------------|
| James Cadby    | - | - | foreman.      |
| Robert Gardner | - | - | ditto.        |
| William Rudman | - | - | weaver.       |
| Joseph Bailey  | - | - | ditto.        |
| James Vincent  | - | - | ditto.        |
| George Silcox  | - | - | ditto.        |
| James Gigg     | - | - | sloober.      |
| John Beser     | - | - | mule spinner. |

For the names of the members, see the book in which they are entered kept for that purpose.

CHARLES WILKINS &amp; Co.

## STAFFORDSHIRE.

No. 46.

*John Hawkesford.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN HAWKESFORD, Bilston,

- A. 1.—Bilston in the county of Stafford.
- A. 2.—Wood-screws and cut nails.
- A. 3.—Within the last ten years.
- A. 4.—Steam power.
- A. 5.—No distinct or specific provision.
- A. 6.—On the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—The windows are opened at the pleasure of the workpeople.
- A. 8.—Dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—The foreman requires the workpeople to come clean in their persons.
- A. 10.—Children are employed as young as ten years.
- A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require any particular age, but it is very easy employment; but parents send their children of that age to work, as they have the same price—piece-work—as if they were older.
- A. 12.—More children are employed now than formerly.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—All reside with their parents or friends.
- A. 16.—Superintended by a foreman.
- A. 17.—Eleven hours.
- A. 18.—Eleven hours, but are very irregular in their attendance, not averaging more than nine hours a day.
- A. 19.—Thirteen or fourteen.

A. 21.



- A. 21.—Have no means of ascertaining.  
 A. 22.—No difference.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—All are at piece-work, but seldom work more than nine hours.  
 A. 25.—To finish particular orders some part of the hands have sometimes worked two hours over, but it has been at their own option to do so or not.  
 A. 26.—It is avoidable, except under particular circumstances.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—Injurious to the workpeople, as they would not be enabled to earn so much money.  
 A. 38.—The temperature of the atmosphere, except in winter, when stoves are used to warm the manufactory.  
 A. 39 & 40.—No particular degree of heat required.  
 A. 50.—Gas during the winter months.  
 A. 51.—Same as day.  
 A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave, unless they prefer eating their meals at the works.  
 A. 55.—Convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 57.—Threats of discharge.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Have forbidden it.  
 A. 63.—No instructions given.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Do not live in the houses of their employers.  
 A. 66.—Any person of moderate ability will become skilful in twelve months, with proper industry.  
 A. 67.—The general health has been good.  
 A. 68.—No part injurious to health.  
 A. 69.—I believe not.  
 A. 73.—No necessity for any Act of Parliament being put in force.

JOHN HAWKESFORD.

Staffordshire.

*John Hawkesford.*

## ANSWERS of G. F. BAKER, for Robert Todd &amp; Co., Brampton, Newcastle.

No. 47.

*G. F. Baker.*

- A. 1.—Brampton Silk Mill, Newcastle-under-Lyme.  
 A. 2.—Silk-throwing.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1826.  
 A. 4.—Steam, fourteen-horse power.  
 A. 5.—Yes; opening windows, constructed for that purpose on swivels.  
 A. 6.—Opening windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Eight years; not previously employed generally.  
 A. 11.—Yes; because since the competition with foreigners our wages are of necessity greatly reduced, and therefore children are employed because they work cheaper.  
 A. 12.—No alteration.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Some; they generally live with some relative.  
 A. 16.—Yes, the overlooker.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes actual work; but they are in the factory twelve hours, having twenty minutes allowed for breakfast, and the same time for tea, which they sit down and eat in the factory.  
 A. 20 & 21.—Recently commenced, having been standing idle for two years.  
 A. 26.—Since the free trade system the work is naturally very irregular, for if a little demand arises we are so afraid of competition that we work day and night to be first in the market, which creates an over-stock, and then we are not able to work above three or four days per week.  
 A. 27.—Yes; occasionally worked seven days in the week instead of six.  
 A. 28.—Slightly in winter by the cost of light; not in summer.  
 A. 29.—Because in general the wages are so very low, that children will work at a lower rate for eight days per week than for seven, and for seven than for six.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—It is not the interest of a manufacturer to work two sets of hands, because, as stated above, the longer the week in number of days the cheaper hands will work per day.  
 A. 36.—The best possible effect, by checking over-production. Only few mills work by night, and those are owned by parties recently embarked in the trade, who having superior machinery can come cheaper into market, and therefore sell all their production even when working day and night.  
 A. 38.—Seventy degrees—at any low temperature.  
 A. 39.—No particular temperature.  
 (APP.—B. 1.)



Staffordshire.

*G. F. Baker.*

- A. 40.—None requiring any particular temperature.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 47.—No particular time.  
 A. 49.—It is not indispensable.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 52.—Not working ever more than seven and a half to eight days per week, and that only on occasions, cannot say.  
 A. 53.—Twenty minutes breakfast and tea, and one hour dinner. See A. 17.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of both.  
 A. 56.—That they would require more time to go and come, many living at a distance of one mile.  
 A. 57.—Encouragement, and punishment if incorrigible.  
 A. 58.—Occasionally, but very seldom.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60.—No; we disapprove the plan very much.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—Yes, to avoid punishment, and if any is requisite to give them a bad mark, or something by way of disgrace, rather than punishment.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Children employed early in life are far more expert.  
 A. 67.—The people are in general very healthy, and in establishing a new factory some seven years since great improvement took place in their appearance after the first year.  
 A. 68.—No injurious part in the silk factories.  
 A. 69.—Did not know there was an Act in existence.  
 A. 79.—If the hours of working were fixed at eleven per day, I think good would accrue; but this would be difficult, because the hands could not live on less wages than they earn in thirteen or fourteen hours per day, and the masters are so forced into competition with foreign labour that they cannot pay more than at present, and even under the circumstance of work-people starving and half clothed, the masters have for seven years been working generally, and almost without any exception, without profit, and in many instances at a sacrifice of thousands of pounds; and it becomes imperative that manufacturers have cheaper bread and food, or a very different currency, or they cannot ameliorate the condition of their workpeople.  
 6th May 1833. ROBERT TODD & Co.

No. 48.

*James Edwards.*

ANSWERS of JAMES EDWARDS, for Messrs. E. &amp; G. Phillips, Longport, Burslem.

- A. 1.—The parish of Burslem, the township of Burslem, the county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Earthenware manufactory.  
 A. 3.—The works have been erected at several times, but cannot ascertain the dates.  
 A. 4.—Our work requires no power beyond that of human strength.  
 A. 5.—Windows and doors in each place, which the people may open or shut at discretion.  
 A. 6.—On opening the windows or doors.  
 A. 7.—By the people.  
 A. 8.—No machinery.  
 A. 9.—Our business requires no such arrangements, the business being all clean of itself.  
 A. 10.—We have no specified age; we employ them when their parents consider them fit for work.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—Not from parishes.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any apprentices. They are all left to their parents or guardians.  
 A. 16.—Their parents.  
 A. 17.—The time for people whom we pay by the day, and whose time we control, average about eleven hours and a half each day, including meal-times; but those who work by the piece, may work longer if they choose.  
 A. 18.—We make no difference as to age; that is left to themselves. Those whom we pay by the day we compel to work eleven hours and a half each day, including stoppages; but those who work by the piece may work longer if they like.  
 A. 20.—About two hundred and ninety days.  
 A. 21.—Multiply the above by eleven hours and a half, and the product will be three thousand three hundred and thirty-five hours, or thereabouts.  
 A. 22.—Our works are open the above time generally, if the men think proper to work, or they may work three hours longer if they chuse.  
 A. 24.—Cannot answer. We keep no check of that kind, it being left to the servants to choose.  
 A. 26.—Sometimes it occurs that the servants, one part of them, are sick, and sometimes they are refractory, and will not work for some days together. On such occasions, when we are tied to time in shipments of goods, it is unavoidable.



A. 27.—The average time, both now and in time past, has been about the same. The doors are open at half past six or seven in the morning, and closed at eight in the evening, taking out half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 28.—When we work over-hours it is because we are tied to time in shipping orders.

A. 29.—We do not practise the same, therefore cannot say what is the inducement of other men. If a man has occasion to work one night in the week, if he wanted to make arrangements to play the following day, we should have no objection.

A. 30.—We believe there would be no decrease in production if manufactory doors were closed at moderate times, say open twelve hours per day, including meal-hours.

A. 31.—We do not compel people to work day and night, therefore can see no objection. If those men who attend to the kilns at night wished to play next day, they might arrange so.

A. 33.—Our business requires but little night-work. That part of the business which requires it is the firing of our goods, which cannot be completed in one day. One kiln taking generally one day and one night.

A. 34.—Because we have no engines or machinery to stand still, and the men, &c. are able to leave off work at any time without much inconvenience, except the man who attends to the oven or kiln.

A. 36.—We should not be able to make china or earthenware at all, for the reason which I have just mentioned, viz. that of firing the kilns, which, if allowed to extinguish during the night, it would take the same time afterwards as though it had never been commenced with.

A. 41.—Two men are obliged to stop five nights each week on the average.

A. 42.—One boy each night, with one man to attend to making a fire to the oven; but that is more for their convenience of sleeping alternately. They are not employed more than one third part of the time during the night.

A. 44.—Two.

A. 45.—During the whole of the night their attendance at the work is required, but in actual work not more than three hours.

A. 46.—Yes; they are firing the ovens or kilns.

A. 47.—One process of firing is continued about twenty hours, and another process of firing is continued about fifty hours.

A. 48.—One adult and one boy about fifteen years of age each night.

A. 49.—Because the goods would not be hard enough for use, and would be spoiled.

A. 50.—All the lights we require are performed with candles.

A. 51.—Doors and windows.

A. 52.—We see no bad effects, because the employment is easy, not occupying more than one third the night.

A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, is what we allow all the people we control or pay by the day.

A. 54.—All, if they choose.

A. 57.—We are often obliged to expel them. We use very little corporal punishment.

A. 58.—If a boy is too thoughtless to notice admonition, we sometimes pluck his ear, or some other slight punishment similar. We never use either whip or stick.

A. 59.—By overlookers, or masters.

A. 61.—With our sanction, as far as described above. See A. 58.

A. 62.—If complaints are made by the parents or guardians we inquire into the matter, and insist upon proper treatment.

A. 63.—We have given no such instructions.

A. 64.—No; not an instance.

A. 65.—Some of them do; but we take no further steps to enforce morality or domestic cleanliness than admonishing and requesting them to practise good conduct. If they become public nuisances we discharge them from our employ, and leave the rest to the authority of the police of the parish.

A. 67.—Their health has deteriorated, and very much. We find that men are more addicted to intoxication than they previously were; we partly ascribe it to the throwing open of the beer trade, which has given such facilities to tippling and vice, and not partaking of such wholesome food as usual.

A. 68.—If we see it necessary, we do.

A. 69.—We have no mill.

A. 70.—No, never.

A. 79.—My opinion is, that Government ought to refer to our pottery representatives for the information required, who I am sure could answer any question which would be required on the subject.

JAMES EDWARDS,

#### ANSWERS of ENOCH WOOD & SONS, Burslem.

No. 49.

E. Wood & Sons.

A. 1.—Burslem, Staffordshire.

A. 2.—Manufacturing earthenware.

A. 3.—Our works have been erecting annually during the last forty-two years.

A. 4.—Steam, water, atmosphere, and the degree of power is changed from three horse power to twenty or thirty many times every day it is used. This is the first steam-engine ever formed which joined the two great powers of Boulton and Watt with that of Trevethic.

(APP.—B. 1.)

H 3

A. 5.



Staffordshire.

E. Wood & Sons.

- A. 5.—Doors and windows.  
 A. 7.—Not by a foreman or master, but by any person in the room at their own discretion.  
 A. 8.—They are well fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have not any arrangements of the kind.  
 A. 10.—A part of our workmen employ their own children, or hire others on their own account, at nine, ten, or twelve years of age.  
 A. 11.—Such part of our workmen as employ children under them are used for the purpose of handing moulds to and from the men, to prevent the necessity of the man moving from his seat; this is very light work, and requires the children's assistance one third less time than the workmen are employed generally. These children are called runners.  
 A. 12.—Machinery being used does not affect the employment of children in any way.  
 A. 13.—We do.  
 A. 14.—We have no parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—We never lodge children of any description.  
 A. 16.—The persons who lodge children are expected to superintend them.  
 A. 17.—We engage such men to work from six in the morning to six in the evening, allowing half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, but the men never pay strict attention to these times.  
 A. 54.—All leave at meal-times if they choose to do so.  
 A. 55.—Those persons who do not choose to go are waited upon with their meals, for their own convenience, at their own choice, and not by our order.  
 A. 56.—Any compulsive alteration would be vexatious to the persons employed.  
 A. 57.—We speak angrily to them, and threaten to send them home.  
 A. 58.—We never order corporal punishment, nor do we allow it if such be made known to us.  
 A. 59.—If parents correct their own children, we do not interfere.  
 A. 60.—Never within our recollection.  
 A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishment in our manufactory.  
 A. 63.—Never to punish by stripes of any description, and this order is verbally given to our foremen.  
 A. 64.—Never, to the best of our recollection.  
 A. 65.—No need of our interference, they are so generally neat and clean; some live in our houses; generally they do not.  
 A. 66.—So various we cannot answer.  
 A. 67.—No difference is generally observable in each department, except in the health of a few who are employed about the glazing or painting upon the glaze before firing-glossed or glazing. Since the substitution of borax for lead, we do not see the health of any one injured.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—We know of no provision in the Act as respects our mill, or which our mill is subject to.  
 A. 70.—No, never.  
 A. 74 & 75.—Not to our knowledge.  
 A. 77.—Those who work for truck masters we believe are, but we cannot prove it.  
 A. 78.—No; we do not want or wish for any change.  
 A. 79.—No; all things are satisfactory, except indeed intemperance at the beer-shops, gin-shops, and political union shops, &c. These are nuisances.  
 13th May 1833.

ENOCH WOOD &amp; SONS.

No. 50,

Ralph Stevenson.

## ANSWERS of RALPH STEVENSON, Cobridge, Burslem.

- A. 1.—Cobridge, parish of Burslem, county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—China and earthenware manufactory.  
 A. 3.—Erected about the year 1803 and 1810 and 1824.  
 A. 4.—No steam or water.  
 A. 5.—Doors and windows.  
 A. 7.—By the people themselves.  
 A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—Rests with themselves; many have change of clothes.  
 A. 10.—As early as nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—Some branches can employ them very young to advantage, to get up cheap work.  
 A. 12.—Machinery of taxes requires it.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—None.  
 A. 17.—From six to six, and frequently three, four, and five nights a week until nine.  
 A. 18.—Generally the same hours as the above; most of the children assist men in various branches.  
 A. 26.—All hours beyond six to six may be avoided, and would contribute much to the good and comfort of the working classes.



A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—This sometimes arises from large orders for export wanted in a very short time, but more frequently from the men neglecting or drinking Monday and Tuesday, and working the other nights to bring up the lost time, and hence the little children who work with them are the sufferers.

Staffordshire.

Ralph Stevenson.

A. 31.—Cannot have relays to work only three hours, say six to nine.

A. 33.—A few now and then upon great emergency, but very seldom.

A. 36.—Less goods made, and better price for labour.

A. 37.—Ten hours per day of constant labour is sufficient to tire any man; and no longer hours were known fifty to sixty years ago in this manufactory.

A. 46.—Firing the ware in ovens; some require twenty hours, others forty-eight hours.

A. 48.—Men of all ages; boys from ten to fourteen.

A. 49.—If the fire was not continued, the ware would be spoiled.

A. 50.—Candles.

A. 51.—None required.

A. 52.—If constant very bad, but if a man fires alternately two or at most three nights in a week, and sleeps in the day, it will do him no harm.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—A great proportion go home to dinner, not so many to breakfast.

A. 55.—They please themselves.

A. 56.—If the distance was not too great, much more comfortable and economical at home.

A. 57.—Fining those who do not keep the rules; if a man loses a day by drinking, a fine of 2s. 6d. per day for such offence.

A. 58.—None.

A. 60.—Now and then a rope's end to the least boys, applied by the foreman or master, but very rare.

A. 62.—Never had a complaint in my experience of thirty-three years.

A. 63.—We find small fines keep the best order.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Live where they please.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—Ours have no such fears.

A. 78.—I think no children should be allowed to work more than ten hours per day, and if the men were so restricted it would improve their health and morals, and prevent excessive drinking. More people would get employment, and probably the prices of some branches higher paid.

A. 79.—If the commissioners had asked the questions from the parties, they would have got more satisfactory information than can be had from filling up their blanks, which appear to be more calculated for steam-mills spinning cotton, silk, or worsted, and might have been done as well if sent from London direct.

RALPH STEVENSON.

#### ANSWERS of ROBERT GODWIN, Cobridge.

No. 50.

Robert Godwin.

A. 1.—Cobridge, Staffordshire.

A. 2.—Manufacturing earthenware.

A. 3.—All built at one time.

A. 4.—No steam nor water employed.

A. 5.—All ventilated by windows.

A. 6.—Windows do open in all places.

A. 7.—It is left to themselves to keep themselves comfortably warm, and for no other purpose.

A. 8.—No machinery employed.

A. 10.—Thirteen years old.

A. 11 & 12.—No.

A. 13.—Fourteen.

A. 14.—No apprentices from parishes.

A. 15.—No orphans.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Ten hours and a half.

A. 19.—Fifteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred days.

A. 21.—Three thousand and five hours.

A. 22.—All alike.

A. 23.—Sixty-three hours.

A. 24.—Ten hours and a half.

A. 25.—None.

A. 27.—No.

A. 32.—Not requisite.

(APP.—B. 1.)

H 4

A. 37.



Staffordshire.  
 —  
 Robert Godwin.

- A. 37.—Not requisite for less than ten hours and a half.  
 A. 38 & 39.—Forty.  
 A. 46.—Gloss and biscuit firing.  
 A. 47.—Twenty-four hours.  
 A. 48.—Thirty to forty years.  
 A. 50.—Candles.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 52.—Healthy.  
 A. 53.—Two hours.  
 A. 54.—Part.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—No disadvantage.  
 A. 57.—Their own parents correction.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 64.—One.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 68.—Not requisite.  
 A. 69.—Have not any.  
 A. 70.—No.

ROBERT GODWIN.

No. 52.  
 W. Ridgway & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. W. RIDGWAY & Co., Hanley, Stoke-upon-Trent,

- A. 1.—Township of Hanley, Parish of Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of earthenware.  
 A. 3.—The manufactory was erected above fifty years, but has been enlarged at different times; the dates cannot be specified.  
 A. 4.—All is done by manual labour alone, except the grinding of the rough materials, which is done at a distance from the manufactory by steam-power or water.  
 A. 5.—By casements and doors in all cases where it is thought necessary.  
 A. 6.—Which are opened at the discretion of the workmen.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 9.—No such arrangements are necessary.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age; have not been previously employed to our knowledge.  
 A. 11.—Children under that age have generally a light employment, which is an introduction to the different branches of business for which they are intended.  
 A. 12.—No machinery applicable to the work.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—Almost always the children of persons in our employ.  
 A. 15.—All who have parents live with them; such as are orphans reside with some relation or friend.  
 A. 16.—At the manufactory a foreman superintends them; at home, their parents or friends.  
 A. 17.—Actual working hours, not including the time taken for meals, nine hours per day.  
 A. 18.—The above is applicable to all, except those under ten years of age, who seldom work more than eight hours.  
 A. 19.—Fifteen hours, including one hour and three quarters for meals; but this has never been for more than three days in a week; viz. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and seventy-eight days, not including the Sabbath, on which day no work is ever done.  
 A. 21.—It is impossible to answer this question with precision; the replies to seventeen and twenty give the ordinary work and the maximum.  
 A. 22.—They must be carried on nearly together, as they are dependent upon each other.  
 A. 24.—Never more than one set employed.  
 A. 25.—Have not been exceeded.  
 A. 26.—Not required in our business.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Cupidity, and a scandalous disregard of the comfort of those he may employ.  
 A. 30.—Whenever limits are put to the hours of employment; supposing the parties to be so circumstanced that they cannot force the workman to greater exertion of labour during such limited period, it will have the effect of keeping labour to a given standard in price, but it will not increase its value.  
 A. 33. Never; except oven-men, *i. e.* persons who attend the burning of the ware; they go home early the next day, and also sleep part of the night whilst attending the oven, which is generally one night out of seven.  
 A. 34. Never employed more than one set of hands.  
 A. 37. It would keep labour up to a wholesome standard. Unlimited hours naturally tend to lower labour: the natural increase of population will always keep it down sufficiently.

A. 38.



A. 38.—The stoves of plate and dish makers, pressers, and for thrown ware are sometimes as high as eighty to eighty-four degrees, but the workmen do not work in them; they go in occasionally to take their moulds out.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—Yes, the firing the ovens; the biscuit-ovens take forty-four hours.

A. 47.—Biscuit-oven, forty-eight hours; gloss oven, twenty-two hours.

A. 48.—Men of mature age, with a boy of fourteen or fifteen years to assist during part of the time.

A. 49.—The fires must necessarily be graduated until they attain a certain maximum.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—They have too little to produce any sensible effects.

A. 53.—For breakfast, from nine to half past nine; dinner, from one to two; for tea (if they work after six) from six to half past six.

A. 54.—The greater part leave the manufactory at meals; some who reside at a distance cook their victuals in the workshops.

A. 55.—It is at the discretion of the workpeople, as all work is suspended during the meal-times.

A. 57.—Kindness and proper conduct towards them.

A. 58.—No; the refractory are dismissed.

A. 60.—Not allowed.

A. 63.—The only instructions are, that if any man, woman, boy, or girl conduct them selves improperly, notice of the same be given to the master.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—In a few instances they do, but not often; no superintendence is exercised over them in any case.

A. 66.—It is necessary in all branches of the pottery business which require skill that a seven years apprenticeship should be served; they are therefore taken at from twelve to fourteen years of age, and generally those who have worked in clay previously.

A. 67.—We do not see any difference in the health of the people we employ.

A. 68.—We do not. The nature of the business is such that one person cannot do the work of another. The department most injurious to health is the glaze-dipping; but this is far less so than it was twenty years ago, as less oxide of lead is used, and more alkali.

A. 69.—Not requisite.

11th May 1833.

W. RIDGWAY & Co.

Staffordshire.

W. Ridgway & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. HENSHALL & WILLIAMSONS, Longport, Staffordshire.

No. 53.

Henshall & Co.

A. 1.—Longport, in the parish of Burslem and county of Stafford.

A. 2.—Manufacture of earthenware.

A. 3.—The works were originally erected in the year 1784, and various additions and alterations have been made within the last fifteen years.

A. 4.—No steam or water power employed or requisite.

A. 5.—None requisite beyond the occasional opening of the windows of some particular departments in warm weather.

A. 8.—No machinery used.

A. 9.—Does not apply to the earthenware manufactories, any arrangement being unnecessary.

A. 10.—From ten to twelve years of age, and they have not been previously employed in any other trade.

A. 11.—The nature of the earthenware trade does not require the employment of children under ten or twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Does not apply to the earthenware trade.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—They are not apprenticed from the parishes.

A. 15.—The children in our employ are supported and maintained by their parents.

A. 16.—Yes; the overlooker of the manufactory.

A. 17.—From ten to twelve hours, and in times of brisk trade fourteen hours.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours, but usually from ten to twelve hours.

A. 20, 21, & 23.—No account kept.

A. 24.—There are no regular sets of children employed.

A. 26.—Excess beyond the regular hours is in cases of brisk trade totally unavoidable; an order is received by the manufacturer to be executed and shipped within a limited period, and the manufacturer is in consequence obliged either to extend the hours of working, or to cancel the order, and this order may arrive at the very period when the men had previously only worked three days per week.

A. 28.—We have made no calculation.

A. 29.—We have already stated, that in brisk times we do not work more than fourteen hours

(APP.—B. 1.)

I



Staffordshire.

*Henshall & Co.*

hours a day; the inducement for extra hours is an extra demand for goods to be supplied within a limited period.

A. 30.—The cost of production does not fluctuate much in the potting business.

A. 31.—Children are employed in specific departments, and we could not have relays unless by doubling the establishment, and thus having (except in cases of brisk trade) twice the number of hands wanted.

A. 36.—An order for goods is frequently sent, to be shipped within a limited period, or the order cancelled; hence the necessity for extra hours in such cases.

A. 37.—The loss of business as stated in A. 36.

A. 41.—No regular work is done in the night, with the exception of firing ovens, which is indispensable.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—Yes; the firing of ovens.

A. 47.—From eighteen hours to fifty hours.

A. 48.—Men from eighteen years of age to sixty.

A. 49.—Earthenware in its first stage of firing requires from forty-five to fifty hours successive heat, and in the second stage from fifteen to eighteen hours.

A. 50.—With candles.

A. 53.—From nine to half past nine for breakfast; from one to two o'clock for dinner; and if there is work out of time, that is, from six to nine o'clock at night, twenty minutes are allowed at six o'clock.

A. 54.—Just as it suits their convenience; no restriction whatever.

A. 57.—None; all that is required of the children is to keep good order.

A. 58.—No.

A. 65.—Every workman is at liberty to live where he pleases.

A. 66.—Too indefinite to be answered.

A. 67.—Whatever deterioration has taken place in the health and morals of our people we ascribe wholly to the pernicious effects of the beer bill.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—We have no mill.

A. 73.—We are not aware of any mills in our neighbourhood.

A. 77.—Not the least.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—Our opinion is, that trade finds it level, and works the best, when left unshackled by legislative enactments, and not subject to speculative theories.

4th May 1833.

HENSHALL & WILLIAMSONSON.

No. 54.

*William Henshall.*

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM HENSHALL, Newcastle.

A. 1.—Newcastle, Staffordshire.

A. 2.—Silk-throwing.

A. 3.—Erected in 1815.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—Ventilators are placed in the windows.

A. 6.—Ventilated by opening the windows.

A. 7.—Overlookers.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—A spacious lodge, where the people are allowed to leave their clothes to dry in wet weather, and a constant stream of water to wash in.

A. 10.—Nine.

A. 11.—Yes; we could not afford to pay the wages required by older hands.

A. 12.—A greater number.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any.

A. 17.—From twelve to fourteen hours.

A. 18.—Eleven hours and thirty-five minutes.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours.

A. 20.—About two hundred and eighty-six.

A. 21.—About three thousand four hundred and thirty-two.

A. 22.—Men and women fourteen hours, children eleven hours and thirty-five minutes.

A. 23.—Twelve hours.

A. 24.—Eleven hours and thirty-five minutes.

A. 25.—Never exceeded.

A. 26.—Possibly it is not avoidable in some establishments, from a variety of causes.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 28 & 30.—Never tried the experiment.

A. 33.—None.

A. 34.—No extra set of hands employed.

A. 35.—No night-work.

A. 37.—Injurious, as we are now compelled to use every possible effort to meet the foreigner in the market.



- A. 38.—No particular temperature is required.  
 A. 39.—No particular degree of heat beyond that of rendering the rooms comfortably warm for the hands to work in.  
 A. 40.—No process where great heat is required.  
 A. 53.—Fifteen minutes for breakfast, sixty dinner, ten luncheon.  
 A. 54.—At dinner-time.  
 A. 55.—The hands have every convenience of boiling water and having their breakfast comfortable.  
 A. 56.—Supposing thirty minutes to be allowed for breakfast, and thirty minutes in the afternoon, if the hands were allowed to leave the premises there would be a considerable time lost in their assembling again for work.  
 A. 57.—Rewards.  
 A. 58.—Not allowed if at all avoidable.  
 A. 59.—No overlooker or foreman is allowed to punish a child severely; the parents are either sent to or a proportion of wages deducted if loss in silk is sustained.  
 A. 60.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—It is understood by all overlookers not to inflict severe punishment.  
 A. 64.—One complaint for boxing a girl's ears, and that the only one for the last seven years at least.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Those instructed from infancy are the most skilful hands.  
 A. 67.—I consider the health of the children generally improved.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is not, that I am aware of.  
 A. 79.—I do think, if masters are to be laid open to informations by the people in their employ or others, or are brought under any inquisitorial power beyond what now exists with the magistrates, it will tend very greatly to injure the employer and the employed.

4th May 1833.

WILLIAM HENSHALL.

Staffordshire.

William Henshall.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM UPTON LESTER, for G. M. Lester &amp; Sons, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

No. 55.

W. U. Lester.

- A. 1.—Newcastle-under-Lyme, county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Silk weaving and throwing.  
 A. 3.—Erected 1825; first worked January 1826.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power sixteen horse, ten horse power only being required.  
 A. 5.—An open communication between each room from the bottom to the top; an open ventilator in the balcony.  
 A. 6.—And also the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all, so far as the windows are concerned; the other always acts itself.  
 A. 8.—Fenced off.  
 A. 9.—A water-pipe and cistern in every room from its first erection; the females in separate rooms, except in one, where some apprentices are, but each party is forbidden to overstep the space that separates them; one at one end, and the other at the other; that any of them may take off any wet clothing if it should rain when they come to work, but all have good cloaks or umbrellas. There are about five women, mostly married, who are obliged by their occupation to be among the weavers as fillers.  
 A. 10.—Eight years of age; when taken at that age never been in factory employ before; very near all being taken in at that age.  
 A. 11.—It requires them under twelve, because when they are twelve the parents either wish them to go to service, and it takes one year to learn them, or they are required in a nicer part of the process where more knowledge is required, and more wages than can be afforded.  
 A. 12.—No alteration.  
 A. 13.—In the silk weaving.  
 A. 14.—No parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—Some few are orphans, but under the care of near kindred.  
 A. 16.—Their near kindred.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours and a quarter per day, and ten hours and a quarter on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Eleven hours and a quarter.  
 A. 20.—Every working day, with the exception of Christmas-day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, and half days at fairs six times per year.  
 A. 21.—The works run twelve hours per day, and eleven on Saturday, which will be, with the deductions, above three thousand three hundred and thirty-six hours.  
 A. 22.—All carried on at same time, as one part depends upon the other.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and three quarters, but the children losing time of their own accord would make about ten, or nine and a half.  
 A. 24.—Eleven hours and a quarter.  
 A. 25.—At no time.  
 (APP.—B. 1.)



Staffordshire,

W. U. Lester.

A. 26.—We can choose our own silks, being throwsters not for hire, but mostly for our own use. If a throwster for hire has at any time an inferior lot of silk, he must either work the elder part of his hands short time, or the younger one hour per day more.

A. 27.—Formerly, sometimes on account of bad-working silks we have been obliged to do so.

A. 28.—We gave rather more wages for the extra hour, as an inducement for the children to produce sufficient for the full employ of the other departments.

A. 29.—Where the above is not the cause it must be to make the cost of production less, on account of rent, interest, &c., or making a small manufactory at small rent and machinery do the work of a larger.

A. 30.—We do find it increase the cost, because if we threw 300 lbs. of silk per week on commission at 2/0 and 2/6, our expenses of rent and interest on machinery would be 15*l.* per week; take one hour from the eleven, would be near 1½*d.* per lb., 1-20th more; if hours are reduced wages will be nearly the same; and if we gained 6*d.* per lb. profit, 7*l.* 10*s.*, it would be reduced 30 lbs. less, and 1½*d.* per lb., 4*l.* 8*s.*, profit, small enough to one hundred and forty hands at the throwing, and we cannot get more.

A. 31 & 32.—We cannot tell, never having worked above an extra hour, but we have always found a very great scarcity of hands under twenty-one; indeed our mill has never yet been properly worked for want of them.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Because hands are scarce; it would add to wages; and we could not look after them ourselves.

A. 35.—We do not know.

A. 37.—Wages will be the same as now, the cost of production more, by that, and expences which go on whether at work or not; and as foreign competition has brought us down, that since 1826, instead of even paying our way we have lost much money. We cannot raise our prices, or we may keep our goods; we used to have 5/6 before 1825 for what we have now 2/0 and 2/6 for — sharp work — wages, the same; and our hands now do not, one with the other, work above nine hours and a half, as they lose much time on their own accord; and we have found working four days per week, when we have been obliged to do so by the slackness of trade, that is, beginning at eight o'clock in the morning and working until five in the evening, their time is exactly the same, they lose equally as much of their own accord; and we must work the mill no longer than what the youngest hands are allowed to work; we cannot work longer.

A. 38.—From fifty to seventy-five throughout the year; above eighty in summer; we should suppose is not pleasant; we are warmed by steam.

A. 39.—We require it as cool as the hands can be comfortable with, but by being either too warm or cold we are losers.

A. 40.—About two hundred and forty in all, the weaving and throwing.

A. 50.—By gas in the evenings.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner; from twenty to twenty-five minutes for breakfast and tea.

A. 54.—All at dinner; none at other times.

A. 55.—For the convenience of both parties; if they went home, as some live half a mile from the works, it would take an hour upon average.

A. 56.—Some hands would be at work before breakfast and not after, some before tea and not after; besides, the loss would be more than one hour per day extra.

A. 57.—If refractory, reprimanded; if still bad and using irritating language, corrected with the flat of the hand.

A. 58.—As stated above, on the younger hands, and cannot be avoided; forty or fifty different children of different families and different tempers are not easily kept in order by one person; let any one try it that thinks different.

A. 59.—By ourselves and the lookers-over; the females by women, the boys by the man who sees to them.

A. 60.—Yes, when imperatively required.

A. 61.—Yes, generally, but we cannot be in every place and see every case.

A. 62.—So far as regards either straps or sticks, a cane we have used at times with the very bad, but we require them to be brought to us in that case; if an overlooker was passionate, and corrected severely, we should quietly discharge him, or the friends of the children would apply to the magistrates, who would punish the man.

A. 63.—Instructions have been given that no stick or strap should be used, but only the flat of the hand, a box, or a fine.

A. 64.—Two complaints within that time against a man who is over forty-five lads, from ten to fifteen years of age; both the boys used very provoking language; the man had to pay for the summonses, and cautioned not to go so far.

A. 65.—Some few, but we do not interfere any further than when any ill conduct of theirs comes to our knowledge we tell them how wrong it is.

A. 66.—A child above twelve would generally take double the time to learn as one under, and their wages would be higher whilst they were learning and getting us nothing; we have no instance but that those put to it younger make the best workpeople, which will be found by looking at the list, and comparing those who are young now, and have, as most of them have,



been with us from eight years of age; their wages are more in proportion, and we find the same hand better before twelve than after generally.

A. 67.—If any thing improved, because clothing is cheaper; they are more healthy than those suffered to run about the streets; every child has now either a good warm shawl or cloak for cool weather.

A. 68.—None, except in some few cases where there has been weakness from birth; and sitting is stated to be preferable to standing.

A. 69.—We believe not.

A. 77.—Not a bit; if any thing is wrong they will soon state it, with no diminution thereof, but addition thereto.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—If the hours are reduced below what we work now we had much better shut up, as every one now loses on an average one hour per day on their own account, which with the holidays will bring it to nine hours and a half per day.

WILLIAM UPTON LESTER.

Staffordshire.

W. U. Lester.

ANSWERS of LEWIS ADAMS, for W. Adams & Sons, Stoke-upon-Trent.

No. 56.

Lewis Adams.

A. 1.—Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.

A. 2.—Earthenware and China manufactory, and steam-engine for grinding materials.

A. 3.—Worked by our firm ten years.

A. 4.—Steam-engine for grinding materials; fourteen-horses power

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Optional with the workpeople.

A. 7.—Of all.

A. 8.—Machinery not dangerous.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—From nine years and upwards.

A. 11.—The work is light where children are employed.

A. 12.—No children employed with machinery.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—None from parishes.

A. 15.—Neither lodge nor maintain any.

A. 16.—Under the superintendence of the overlookers

A. 17.—They are at piece-work, and please themselves as to hours.

A. 18.—Same as A. 17.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours.

A. 20.—Always employed.

A. 21.—Same as A. 20.

A. 24.—Work with the men.

A. 25.—No times.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Never work in the night.

A. 30.—No change of hours.

A. 33.—No.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Part leave.

A. 55.—Workpeople.

A. 57.—Work piece-work.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—None.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Greater part serve an apprenticeship of four to seven years.

A. 67.—Neither.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Not subject to any Act.

LEWIS ADAMS.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM OUTRIM, for Messrs. Copeland & Garrett, Stoke-upon-Trent.

No. 57.

William Outrim.

A. 1.—Stoke-upon-Trent in the county of Stafford.

A. 2.—China and earthenware manufactory.

A. 3.—Different times, and commenced perhaps sixty years since.

A. 4.—Steam for grinding and preparing materials, also for turning throwing-wheels &c., thirty-six horse power.

A. 5.—As a common house, by windows, doors, and chimneys.

A. 6.—Windows, &c.

A. 7.—Workpeople.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—Water.

(APP.—B. 1.)



Staffordshire.  
 —  
 William Outrim.

- A. 10.—Ten years.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—No.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—None.  
 A. 15.—None of this description.  
 A. 16.—None.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen and fourteen hours, and a part twenty-four hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred hours, and a part of works nearly double the quantity.  
 A. 22.—Firing the ware and engine in the night.  
 A. 23.—From ten to eleven hours per day.  
 A. 24.—From thirteen to fourteen hours per day.  
 A. 25.—Demand for goods the urgency of the case.  
 A. 26.—I consider it avoidable.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—Not materially so.  
 A. 36.—Total suspension.  
 A. 42.—Thirty.  
 A. 43.—Two hours and a half.  
 A. 44.—Thirty.  
 A. 45.—Six to nine o'clock in the evening.  
 A. 46.—Ovens.  
 A. 47.—From twelve to sixty hours.  
 A. 48.—From twenty to sixty years old.  
 A. 50.—Candles.  
 A. 51.—Doors and windows.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—As many as please.  
 A. 55.—Workpeople's conveniency.  
 A. 56.—None.  
 A. 57.—Admonition and moderate correction, and expulsion.  
 A. 58.—On refractory children.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—No.  
 A. 63 & 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Some; but no control is exercised over them on that account.  
 A. 66.—We certainly consider that those who have been brought up to any branch of our manufacture from infancy are generally more skilful than those who have been introduced to it at a later period in life.  
 A. 67.—We have observed no difference in that respect for the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—We do not.  
 A. 69.—No.

WILLIAM OUTRIM.

No. 58.

Charles J. Mason.

ANSWERS of CHARLES J. MASON, Stoke-upon-Trent,

- A. 1.—Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.  
 A. 2.—China and earthenware.  
 A. 3.—Part 1813, and to 1823.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power twenty horse; six days and nights.  
 A. 5.—None whatever except doors, and in some cases windows.  
 A. 6.—On opening doors; and, generally speaking, if the windows open they are made a means of introducing ale and other nuisances.  
 A. 7.—As before stated, by the doors.  
 A. 8.—Not fenced off, because none but the miller has any occasion to go near it.  
 A. 9.—Time occupied in finding money for the men's, &c. wages, instead of looking after change of raiment, since the return to cash payment.  
 A. 10.—Ages, eight, nine, and ten, but at those ages work very easy.  
 A. 11.—Yes; because parents have to pay double the price for bread, owing to the corn monopoly.  
 A. 12.—Machinery has no effect on our trade.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—All from their parents, parish apprentices being good for nothing.  
 A. 15.—Don't know; but the children leave the manufactory three times a day.  
 A. 16.—Our apprentices are under the care of one journeyman in one room.  
 A. 17.—From seven to nine; half past nine to one; two to six; total, nine hours and a half.

A. 18.



A. 18.—The same for all ages.

A. 19.—Up to 1825-6 often twelve and thirteen hours ; since that period as A 17.

A. 20.—Every day except Sundays and holidays, perhaps four or five weeks out of each year.

A. 21.—Never calculate.

A. 23.—Less than we have stated in A. 17, by perhaps one hour and a half.

A. 24.—Never more than we have stated in A. 17.

A. 25.—When the men have been at the new beer-shops, Monday, Tuesday, and perhaps Wednesday.

A. 26.—Under circumstances in A. 25, inevitable.

A. 28.—We pay by the piece, dozen, or score ; therefore no difference.

A. 29.—Smallness of profit and making most of capital causes night and day work ; but in potting this system does not exist, except in firing of the ware.

A. 37.—When there is no foreign competition the fewer hours the men work the less goods made ; as such, less advantageous to man and master.

A. 38.—The heat never being objectionable, temperature not ascertained, but very varying.

A. 40.—In firing, sixteen or eighteen men and boys ; say three men to one boy.

A. 41.—Sometimes the men contrive to work all night after drinking one or two days, but quite without or against our knowledge.

A. 42.—One boy sits up with the fireman, and the boy considers it a great privilege.

A. 43.—The whole night ; rarely more than once, though sometimes twice a week.

A. 45.—The boy comes to work, say half past six or seven A. M., and continues all day and night, and often until six P. M. the following day, but thinks himself ill-used if deprived of his turn.

A. 46.—Firing china or earthenware in its first stage, called biscuit, thirty-six to forty hours.

A. 47.—Say forty hours.

A. 48.—A grown man and a boy about fourteen or fifteen years old.

A. 49.—Because the necessary degree of heat can only be obtained by length of firing.

A. 50.—Gas or candle.

A. 51.—No work being done, none required.

A. 52.—Cannot say that we have perceived any ill effects ; if a man is sick then he is discharged instantly.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner.

A. 54.—All may leave.

A. 55.—Some bring their meals with them, others have theirs sent by their children or brought by their wives.

A. 57.—Being angry, fined, or kept until their task be completed.

A. 58.—Not half so much as they are at ordinary boarding schools ; if they were beat their parents would instantly get a summons.

A. 60.—Yes ; but if any are beat for an offence, a general outcry is made by their parents.

A. 61.—Sometimes one and sometimes the other, a small cane being used.

A. 62.—Certainly not, from opinion, unless I intended to ruin the child ; but, as I have found the parents sustain their children in bad conduct, I now let them go the way to ruin unchecked by the cane ; and generally the parents live to rue their interference.

A. 63.—The foreman has been told that if he beat the child, however ill his behaviour, he was liable to an action for assault, and that he must get them on with their work by some other means, taking care to let him understand that I thought chastisement highly necessary, though not legal.

A. 64.—About ten years ago a foreman was taken before a magistrate, who settled the matter by the foreman paying the expences. The magistrate said, that even a parent had no legal right to order correction, which was my foreman's plea.

A. 65.—Mostly ; but no interference in any way when off the manufactory.

A. 66.—The processes in general are very simple, yet those long used to it are decidedly more apt in the various branches.

A. 67.—About the same.

A. 68.—Since the reduction of duty on boracic acid lead is almost exploded, and we have now no unhealthy employment.

A. 69.—No Act to regulate a mill for grinding pottery materials.

A. 77.—The men are ten times as independent of their masters as their masters are of their customers.

A. 78.—The children are as happy as they well can be, quite as much so as boys at school ; but if corn was duty-free they would have more to eat.

CHAS. J. MASON.

Staffordshire.

Charles J. Mason.



## ANSWERS of THOMAS MAYES, Stoke-upon-Trent.

Staffordshire.

No. 59.

*Thomas Mayes.*

- A. 1.—Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.  
 A. 2.—Earthenware manufacturer.  
 A. 3.—This work has been in existence about sixty years.  
 A. 6.—The rooms are ventilated by opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—The windows are opened at the discretion of the workpeople themselves.  
 A. 10.—I believe the lowest age at which I have children employed is eight years.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—One only has been apprenticed by the parish—Stoke-upon-Trent.  
 A. 15.—All my apprentices, excepting the one forced on me by the parish, live with their parents or friends.  
 A. 16.—None.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours is the usual time; sometimes the manufactory is kept open until nine o'clock; in that case the day-wages people receive half a day's wages for the three extra hours.  
 A. 18.—The working hours are the same for children and adults, i. e. from six to six, unless an order is wanted to be executed in a hurry, and the workpeople make over-time.  
 A. 19.—Some individuals have worked all night to complete an order.  
 A. 20.—Every working day throughout the year.  
 A. 22.—Each department has been carried on regularly throughout the year.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours will be the average.  
 A. 25.—The object in working extra hours at Cliff Bank Pottery is invariably to execute foreign orders in time for vessels which are appointed to sail on a stated day.  
 A. 26.—I consider working extra hours at a manufactory of pots to be sometimes unavoidable; punctuality in the execution of orders not only commands future orders, but it often secures the manufacturer from losses by having the goods returned on his hands (should the market be glutted) on arriving at their destination.  
 A. 27.—Always the same.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—It is optional with the workpeople to go to their meals, or stay and eat them in the manufactory.  
 A. 57.—There are very few hands employed but what receive all they earn; therefore their own interests cause them to be diligent and industrious, which does away with the necessity of corporal punishments.  
 A. 59.—Very rarely indeed.  
 A. 60 & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—I will not allow any children to be beaten either by the foreman or the workmen.  
 A. 63 & 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Many workpeople live in their own houses, but there is no superintendence exercised over them by their employers.  
 A. 66.—In some branches of potting it is requisite to serve an apprenticeship to become an able workman; in others it is not so.  
 A. 67.—Cannot answer this question, because it has not come under observation.  
 A. 68 & 69.—No.  
 A. 79.—I think the less government interferes between the master and his workmen the better for all parties, and I am also of opinion that government cannot lighten the labours of the working classes without it can give them bread at a lower rate than they now buy it.

THOMAS MAYES.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS MINTON, Stoke-upon-Trent.

No. 60.

*Thomas Minton.*

- A. 1.—Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire.  
 A. 2.—Clay-preparing, throwing, turning, handling, pressing, biscuit-firing, printing, dipping, gloss-firing, enamelling, gilding, painting, kiln-firing, packing.  
 A. 3.—Some parts of my manufactories have been built forty years, others within the last two years.  
 A. 4.—All manual labour at the works; steam only used to grind flints and colours.  
 A. 5.—No specific provision is made, but the workshops are ventilated.  
 A. 6.—Upon the opening of windows and slides.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous machinery is used in the potting manufacture.  
 A. 9.—No; none necessary. Potters are generally very clean in their personal habits.  
 A. 10.—Cannot say precisely; few children of ten years old employed at all; none so employed, it is presumed, have ever worked at other trades.  
 A. 11.—No; children of twelve years of age would do just as well as younger ones.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—There are no parish apprentices on my manufactories.

A. 15.



A. 15.—A few of the children whom I employ are orphans, but I do not lodge or maintain any of them. No parents or guardians visit the children in my employ.

A. 16.—Yes, that of bailiffs or overlookers.

A. 17.—Nine hours and a half from Monday to Friday; eight hours and a half only on Saturday. If there be full over-time, then twelve hours per day from Tuesday to Friday the other days as usual.

A. 18.—The same as those above twenty-one years of age; no difference is made.

A. 19.—Twelve hours, as nearly as I am able to answer; *i.e.* from seven o'clock in the morning till nine o'clock at night, deducting two hours, which meal times make up, in all.

A. 20.—Two hundred and eighty-eight days, exclusive of over-time, three hundred and thirty-six days over-time included; five hours of over-time are reckoned a day.

A. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, as correctly as I can calculate, over-time included.

A. 22.—Potting manufactories are carried on regularly through the whole day.

A. 23.—Ten hours and one sixth of an hour; *i.e.*, reckoning in-time and over-time, the works to have been in operation two hundred and eighty-eight days. Holidays make up about four weeks in the year, or twenty-four clear days; taking all the days in the year, with the exception of Sundays, and the average of the hours of work will be about nine hours and a quarter.

A. 24.—Twelve was the extreme number of hours that any children in my employ were kept at work during the last year.

A. 25.—In the spring and summer seasons the potting business is generally better than at other periods of the year; during those seasons, therefore, my people usually work over-time; *i.e.* till nine o'clock.

A. 26.—This excess is unavoidable with me, as my works are fully occupied. There is no way of avoiding it in the general, but that of taking a larger number of hands, which would bring down the condition of the present race of workmen.

A. 27.—No.

A. 36.—This question has no reference to the potting business, except it may be said to relate to firing; to prohibit which would be to put an end to the manufacture.

A. 37.—No reduction has taken place in the potting manufacture; the hours of labour are not deemed excessive; no one complains of them; ergo, to reduce the number would do no good, but very likely lead to one of two mischievous consequences, either a fall in the general rate of wages, or a diminution in the amount of individual earnings, as fresh hands must be taken into the business, or the trade must be contracted; to force up prices, so as to enable the master to give his workmen more, is not possible as long as there is a redundancy of labour in the market; the best way is to leave such matters to find their own level.

A. 38.—The rooms in which many of the processes are conducted have no occasion to be more than the ordinary temperature, heated in winter just enough to render them comfortable; the throwing, turning, handling, dipping, enamelling, gilding, and painting places are of this class. The pressing and printing rooms range from eighty up to a hundred degrees of heat. The process of drying the ware in the clay-state requires a high degree of heat, but the duty of those who have to manage this department is, in the general, rather that of superintendence than of labour; they have to go into this heat occasionally to see that the ware dries properly.

A. 39.—In firing or baking the ware the highest which can be attained inside the kilns or ovens; but of course the men are not exposed to any such heat; they have, however, to bear as great a degree of heat as can be endured in feeding the fires, but this only at intervals of every two hours, and then for about half an hour at a time.

A. 40.—About thirty-five, but not more than six or eight of these are up during any one night with the different kilns or ovens.

A. 41.—Two hundred and eighty-eight, as accurately as I can say. Ovens or kilns are firing almost every night when the works are engaged; firing is the only part of work connected with potting which is prolonged through the night.

A. 42.—Not any.

A. 46.—Yes; firing the ware into what is called the biscuit state.

A. 47.—Forty-eight or fifty hours; but the same persons are not engaged in this work the whole of the time. My plan is this; one man stays up with each oven the first night, another man and a boy the second.

A. 48.—Men of all ages, and youths from fourteen to twenty years of age.

A. 49.—Because the ware could not be brought to a sufficient degree of hardness in less time.

A. 50.—With candles.

A. 51.—Opening the windows or slides.

A. 52.—Not friendly to their health, but my observation would not warrant me in saying that as a class of men firemen (who are the only persons employed in night-work) are more dissipated than others.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, a full hour for dinner, and if the workpeople continue their labours till nine o'clock at night, half an hour for evening refreshment.

A. 54.—Many do, particularly those who live near the works.

A. 55.—Because of the distance of their homes from the manufactories, the practice is adopted for their own convenience, as it is optional with them.

A. 56.—An improvement, no doubt, in their general health.

(APP.—B.1.)

K

A. 57.

Staffordshire.

Thomas Minton.



Staffordshire.  
 —  
 Thomas Minton.

A. 57.—The active supervision of bailiffs, fines for neglect of duty, or a reduction of wages.

A. 58.—Yes; if a boy behave insolently, he sometimes gets a slight thrashing; such punishments, however, form no part of my system of management.

A. 59.—By bailiffs or foremen.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—In some cases with my direct sanction; in others without it, because not necessary.

A. 62.—No; do not remember any such instance.

A. 63.—No specific instructions are given to my foremen; corporal punishments, so rarely inflicted, not necessary.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—None of my people live in any houses of mine.

A. 66.—Few children taken when very young; when so taken their employments in the general are so light that I have not observed any difference.

A. 67.—Much the same as it was; no improvement nor any deterioration that I can perceive.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—No mill is used for the works, nor is any essential to the potting manufacture, otherwise than to prepare some portion of the raw materials.

A. 79.—These questions have evidently been framed with a view to the cotton manufactures; many of them in consequence are not applicable to the potting business. My opinion is, that no legislative interference with the usages of this manufacture (beyond perhaps that of prohibiting the employment of children of very tender age) is wanted; and I may add, that the employment of such children in this district is far from having grown into the magnitude of a crying abuse.

13th May 1833.

THOMAS MINTON.

No. 61.

John Ridgway.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN RIDGWAY, Cauldon Place, Shelton, Stoke-upon-Trent.

A. 1.—Cauldon Place, Shelton, parish of Stoke-upon-Trent, county of Stafford.

A. 2.—Manufacture of china and earthenware.

A. 3.—The principal part erected in 1802, and fit to work the following year; the buildings doubled the subsequent year.

A. 4.—In the processes of manufacture happily no steam or water power is employed, consequently the population have that advantage to a great extent; in grinding the materials both are regularly employed of necessity, and well.

A. 5.—Each room in my work has one and generally more casements, besides a door, and sometimes a chimney.

A. 6.—The ventilation certainly does depend on the above means; the means are not casual, the using them is.

A. 7.—The workpeople have the charge of ventilating their own places, but it is not properly done.

A. 8.—Have none.

A. 9.—The workpeople are generally cleanly, characteristically so; they keep jackets and aprons expressly to work in; have water at hand and in their places, which they do not forget to use; on leaving their work they put on their coats, their clean aprons, their neckcloths; and looking at their skin, especially their hands (often I have seen it at public meetings), they would surprise a stranger with their whiteness; of course in some departments this cannot be, but this is the exception.

A. 10.—I take children to preparatory employment at ten years old.

A. 11.—It does not; but the wants of parents and the interest of children under all circumstances seem to require it.

A. 12.—No machinery; no alterations.

A. 13.—I do, many, both boys and girls.

A. 14.—No; they are brought by and apprenticed under the guarantee of their parents.

A. 15.—Each child taken apprentice has a natural or legal guardian, and the child lives with him; therefore sees him twice, thrice, or more per diem.

A. 16.—They have, in each department.

A. 17.—Ten hours is the regular average, exclusive of meal-times; when very busy this is extended to twelve hours per day.

A. 18.—Children are employed somewhat less than ten hours, although not much; but there are few children whose hours are extended beyond that term; yet there are a few, both young and old, in that situation, not to my credit.

A. 19.—Fifteen hours, including two hours meal-times.

A. 20.—No Sabbath-days; say about two hundred and eighty-four days, or rather more.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred hours.

A. 22.—This business must go on simultaneously; the firing goes on night and day of necessity; this however employs but few hands, and no children.

A. 23.—Twelve hours per day, I am persuaded, is considerably above the average.

A. 24.—Fifteen hours, including two hours for meals; but this is the exception, not the rule.

A. 25.—The periods are uncertain; the cause is the pressure of orders in this or that department.

A. 26.



A. 26.—I consider it may be avoided, although to some inconvenience; but it may be done, and then I consider it ought to be done.

A. 27.—No, not materially, at least not more than I have described.

A. 28.—The cost is not increased, but the capability of production is decreased, and this sometimes operates as the disadvantage.

A. 29.—The inducement: sometimes limited room for employing more; sometimes a ready indulgence of the wish of parents to have them get large wages; and frequently the cupidity of the manufacturer to get too much out of them.

A. 30.—Having no limitation in the hours of work, I answer this negatively; but suppose the hours for employing children were limited, no material increase of cost would take place in this species of manufacture.

A. 31.—When children work at a branch there is no occasion for their working more than ten clear hours; when they attend upon men it seems necessary; but an arrangement is practicable whereby they may be relieved at the end of that term.

A. 32.—It has not been tried; principally because the case is within a narrow compass, and because it has not been thought of.

A. 33.—No; the only persons who work during nights are the firemen; this, as before said, is of necessity; but these men are few in number, and they get relieved during the day.

A. 34.—I do not do it, therefore have no reason to assign.

A. 35.—No, they change about, so that few men are up more than one, none more than two nights per week.

A. 36.—1st, ovens, which require thirty-six hours to fire them, could not be fired in less time; the business therefore must be ended; 2d, those which require sixteen to eighteen hours, if not fired during the night, could not be filled during the day, and the same effect produced.

A. 38.—Twenty rooms at 100°, twenty at 90°, and twenty at 80°.

A. 39.—The highest heat requisite is 120°, but the stoves of this heat are separated from the outer places wherein the men work, which places are about 100°.

A. 40.—About a hundred persons.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—Yes, to my manufactory; I have seven ovens to use.

A. 48.—Adults and great boys from sixteen to twenty-one.

A. 49.—The biscuit-firing cannot be completed in less than thirty-six hours; the glazed firing requires sixteen; the men fill the ovens during the day, and fire them at night; the very best arrangement.

A. 50.—With candles.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—The employment of night-work with me is trifling, and the relief by day balances it; but I do not hesitate to say that night-work causes double wear to the constitution.

A. 54.—Thirty per cent. leave at breakfast-time or thereabouts, seventy to eighty per cent. at dinner-time.

A. 55.—All may and indeed are wished to leave; their convenience (my works being a little distant) or pleasure alone induces them not to leave.

A. 56.—A very agreeable one to me, and so far as they can do it, a beneficial one to them, viz., the change of air, scene, &c.; but against this is occasional bad weather, so they cannot do better than have an option.

A. 57.—Encouragement, in the way of advancement and improved wages to the meritorious; the lessening of privileges and occasional punishment to the undeserving.

A. 59.—Yes; I occasionally correct them a little in extreme cases; in others I require their parents to attend, and do it in my presence; the overlooker, too, exercises an authority in light matters, but this is done rarely, and to a very trifling extent.

A. 62.—I have had only two cases of what has deserved the name of severe corporal punishment in a long course of years, and these were through resistance; the rule is, to bring naughty parties to me; and this, with due reproof and advice, I generally find effectual.

A. 63.—My instructions are, that they reason with and admonish children, also that they withhold the privileges conferred on the deserving, but not to correct; instead thereof to refer that to me.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—I have thirty or forty families (workpeople) who live in my houses at their express desire; the houses replete with comfort and cleanliness; a pattern, I may say, of the manner in which mechanics should be housed.

A. 66.—The difference is immense; so much so, that a person in manhood will find it difficult to learn some of the trades which children learn with facility.

A. 67.—I consider it has improved on the whole, and that more humane attention has been paid to this point. A greater, i.e. a more general improvement, would have taken place but for the influence, the demoralizing influence, of the beer-shops.

A. 68.—Yes, occasionally; happily there is little necessity for this.

A. 69.—No mill.

A. 73.—No mills of the kind.

A. 76.—None to obtain.

A. 77.—No, they are not.

7th May 1833.

JOHN RIDGWAY.



B. 1.

Staffordshire.

No. 62.

F. Wedgwood.

## ANSWERS of FRANCIS WEDGWOOD, Etruria, Stoke-upon-Trent.

- A. 1.—Parish of Stoke-upon-Trent, county of Stafford.
- A. 2.—Potting solely.
- A. 3.—The chief part about 1770; the only material addition about 1788; the steam-engine was put up 1801; never used for any thing else.
- A. 4.—A steam-engine of Boulton and Watt's, thirty-horse power.
- A. 5.—No, except in one of the workshops containing eight or ten boys, which is heated and ventilated by one of Silvester's hot air-stoves; in the other work-places the ventilation depends on the doors and windows and fireplaces.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons working in the respective rooms.
- A. 8.—There are no dangerous parts.
- A. 9.—No.
- A. 10.—The youngest boy in the works is eight years old.
- A. 11.—No, except for cheapness.
- A. 12.—I know of no recent alterations.
- A. 13.—Yes.
- A. 14.—Not parish apprentices.
- A. 15.—They all live with their parents or natural guardians.
- A. 17.—Day-wage men ten hours and a half in summer; piece-work men manage to get in half an hour or an hour more.
- A. 18.—The same as above, only that those children who work with piece-work men work the same time, and about half an hour more, as they are expected to have the fire lit and the place ready before their masters come.
- A. 19.—Fifteen hours and a half, including meals.
- A. 20.—Two hundred and eighty-eight. Can't say to a day or two.
- A. 21.—I cannot give an answer to this, as sometimes one set of workmen are working over-time, and sometimes another, and sometimes none.
- A. 22.—The only difference is, that those whose work is wanted (some times one set of men, sometimes another,) work till nine instead of six.
- A. 24.—Fourteen hours and a quarter, or fourteen.
- A. 25.—Whenever the work was wanted.
- A. 26.—Yes, this, but not any; for instance, the ovens must be kept alight at night.
- A. 27.—Yes, they used to leave off at ten instead of nine in working over-time.
- A. 28.—Never calculated.
- A. 29.—The inducement is to get more work done when orders come in without taking in fresh hands, who perhaps would be turned adrift again in a fortnight; never heard of any law about it.
- A. 30.—No.
- A. 31.—I suppose it would not be easy to find children to take the work for the three hours, from six to nine only.
- A. 32.—No, never been thought of.
- A. 36.—Orders would lie back, and we should lose our customers, or be forced to take more hands than we wanted, and keep them short of work.
- A. 37.—The law would not be attended to.
- A. 38.—I do not know; the people must be comfortably warm; that is all.
- A. 39.—No particular heat.
- A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—There is hardly a night, except Saturdays and Mondays, but what somebody about the place has to work from six to nine; and besides this there are boys from sixteen to twenty years old sitting up all night with the ovens every week fourteen or fifteen times.
- A. 46.—Yes, keeping up the steam-engine and oven fires.
- A. 47.—The engine-fires never go out; the ovens must be kept alight forty-eight hours.
- A. 48.—Men and boys from sixteen to twenty years old.
- A. 49.—It requires a certain time to burn the ware, and the engine is working all night grinding flint.
- A. 50.—By candles.
- A. 51.—The same as by day.
- A. 52.—I do not know.
- A. 53.—Breakfast half past eight till nine in summer, nine till half past nine in winter; dinner from one till two for all.
- A. 54.—Some do, and some do not.
- A. 55.—They all please themselves.
- A. 57.—Fining, putting on 'prentice wages, (*i.e.* less than they can get at piece-work,) and an occasional cuff from their masters, I believe.
- A. 59.—By the men the children work with.
- A. 60.—Once, I think.
- A. 61.—Yes.
- A. 62.—I never have been informed of any instances except the one referred to in A. 60.
- A. 65.—Mostly; that is houses belonging to their employers.
- A. 66 & 67.—I do not know.
- A. 68.—Not systematically, but occasionally.
- A. 69.—I never heard of it.

FRANCIS WEDGWOOD.



ANSWERS of ROBERT PHILIPS for John and Nathaniel Philips & Co., Tean and Cheadle.

A. 1.—Tean and Cheadle in the Parishes of Checkley and Cheadle in the county of Stafford.

Staffordshire.

A. 2.—Manufacture of tapes and bobbins.

No. 63.

A. 3.—Previous to the year 1823 the manufactory was not carried on by power, which since that time it has been.

Robert Philips.

A. 4.—Steam-engines of forty and fourteen horse power, the whole of which power is not employed.

A. 5.—Yes; there is a ground flue, with communication to the outward air, and grates to admit the same into the mill, with outlets through the floors and roof.

A. 6.—No, it does not, but every window is provided with a casement in addition, which is regulated at the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 7.—The ventilation stated in A. 5. is regulated, according to the season, by the direction of the superintendent of the works.

A. 8.—Yes, they are.

A. 9.—Every room or department is provided with water-closets, which are repeatedly and daily washed out from a cistern at the top of the mill, and which is constantly supplied with water by a pump attached to the steam-engine; also there are provisions, as above, giving access to water the whole of the day both for washing and drinking. No operation is carried on requiring a change of clothing.

A. 10.—We do not employ any children directly ourselves, but some are employed by the weavers. There is no other employment for children in this neighbourhood, being agricultural.

A. 11.—There is nothing in the nature of the work itself that renders it imperative.

A. 12.—Not in this manufactory.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 17.—The number of working hours are eleven, except Saturday, on which day the time is less.

A. 18.—The same hours.

A. 19.—As the hands employed directly by us are nearly entirely on piece-work, we do not find any time-book necessary.

A. 20.—Every day except the usual holidays at Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, and the annual wakes; fifteen days in the whole.

A. 21.—Refer to A. 17.

A. 22.—No difference except occasionally, and that in the making-up department only, where no children are employed.

A. 26.—If a law could be enacted which would regulate the demand and stock of each manufacturer, we presume no excess over regular hours would be necessary.

A. 27.—No, we have not.

A. 29.—As we have not been in the habit of working over-hours, we do not give any opinion, except on facts of which we are cognizant from personal experience.

A. 33.—No, we have not.

A. 37.—We do not think it would be beneficial, inasmuch as it would reduce the income of the operative, unless the manufacturer could obtain such an advance in the price of goods as to enable him to advance wages to such a point as to make up the difference arising to the operative from such reduction of time; and we believe the general state of trade does not hold out a reasonable prospect of such an advance in the price of goods being obtained.

A. 38.—No process in our manufactory is dependent upon temperature.

A. 41.—We have no night-work.

A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None are so employed.

A. 46.—No, they are not.

A. 50.—Candles and Argand lamps.

A. 51.—Same as in the day. Refer to A. 5 and 6.

A. 52.—We use no lights except within the regular hours, which are stated in A. 17.

A. 53.—All except the finishers have two hours, and they have two hours and a half, being chiefly heads of families.

A. 54.—They can if they choose.

A. 55.—A few that live at any inconvenient distance stay for their own convenience, and there is a separate room and fire for them to go to if they like.

A. 57.—We do not employ any children directly ourselves, but we should not allow them to be kept if disobedient.

A. 58.—Obedience is not enforced by corporal punishment, as a regulation of or standing rule of the manufactory.

A. 60.—To the same extent and of the same description as is recommended by Solomon to parents.

A. 62.—We have never found it necessary to interfere, the children being chiefly employed by their parents, and for the foregoing reasons we have not given any such instructions; but it is well known that should any case of improper correction be reported, it would be inquired into, and treated as the case required.

A. 64.—Never at any time.

A. 65.—We have a considerable number of houses, but no operative is under any obligation to become our tenants; dirty or disorderly tenants are dealt with accordingly; there is facility given as respects garden-ground.

(APP.—B.1.)

K 3

A. 66.



Staffordshire.

Robert Philips.

A. 66.—From this manufactory being insulated, and in the centre of an agricultural district, we have hardly a single instance of employment being given to a hand who has not been taken in in early life.

A. 67.—We are not aware of the general state of health having undergone any alteration.

A. 68.—We do not consider that we have any such processes, but we always adapt the person to the work as much as possible.

A. 69.—We are not aware of the provisions of the Act.

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

A. 73.—This is not a manufacturing district.

A. 74.—We know nothing thereof.

A. 79.—We provide an infant-school, day and Sunday school, and a sewing-school.

22d May 1833.

ROBERT PHILIPS.

No. 64.

Ralph Taylor.

## ANSWERS of RALPH TAYLOR for John Meir, Tunstall.

A. 1.—Township, Tunstall, Parish of Wolstanton.

A. 2.—Earthenware manufacture.

A. 3.—They have, but cannot particularize the dates.

A. 4.—Neither.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the workmen.

A. 8.—No machinery.

A. 9.—Need none but their workshop.

A. 10.—Eight years.

A. 11.—Yes, because the work is not laborious, and the work employed at will not admit of paying large wages.

A. 12.—Have no machinery.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—Have no parish apprentices.

A. 15.—Lodge and maintain none; their parents and relations visit them occasionally.

A. 16.—Yes, in cases where they are employed by workmen.

A. 17.—The usual working hours are twelve.

A. 19.—From twelve to fifteen hours.

A. 20.—The manufactory is open all days, except Sunday.

A. 21 & 22.—Cannot correctly say.

A. 23.—About sixty-eight hours.

A. 25.—When demands have exceeded the possibility of getting them completed in the twelve hours.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Occasionally.

A. 28.—No.

A. 29.—My work is not protracted when wanted.

A. 30.—Have never made the calculation.

A. 31.—Have no need of relays or fresh sets of children or persons of any description.

A. 32.—I have not made the experiment, because I have not required it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—My demands have not as yet required me to try whether or not it would be to my interest to work two sets of hands.

A. 35.—Have only one set of hands.

A. 36.—Cannot tell without an experiment.

A. 37.—It is impossible to state the effects that would be produced without a trial.

A. 38.—Is various in different departments, but cannot state accurately the usual or lowest temperature.

A. 40.—Various, according to circumstances.

A. 46.—Yes; the process of firing kilns.

A. 47.—The shortest twenty, the longest fifty hours, or thereabouts.

A. 48.—Various; from ten to sixty and upwards.

A. 49.—Because a less time of fire will not produce the effects required.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—Windows.

A. 52.—As far as applies to my manufactory, see no difference in the habits of those employed at night-work more than day.

A. 53.—Those paid by the day one hour and a half, those by the piece what they like.

A. 54.—Most of them.

A. 55.—For the convenience of workmen.

A. 56.—Those who like leave my manufactory at meal-times.

A. 57.—Proper correction.

A. 58.—As far as proper correction applies.

A. 59.—Each.

A. 60.—Yes, as described in A. 58.

A. 61.



- A. 61.—Both, if required.  
 A. 62.—Have had no reason for so doing.  
 A. 63.—No further punishment is required at my manufactory than that described in A. 58.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—Some of them; no controul is exercised over them in any shape.  
 A. 66.—I keep none in my employ that do not perform their work in a proper manner.  
 A. 67.—As far as recollection serves me, should say, improved in health; causes are various, cleanliness, &c.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Have no mill.

Staffordshire.

Ralph Taylor.

RALPH TAYLOR.

## ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN WEDGWOOD, Tunstall.

No. 65.

John Wedgwood.

- A. 1.—Tunstall in the county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Earthenware manufactory.  
 A. 3.—Newly erected in 1830.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all.  
 A. 9.—Not necessary.  
 A. 10.—Seven to ten.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because at twelve they are bound as apprentices.  
 A. 12.—Have no machinery whatever.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—Not any from parishes.  
 A. 16.—Yes.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours; except by loss of time, occasioned by their own wilful neglect when engaged in drinking at beer-shops, they apply themselves more closely to work to make up for such loss of time.  
 A. 23.—Ten on the average.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 30.—We generally find more work done, and at as low a rate, when the hours of work are limited to twelve per day.  
 A. 38.—Fifty to seventy degrees.  
 A. 39.—In summer the work-shops adjoining to stoves are necessarily higher than seventy.  
 A. 46.—The firing of earthenware occupies from sixteen to fifty hours.  
 A. 49.—The continuation of fires, to produce the requisite heat.  
 A. 50.—Candles.  
 A. 51.—The apartments adjoining the houses are perfectly cool, and the doors of them may be at all times open.  
 A. 52.—None but the common effects, of want of rest.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast-time from nine to half past, dinner-time from one to two o'clock, and doors generally closed at six.  
 A. 54.—All that think proper.  
 A. 55.—For their own convenienc.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 59.—By their own parents.  
 A. 60.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63 & 64.—No.

JOHN WEDGWOOD.

## ANSWERS of JAMES VARDY for Messrs. Dixon &amp; Vardy, Wolverhampton.

No 66.

James Vardy.

- A. 1.—Wolverhampton, Staffordshire.  
 A. 2.—Brass foundry and gas apparatus.  
 A. 3.—About twenty years.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Foreman.  
 A. 8.—Not considered dangerous.  
 A. 9.—At their own discretion.  
 A. 10.—Not under twelve.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—Principally Wolverhampton.  
 A. 15.—Generally live with their parents.

(APP.—B.1.)

K 4

A. 17.



Staffordshire.

James Vardy.

- A. 17.—Twelve hours, excepting the meal-hours, about two and a half to three.  
 A. 20.—Holydays, perhaps five weeks.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast one hour, dinner one hour on the premises, four o'clock half an hour.  
 A. 54.—Breakfast and dinner, all.  
 A. 56 to 62.—We do not employ more than half a dozen that are not apprentices, and if they do not conform to the indentures we apply to the magistrates.  
 A. 79.—We employ about eighty persons, principally mechanics, and no part of our establishment is particularly laborious. We shall at all times be happy to show our manufactory, and furnish any information.

JAMES VARDY.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. RYTON &amp; WALTON, Wolverhampton.

No. 67.

Ryton & Walton.

- A. 1.—Wolverhampton.  
 A. 2.—Tin plate and japan ware.  
 A. 4.—Neither.  
 A. 6.—Windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 10.—There are two twelve years of age; all the rest are above thirteen.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 15.—They are all lodged and maintained by their relatives.  
 A. 15.—Yes, foremen.  
 A. 17 & 18.—The hours of work are, from seven o'clock in the morning till eight at night, exclusive of meals; if they work longer, it is at their own option.  
 A. 27.—When business has been very good, the regular hours for partial periods have been exceeded, for which both children and journeymen have been compensated accordingly.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 42.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By oil-lamps.  
 A. 54.—One hour at dinner, half an hour to an hour at breakfast, at five o'clock half an hour.  
 A. 57, 58, & 59.—The instances of corporal punishments are rare and trivial; when we find them, incorrigible we resort to the magistrates.  
 A. 66.—The earlier they commence, the more skilful they generally become; if they remain till fifteen before they come, we have seldom found them so.  
 A. 67.—The people generally employed in our manufactory are very healthy; when the reverse has been the case, it has generally arisen from intemperance.  
 A. 68.—No.

RYTON &amp; WALTON.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS THOMPSON jun. Wolstanton.

No. 68.

T. Thompson jun.

- A. 1.—Wolstanton, county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Spinning cotton, and a little weaving by power-looms.  
 A. 3.—Erected and employed for its present purpose about thirty-six years ago, and not since enlarged.  
 A. 4.—Steam, about a forty-horse power engine.  
 A. 5.—The factory stands in a free, open, airy situation, half a mile from Newcastle, and ventilated by small casements in every window, regulated by any persons employed to suit the state of wind or weather.  
 A. 7.—Quite under the controul of persons employed.  
 A. 8.—We are not aware of any deficiency, having had no serious accident for more than twenty years.  
 A. 9.—Every hand uses its own discretion, there being nothing to prevent their being cleanly.  
 A. 10.—We never like to employ any under ten years of age, and it rarely occurs that they have been employed in other trades.  
 A. 11.—No; but it is difficult to obtain the number wanted at twelve years old.  
 A. 12.—Not with us.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 17.—Generally twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours, and only then in cases of a few hours lost time.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-seven days, or forty-nine weeks three days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixty-four hours.  
 A. 22.—We generally work all or none.  
 A. 27.—Seldom; in a few instances thirteen hours per day, but only for short periods, and then usually in cases of lost time.



- A. 29.—Greater production at less cost.  
 A. 30.—The less produced the greater the cost in each department; as the same buildings machinery, and capital must be employed.  
 A. 31.—Perfectly unnecessary for twelve hours.  
 A. 32.—No.  
 A. 33.—Never worked at night.  
 A. 36.—All put upon the same footing.  
 A. 37.—Certain loss.  
 A. 38.—About seventy in the hottest rooms; the mill is not heated in the summer months at all, and subject only to external changes.  
 A. 39.—Ninety degrees of heat in one small room containing two dressing-machines.  
 A. 40.—Two men.  
 A. 54.—The whole do as they please, save fifteen (chiefly men) retained for cleaning, oiling, &c.  
 A. 57.—They are inspected by overlookers, and if refuse to obey orders are discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 64.—In one instance, in the case of an overlooker, during the last thirty years, but no other.  
 A. 65.—Very partially so; in the way of cleanliness, as it regards whitewashing, &c.  
 A. 66.—They are decidedly superior. Mary Wright came at thirteen years of age, now forty-six; Ellen Bloor came to work at thirteen years of age, now thirty-six; Sarah Wonalow at twelve, and now forty-two; Mary Molyneux came at ten, now nearly thirty-five.  
 A. 67.—We consider it rather improved than otherwise. Provisions lower, better clothed, and work more regular.  
 A. 68.—In one instance, in the blowing or cleaning of cotton.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—No other cotton mill in the neighbourhood.  
 A. 79.—We have every reason to believe that any interference on the part of the legislature will ultimately prove injurious to the cotton trade.

THOMAS THOMPSON jun,

Staffordshire.

T. Thompson jun

### WARWICKSHIRE.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN RATCLIFF jun., Birmingham.

No. 69.

John Ratcliff jun.

- A. 1.—Birmingham, Warwickshire.  
 A. 2.—Cabinet brass-foundry, and lamp and chandeliers.  
 A. 3.—Greater part erected about fifty years, and an additional part ten years ago; was first employed for its present purpose fifteen years ago.  
 A. 4.—Neither.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 6.—On opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—No machinery.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—Only in six instances, and that to run of trifling errands in various parts of the manufactory.  
 A. 12.—Does not affect us.  
 A. 13.—Only three.  
 A. 14.—Never have any parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—Have no in-door apprentices.  
 A. 16.—Have no children which require it.  
 A. 17.—Ten hours.  
 A. 18.—No variation.  
 A. 19.—Sixteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and sixty.  
 A. 22.—All parts about the same.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Ten hours.  
 A. 25.—From press of business.  
 A. 26.—No.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—No.  
 A. 29.—With us, extra hours are caused by an extra demand.  
 A. 30.—Cost the same.  
 A. 31.—Do not employ children.  
 (APP.—B. 1.)



Warwickshire.

*John Ratcliff jun.*

- A. 34.—The nature of our work will not allow us to employ more than one set.  
 A. 35.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—It would encourage idleness and pauperism.  
 A. 50.—Candle and gas.  
 A. 51.—None.  
 A. 53.—One hour each meal.  
 A. 54.—All may who choose.  
 A. 55. Convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—No effects.  
 A. 57.—Discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—Do not employ children.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—We have observed in numerous instances men who have been in our line of business only a few years are more skilful than the generality of those who have been regularly brought up to this line of business, owing we suppose to their natural abilities.  
 A. 67.—We do not perceive any variation.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—No mill.  
 A. 73. We believe that they conform.  
 A. 77 & 78.—No.  
 3d May 1833.

JOHN RATCLIFF jun.

No. 70.

*Henry Smith.*

## ANSWERS of HENRY SMITH for Timothy Smith &amp; Sons, Birmingham.

- A. 1.—Birmingham.  
 A. 2.—Brass foundry and lamps.  
 A. 4.—Neither.  
 A. 5.—Yes, in some of the shops numerous apertures in roof and walls.  
 A. 6.—Both.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the workmen.  
 A. 8.—Have no dangerous machinery.  
 A. 9.—Specific arrangements have been found unnecessary.  
 A. 10.—Ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because some processes, though important, are too trifling for the employment of older persons, and still form an important part of the education of a mechanic.  
 A. 12.—Not within my knowledge.  
 A. 13.—No, but our men occasionally do.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children; all are under the controul of their parents or guardians.  
 A. 17.—The manufactory is open from seven in the morning till eight in the evening. A large majority of the men work by the piece, consequently their time for working is in a degree optional. Those who are paid by the day ought to work ten hours per diem, exclusive of meal-times; beyond that time an extra allowance is made.  
 A. 18.—No children work more than ten hours.  
 A. 20.—Six days in every week.  
 A. 21.—The manufactory was open during thirteen hours in each of six days in every week.  
 A. 22.—No division exists.  
 A. 24.—Children do not work in sets.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29 to 36.—All queries having reference to the employment of children by night are totally inapplicable to Birmingham, as the practice does not exist.  
 A. 37.—Any regulation which should prevent mechanics working ten hours per diem, exclusive of meal-hours, would be decidedly injurious to themselves and families, from the demoralization and consequent poverty it would produce.  
 A. 38.—No regulated temperature is essential in our shops.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 53.—Three hours per diem.  
 A. 54.—Optional, but the great majority leave.  
 A. 57.—None, except remonstrance.  
 A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 60.—No.  
 A. 65.—All live wherever they please.  
 A. 66.—Employment from infancy is essential to make a good mechanic.  
 A. 67.—Health has always been good. Not unfrequently three generations are in the same shop whose ages are between sixteen and seventy-five years.  
 A. 68.—Deleterious effects are avoided by division amongst all.

HENRY SMITH.



## WILTSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM HOLLWEY, Bradford.

Wiltshire.

No. 71.

*William Hollwey.*

- A. 1.—Bradford, in the county of Wilts.
- A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, and spinning wool, dressing cloth, &c.
- A. 3.—The factory has been used for its present purpose about twenty years, but the exact period I cannot ascertain.
- A. 4.—Steam only; extent of power twelve-horse.
- A. 5 & 6.—The only provision for ventilation is by opening windows, or such means.
- A. 7.—Solely at the discretion of the parties employed.
- A. 8.—They are.
- A. 9.—None.
- A. 10.—The youngest employed is nine years of age, and none have worked in any trade but the woollen.
- A. 11.—In some departments children are required, as the employment is of too trivial a nature for those of more mature years.
- A. 12.—Neither.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Eleven, except Saturdays, on that day seven.
- A. 18.—Eleven, as before; no difference made on account of age.
- A. 19.—Fourteen in the dressing department alone.
- A. 20.—Entered 21st June 1832 to 1st May 1833 worked two hundred and sixty-one days.
- A. 21.—From 21st June 1832 to 1st May 1833 two thousand six hundred and fifty-four hours in the dressing department; this time has been exceeded by two or three hours daily, as occasion required.
- A. 22.—All are carried on at the same time, with the exception of the dressing commencing earlier, or continuing to a later hour.
- A. 23.—Ten hours.
- A. 24.—Eleven.
- A. 25.—By working earlier and later during press of business.
- A. 26.—Avoidable only by lessening the production.
- A. 27.—In the dressing department alone the time has been exceeded by two or three hours daily.
- A. 28.—The cost is increased in proportion to the decrease of production.
- A. 29.—For the sake of profit; the change of hands is quite immaterial where the nature of the work will admit of it.
- A. 30.—The limitation of hours increases the cost, and principally in the dressing department, where the greater part of the power is used, and but comparatively few hands.
- A. 31.—In many branches this would be impracticable, as the necessary uniformity of the work could not be preserved.
- A. 32.—No extra hours have been worked to render such an arrangement necessary.
- A. 33.—No night-set employed.
- A. 37.—A reduction of wages, and an increase of cost to the manufacturer proportionate to the decrease of his production.
- A. 38.—No artificial means are used to raise the temperature, which depends wholly on the state of the atmosphere; and the manufacture can be carried on in the winter season when common fires and stoves only are necessary.
- A. 39.—No unusual heat required.
- A. 41.—Not at all.
- A. 46.—One process only, that of fulling or milling, which is not carried on in this factory, or under my controul.
- A. 47.—About seventy hours.
- A. 48.—Males, chiefly adults.
- A. 49.—The texture and fabric of the cloth would be injured by stoppages.
- A. 50.—By candles and lamps in the evenings of the winter season.
- A. 51.—None.
- A. 52.—None employed.
- A. 53.—From nine till ten in the forenoon, two till three in the afternoon, with the exception of dressers when the labour is done by machinery, so that they can take their meals while the work is going on.
- A. 54.—All except those employed in dressing.
- A. 55.—If others remain on the premises it is for their own convenience.
- A. 56.—It would be attended with inconvenience, as regards those employed in dressing only.
- A. 57.—If they do not comply with the regulations of the factory they are discharged.
- A. 58.—Yes, with a small stick, as in a common school.
- A. 59.—By those with whom they work.
- A. 60.—No.
- A. 62.—Neither; never having been complained to on the subject.
- A. 63.—None.
- A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made.

(APP.—B. 1.)

L 2

A. 65.



Wiltshire.

William Hollwey.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—I cannot perceive that difference in the character or skill of these parties to enable me to point out any by way of comparison.

A. 67.—I consider there is no alteration in the general health of the people employed in the factory during my experience.

A. 68.—As no particular process has an injurious effect, no change is made in the employment of any person on that account.

A. 69.—It is not.

WILLIAM HOLLWEY.

No. 72.

Messrs.

S. & J. Mundy.

## ANSWERS of Messrs S. &amp; I. MUNDY, Bradford.

A. 1.—Bradford, in the county of Wilts.

A. 2.—Woollen manufactures.

A. 3.—Built in 1807.

A. 4.—Steam and water; water irregular, power twenty-four horse.

A. 5.—No provision.

A. 6.—Except opening windows.

A. 7.—Regulated at the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—No.

A. 10.—Eight years. Not aware they have been.

A. 11.—Yes; the nature of their work being so light and easy.

A. 12.—We employ about the same number as usual.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Eleven hours.

A. 18.—Some ten and some eleven hours, and no reduction made on account of age.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Twelve hours.

A. 24.—A few days fourteen hours.

A. 25.—When we were placed under an inconvenience by failure of the machinery we were obliged to work extra time to fulfil our engagements.

A. 27.—We have occasionally.

A. 28.—The cost is certainly increased by reduction in quantity.

A. 29.—The change of hands in many branches would render the manufactured article uneven, and consequently unsaleable.

A. 30.—A limitation in the hours of work would be attended with extra cost, but cannot say to what extent; but it would materially affect the dressing department.

A. 31.—The extra hours have been so few that no relays were necessary, nor would the nature of the work admit of it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Only one set work.

A. 35.—None employed by night.

A. 36.—Do not work by night.

A. 37.—Attended with extra cost.

A. 38.—No unusual heat is necessary; and the manufacture can be carried on at all seasons by addition of fires in the winter.

A. 39.—No extra heat necessary.

A. 41 to 45.—No night-work.

A. 46.—Fulling department.

A. 47.—Seventy or eighty hours.

A. 48.—Twenty-one years and upwards, relieving each other occasionally.

A. 49.—It would tend to impoverish and deteriorate the cloths.

A. 50.—Lamps and candles.

A. 51.—None.

A. 52.—No night-work except the fulling department, nor is their employment attended with injurious effects.

A. 53.—Two hours a day allowed to all, except the dressing and cutting department.

A. 54.—Yes.

A. 57.—We allow the children to be corrected in a reasonable manner, by the persons of mature age with whom they work.

A. 58.—Yes.

A. 59.—By parents or any other persons working with them.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 62.—No, as slight punishments of this nature are necessary.

A. 63.—None have been given.

A. 64.—No case of the kind has ever occurred.

A. 65.



A. 65.—We have three tenements occupied by our workpeople, but not under any peculiar controul.

A. 66.—This depends wholly on the skill of the persons employed.

A. 67.—We know no difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Not acquainted with the nature of the Act.

S. & I. MUNDY.

Wiltshire.

Messrs. Mundy.

ANSWERS of T. H. SAUNDERS for Messrs. Saunders & Co., Bradford.

No. 73.

T. H. Saunders.

A. 1.—A superfine woollen factory at Bradford in Wilts.

A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, spinning, fulling, and dressing.

A. 3.—Built and employed about twenty-one years.

A. 4.—A steam-engine of twelve-horse power and three water-wheels; the power very uncertain, the water being too irregular to admit of calculation.

A. 5.—None, except a stair-case, distinct, and opening in the roof.

A. 6.—Principally by opening windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—None of these.

A. 10.—Ten years.

A. 11.—Yes; some parts are too trivial to admit of paying older parties higher wages.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—Ten to eleven hours, except on Saturdays, on which day it is six or seven only.

A. 19.—Twelve hours, except in fulling and dressing, which have been more, but very irregular.

A. 20.—We cannot say; floods and short water occasionally stop us; and we give two days holiday at Easter, two at each of the two fairs, and two at Christmas; in all, eight days.

A. 22.—Fulling is continuous day and night when the water serves, but two men only are thus employed; and dressing has been occasionally fifteen hours, in which one man and nine boys only are employed.

A. 25 & 26.—In consequence of delays in some branches, and of accidental circumstances, the usual hours have been occasionally exceeded an hour or two in a day only, but that has been very seldom the case.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To produce a greater quantity, and to obtain more profit.

A. 30.—The cost is increased in all branches by limiting the hours of work.

A. 31.—The work would not be uniform with change of sets.

A. 32.—No, not wanted.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—No.

A. 36.—No night-work required by us.

A. 37.—Less supply; less wages to the workpeople, and less profit to masters.

A. 38.—From fifty-five to sixty-five degrees of Fahrenheit (except the summer heat).

A. 39.—No extra heat required.

A. 46.—The fulling process.

A. 47.—Sometimes forty hours.

A. 48.—Generally above age.

A. 49.—Fulling requires continued friction until the operation is complete, and any interruption occasions the work to be in part done over again, which injures the fabric.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast at nine, and one hour for dinner at two o'clock.

A. 54.—All leave.

A. 57.—Generally by discharging them for misconduct.

A. 58.—Very rarely, and then only by a small cane or stick, as in common schools.

A. 59.—By overlookers, foremen, and parents only.

A. 62.—No; we have never been appealed to by any one in consequence of punishment, nor have we ever seen punishment inflicted in any case.

A. 63.—None.

A. 64.—Never, either before or within the last three years.

A. 65.—None.

A. 66.—We think those earliest employed are the best workpeople, generally speaking.

A. 67.—Their health has been always good.

A. 68.—Never.

A. 69.—It is presumed this and the other questions, to No. 78 inclusive, relate to the cotton trade only.

T. H. SAUNDERS.



Wiltshire.

No. 74.

*Thomas Spackman jun.*

## ANSWERS of THOMAS SPACKMAN jun., Bradford.

- A. 1.—Bradford, county of Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing.  
 A. 3.—The original very ancient; additions more modern; cannot state the date of any part; suppose always employed in the manufacture of woollens.  
 A. 4.—Steam and water; steam employed when not sufficient power from water, or water-power not in a state to work.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Ventilated by windows, which are under the entire controul of all the adult workpeople.  
 A. 8.—They are.  
 A. 9.—Not any.  
 A. 10.—Only five between the age of eight and ten years; others all above ten years; cannot say if previously employed at other trades.  
 A. 11.—It does in this neighbourhood, as I think sufficient supply could not be obtained of twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—They have.  
 A. 13.—I do not.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours per day.  
 A. 18.—From twelve to twenty-one years, twelve hours and a half per day; under twelve years, eleven hours per day.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours on one or two occasions, for previous stoppage of work.  
 A. 20.—Suppose about two hundred and seventy.  
 A. 21.—Suppose about three thousand one hundred and fifty.  
 A. 22.—All are continued during the day, with the exception of time allowed for meals.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours per day.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen.  
 A. 25.—On occasions of previous loss of time through floods or breaking of the works.  
 A. 26.—I consider it necessary their work should be got up to prevent the after-processes of manufacture from stopping also.  
 A. 27 & 28.—I have not.  
 A. 29.—In most cases the work cannot be so well performed by different hands.  
 A. 30.—In fulling the expense would be greatly increased by limitation of hours; the operation could not be perfectly performed; in most other branches of the woollen trade the cost of production would be much increased.  
 A. 31 & 32.—In most cases I consider it best for each set of hands to complete the work they begun, and therefore object to relays.  
 A. 33, 34, & 35.—No, I have not, in the department of my trade I am now speaking of.  
 A. 36.—In certain parts most injurious.  
 A. 37.—I consider it would generally tend to throw the parties into society likely to injure them in a moral and pecuniary point of view.  
 A. 38 & 39.—The temperature may vary from fifty-six to seventy degrees, it is of little importance what may be the state of it.  
 A. 40 to 48.—Have not on any occasion worked later than eight o'clock at night in the department I am now speaking of.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 53.—One hour, from nine till ten o'clock in the morning, and one hour, from two till three, in the afternoon.  
 A. 54, 55, & 56.—At the option of the work people.  
 A. 57 to 62.—Usually remonstrance, and if that do not avail, discharge from work; corporal punishment not sanctioned.  
 A. 63.—No instructions have been given.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 66.—Greater skill and better morals.  
 A. 67.—Cannot speak to any change.  
 A. 68.—Do not find such change necessary.  
 A. 69.—I am not aware.
- 1st June 1833.

THOMAS SPACKMAN jun.

## ANSWERS of YERBURY EDMONDS, Bradford.

No. 75.

*Yerbury Edmonds.*

- A. 1.—Bradford, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of woollen-cloth.  
 A. 3.—The works have been erected about thirty years, and have been employed for the present purpose from the time of erection.



Wiltshire.

Yerbury Edmonds.

- A. 4.—Steam.
- A. 5.—No.
- A. 6.—On the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—It is at the discretion of the persons employed in the different rooms.
- A. 8.—They are fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have no particular arrangement for any purpose of this sort.
- A. 10.—There is no specific age at which we employ children, and it is seldom they follow any avocation before they are employed in the factory.
- A. 11.—Children at from nine to twelve years of age are particularly adapted by their size to certain employments.
- A. 12.—No recent improvements in machinery have made any alteration in the employ of children under twelve years of age.
- A. 13.—We do not.
- A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any in our employ.
- A. 17.—Ten hours for the manufacturing department, and eleven hours for the dressing and finishing department; any time worked beyond this is paid for extra.
- A. 18.—Those under twenty-one work the same as those above.
- A. 19.—Fifteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred days, including Saturdays, when the persons leave work at two o'clock.
- A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred hours, as near as we can calculate.
- A. 22.—The whole of our works have been carried on together, but the dressing department is continued while the others are stopped during meal-hours.
- A. 23.—In the dressing department we work thirteen hours a day, except on Saturdays, when we work only eight; in manufacturing we work eleven hours a day, and seven on Saturday.
- A. 24.—We have only one set.
- A. 25.—Having been obliged to stop for repairs, we were necessitated to work extra hours to make up for lost time.
- A. 26.—Unavoidable, for the reasons stated in the preceding answer.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 31.—It is necessary that our work should be done particularly regular and even, and this would not be the case if different hands were employed on the same piece of work.
- A. 32.—We have never employed two sets of workpeople, as we have never worked sufficient hours to require a change of hands.
- A. 36 & 37.—Any diminution of the hours we now work would be injurious both to master and workman, as most manufactories are filled with machinery to their greatest extent both in room and power, and in many cases it would be imprudent as well as inconvenient to go to the expense of other machinery for the purpose of producing the same quantity as at present; consequently the master would lose profit to the amount of such diminution, and the workmen being reduced in time would of course be also reduced in their earnings.
- A. 38.—The usual temperature of the atmosphere, no artificial heat being used except in winter, and then only for the comfort of those employed.
- A. 41.—None, except the fulling and milling.
- A. 46.—Yes, fulling and milling.
- A. 47.—From forty to one hundred and twenty hours, according to the texture of the goods.
- A. 48.—Men, and boys, seldom under eighteen or nineteen.
- A. 49.—In the process of milling, a cloth gets into a state of fermentation, which can only be kept up by a continuous process.
- A. 50.—In the winter we light by candle or common lamp.
- A. 53.—For breakfast one hour from nine to ten; for dinner one hour from two to three.
- A. 54.—The greater proportion leave for meals.
- A. 55.—Those who do not leave the factory have ample time afforded them for their meals from the nature of their employ; this practice is adopted for the convenience of the manufactory.
- A. 56.—It would delay the manufactory.
- A. 57.—If the children are not obedient, they are discharged.
- A. 58.—It is very seldom any corporal punishments are found necessary.
- A. 59.—If any, it is inflicted by the persons with whom they are working.
- A. 60.—No particular orders have been given by us on this subject.
- A. 63.—None.
- A. 64.—No.
- A. 65.—The workpeople do not live in the houses of their employers.
- A. 66.—Those who have been employed from their infancy are generally superior in comparison with those employed at later periods, though this depends in a great measure on the natural ability of the person: we refer to Thomas Aland and John Scrine, Thomas Aland jun. and James Tribe.]
- A. 67.—It has always been remarkably good; we do not perceive any improvement or deterioration.
- A. 68.—We have no process so injurious as to require a change of hands.
- A. 69.—We know of no Act that at present interferes with the management of our mill.
- A. 77.—We are not aware of any evidence our workpeople could give, that would subject them to our displeasure; and therefore see no reason for them to be afraid.



Wiltshire.

Yerbury Edmonds.

A. 79.—As the woollen manufacture is not pernicious to health, we see no reason for restricting the hours of labour, and particularly in the dressing and finishing departments, these in a great degree requiring a continuous process in order to bring goods to that state of perfection which the market demands. The present system of dressing requires so much more time than formerly, that if we were restricted to the same hours as the other departments, an injurious accumulation of stock in the other stages would be the result; as a proof of this, it now requires five or six machines to do the work which seven or eight years since was done by one; and to keep pace with the other branches we have frequently been obliged to work these additional machines fifteen hours per day, whilst the machinery in other departments worked only eleven hours; but as this is not a laborious part, the work being wholly done by the machines, a little extra time per day has never been found injurious to any in our employment.

YERBURY EDMONDS.

No. 76.

Daniel Rawlings.

## ANSWERS of DANIEL RAWLINGS, Chippenham.

- A. 1.—Chippenham, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Dyeing, scribbling, fulling, and dressing.  
 A. 3.—The principal part about twenty-five years, and an addition about two years since.  
 A. 4.—Two steam-engines, thirty and fourteen horse power.  
 A. 5.—Window-sashes.  
 A. 6.—The opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Any person is allowed to open a window if they find it necessary.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—I have not. The factory is immediately adjoining the town, and within a few minutes walk of the residence of the workpeople.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; there are two under that age, who work under the care of their parents.  
 A. 11.—Children from nine to twelve are required as piecers; the wages are low, two shillings per week.  
 A. 12.—There have been no alterations in this factory which have required a greater number of children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—I do not.  
 A. 15.—There are seven employed, two of whom are under the care of the overseer, and the others of friends.  
 A. 16.—The foreman.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—The fulling is occasionally continued day and night; scribbling sixteen hours.  
 A. 20.—The whole of the year.  
 A. 21.—No account kept.  
 A. 22.—The fulling has been continued after the other parts have stopped, from seven in the evening to six in the morning.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—The children generally have not worked more than eleven hours, but there are eighteen persons from twelve to forty-five years employed as feeders, some of whom have worked during the last few weeks sixteen hours per day.  
 A. 26.—If these eighteen persons had been prevented working more than eleven hours per day, more than one hundred and fifty persons would have been thrown out of employment.  
 A. 27.—We are working longer now than we have for three years past.  
 A. 28.—The object in working over-hours at the present time is not to reduce the cost of production, but in consequence of having a lot of fine wools which are difficult to scribble, and the quantity made must be reduced nearly half if the extra hours were not allowed.  
 A. 31.—It would be impossible to get them.  
 A. 32.—It has not; they are not to be had; they would require some time for instruction, and they might not be wanted more than a few weeks in a year.  
 A. 33.—I have not.  
 A. 36.—Occasionally half of those employed during regular hours would be out of work.  
 A. 37.—It would lessen the quantity manufactured, and throw many persons out of work.  
 A. 38.—Woollen mills do not require any particular temperature.  
 A. 39.—Stoves are used for drying wool and cloths, in which men and women go occasionally.  
 A. 41 to 45.—The fulling has been continued during the night occasionally, but no person under twenty employed.  
 A. 46.—The milling or fulling are much better if continuous.  
 A. 47.—Sometimes we find it necessary from two on Monday morning to four on Saturday afternoon.  
 A. 48.—Generally above twenty.  
 A. 50.—Oil and candles.  
 A. 51.—Window sashes.

A. 52.



- A. 52.—I have never observed any ill effects.  
 A. 53.—One hour for breakfast at eight, and one hour for dinner at one.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 55 & 56.—No person is obliged to take his meals in the factory.  
 A. 57, 58, & 59.—If the children will not attend to the orders of the foreman, they are dismissed. On inquiry, I find a small cane has occasionally been used by the foreman.  
 A. 60.—Never with my knowledge or prior or subsequent sanction.  
 A. 62.—I have forbidden the use of a cane at any time, and have ordered that any child shall be dismissed who will not obey the orders of the foreman.  
 A. 64.—Never against myself or any foreman.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been employed from infancy are much better than those taken at a later period.  
 A. 67.—I have not observed any alteration; they generally appear healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—I suppose the Act for the regulation of cotton-mills is referred to.  
 A. 70 & 71.—Never.  
 A. 77.—If any unfair advantage were taken of the workpeople in any way, I think they would not hesitate to seek redress.  
 A. 78.—I think any other legislative provisions quite unnecessary, the present laws being sufficient for the protection of every individual.  
 A. 79.—Trade ought to be left as free as possible. The time-book proposed will occasion immense trouble and not be of the least service, as the engine must be continued day and night unless the milling is restricted as well as the other processes; it would be quite as reasonable to oblige every person who keeps a servant (domestic or not) to enter every thing they do in the course of the day, and to subject them to penalties if they allow them to do any thing before six in the morning or after seven in the evening, particularly farmers labourers during harvest.

DANIEL RAWLINGS.

Wiltshire.

Daniel Rawlings.

## ANSWERS of JOHN EDWARD DAVIS, Halt.

No. 77.

John E. Davis.

- A. 1.—Halt, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of fine cloth.  
 A. 3.—At different times, but cannot tell the dates.  
 A. 4.—Steam and water, both of small power; the latter in the summer months is not above one fourth.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 6.—On opening windows.  
 A. 7.—At the will of the workmen in the room.  
 A. 8.—Gearing fenced off; the machines not dangerous.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Nine years old; have not been previously employed.  
 A. 11.—It is more easy work for children under twelve years of age than above it, unless they are very short of their age.  
 A. 12.—No alteration.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours is regular time for all hands; that is thirteen hours, with two hours out of it for meals.  
 A. 19.—Cannot tell; it has depended on the water; when the children occasionally, indeed daily in summer, play several hours in the middle of the day, waiting to get a head of water.  
 A. 26.—Occasionally the greater part of the hands may be set at peace the following day, when a short extension of the regular hours for a few hands would prevent it.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Undoubtedly it would.  
 A. 29.—It is objectionable to change hands on the same work.  
 A. 30.—It would occasion an increase in the cost of manufacturing; the amount would vary according to circumstances.  
 A. 31.—If generally adopted, a sufficient number of hands could not be obtained.  
 A. 32.—I have not worked above a moderate average, unless in short water.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—Disorder and drunkenness.  
 A. 38.—Not warmer than is necessary for the workmen's comfort.  
 A. 39.—The drying stoves alone are heated, at which the hands are employed, but at short periods; two or three times in a day in winter.  
 A. 40.—About half a dozen.  
 A. 41.—Cannot tell; but never all night.  
 A. 46.—The milling.  
 A. 47.—Uncertain.  
 (APP.—B.1.)

M

A. 48.



Wiltshire.

*J. E. Davis.*

A. 48.—Men.

A. 49.—It would injure the cloths to have them stopt before finished very materially.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—None.

A. 52.—No visible effect, as it rarely exceeds four hours a night; in winter, from four to eight.

A. 53.—From nine to ten and two to three, or half hours; at the option of the workmen to leave earlier at night, which is usually preferred.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Immediate dismissal.

A. 58.—Very rarely, probably not twice in a year.

A. 59.—By foreman.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—Both.

A. 62.—No; as it has been only done when I did not wish to discharge the children for the sake of the parents poverty, or some like cause.

A. 64 &amp; 65.—No.

A. 66.—So much as to make it objectionable to employ persons who have not been brought up to the different branches.

A. 67.—Not aware of any alteration.

A. 68.—No process necessary to require a change of hands.

A. 69.—Not aware of any Act relative to it.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—The regular hours are usually the same in this neighbourhood.

JOHN EDWARD DAVIS.

No. 78.

*Counsell & Millman.*

ANSWERS of Messrs. COUNSELL &amp; MILLMAN, Kingswood.

A. 1.—Kingswood in the county of Wilts, near Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

A. 2.—Scouring and picking wool, spinning yarn, milling or fulling, roughing or dressing, and finishing cloths.

A. 3.—An old mill for milling or fulling, &amp;c., before our recollection; a new part added about 1816 or 1817; since that time it has been used as at present.

A. 4.—Water-power only; there is more water than we use in winter, but short in summer; obliged to pen three or four hours per day; the power about twenty horse.

A. 5.—It is ventilated by the opening of windows on each side of the mill, which makes it very airy.

A. 7.—It is ventilated at the discretion of the workmen.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have no particular arrangements; it is left to the discretion of the workmen.

A. 10.—We generally employ them about ten years old and upwards, some of them may have been previously employed at similar work.

A. 11.—The principal part of our work does not require children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—We do not think there is much difference in the number of children employed under twelve years for several years past.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We neither lodge nor maintain any.

A. 16.—We have no such children in our employ.

A. 17.—Eleven hours per day in summer, and less in winter.

A. 19.—Eleven hours per day for all except the milling or fulling, for which we have no regular hours.

A. 20.—We cannot tell, because we were stopped several weeks in making some alterations.

A. 23.—About nine or ten hours.

A. 24.—Eleven hours.

A. 25.—We don't know that it has been exceeded at any time, except in the milling or fulling.

A. 26.—We can avoid working more than regular hours, except in the milling or fulling.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—We work very regular, therefore we don't know of the difference.

A. 29.—We think any manufacturer that works more than regular hours must have extra orders to fulfil, and we cannot see any advantage for the same hands to work day and night.

A. 30.—We find no difference, as we generally work very regular.

A. 31.—If we had occasion to work day and night, we should prefer a fresh set of men and children; but if only a few extra hours, the same would be preferable.

A. 32.—We have had no occasion for trying it.

A. 34.—We can generally supply our orders by working one set of men regular hours.

A. 35.—We have no night set of hands.

A. 36.—We have no night-work except in the short days, when some of the workmen make up their regular time.



A. 37.—Our opinion is, that eleven hours per day at such work as ours is not too much for any men or children of ten or twelve years of age, and upwards.

A. 38.—We don't know exactly, but we think about the usual temperature of common buildings, according to the state of the weather, as we have no steam-engine, and we warm it in winter by common fires.

A. 39.—We require no particular degree of heat, except for scouring wool, and steaming or boiling cloths, which are done in furnaces made for the purpose, which heat is sometimes up to two hundred.

A. 40.—About three or four to put the cloths in and take them out of the furnace.

A. 41.—We don't know.

A. 42.—Six.

A. 43.—Two or three hours in winter.

A. 44.—We seldom employ more than six.

A. 45.—From dark until seven o'clock at night.

A. 46.—Some, we believe, continue the fulling or milling of cloths all night, but we do not; we leave it to the discretion of the millman himself, who, we believe, keeps it on about fourteen or fifteen hours; occasionally it may be more.

A. 47.—According to the state of the cloths, probably from fourteen to sixteen hours; but most people are of opinion that the cloths are better to be kept on until finished.

A. 48.—Millmen upwards of twenty-one years, and boys from fourteen and upwards.

A. 49.—Because the cloths are considered to be better thus milled.

A. 50.—By lamps or candles.

A. 51.—Windows and doors, if needful.

A. 52.—We are not aware of their being injurious, but we don't know any thus employed around us.

A. 53.—An hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner, probably half an hour each meal in winter, to save day light, and leave an hour earlier.

A. 54.—Those who live near the mill go home to their meals, and the rest stay about the premises.

A. 55.—We leave it to their own discretion to go home or stay; some of them live at too great a distance to go home.

A. 56.—Some of those that live at too great a distance have no where else to take their meals without being out in the open air.

A. 57.—Remonstrance and good advice.

A. 58.—Very seldom, if ever.

A. 59.—By parents, if resorted to.

A. 60.—We believe not.

A. 62.—We have no recollection of any such case.

A. 65.—A few, but not many of our workmen live in our cottages; but we exercise no control over them, but occasionally give them advice.

A. 66.—We don't know that we have any that are particularly skilful.

A. 67.—We don't know of any material change either way.

A. 68.—We are not aware that any part of our employment is injurious.

A. 69.—We have never seen the Act.

A. 70.—No.

A. 72.—We know nothing of it.

A. 73.—We don't think they attend to any thing more than usual.

A. 74.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 75.—We don't know of any.

A. 76.—We have heard nothing of it.

A. 77.—We think not.

A. 78.—We don't know any better than our own.

A. 79.—No.

COUNSELL & MILLMAN.

#### ANSWERS of W. TANNER MERCER, Kingswood.

A. 1.—Kingswood, Wilts.

A. 2.—Manufacture of superfine cloth.

A. 3.—Employed at different times, and employed for more than twenty years.

A. 4.—Principally water; a small steam-engine has been erected about seven years ago, the water-power being very irregular and short in summer; extent of power about twenty-horse.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—Windows, &c.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—No, but plenty of room to do what they please.

A. 10.—None under nine years. Can't tell.

A. 11.—Yes; answering the purpose of older ones.

A. 12.—Less.

A. 13.—No; I prefer paying what they earn.

(APP.—B. 1.)

M 2

A. 14.

Wiltshire.

Counsell & Millman.

No. 79.

W. T. Mercer.



Wiltshire.

*W. T. Mercer.*

- A. 14.—No.  
 A. 15.—Believe no orphans; parents visit them when they please.  
 A. 16.—Yes.  
 A. 17.—A few from five till eight, less two hours for meals.  
 A. 18.—From six o'clock till seven, longest; less two hours for meals.  
 A. 19.—About twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—The whole year more or less, except Sundays and holidays.  
 A. 21 & 22.—Can't tell.  
 A. 23.—I should guess eight or nine hours.  
 A. 24.—I should guess at ten hours.  
 A. 25.—None.  
 A. 26.—Not required.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Generally paid by the quantity produced.  
 A. 29.—To get money.  
 A. 30.—Principally paid by the lb., pieces, or job.  
 A. 31.—None.  
 A. 32.—Can't tell.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—One set only.  
 A. 35.—No night-work of any consequence.  
 A. 36.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—Regulated by times, circumstances, and water.  
 A. 38.—Does not apply to this trade.  
 A. 39.—Comfortable.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 46 & 47.—Milling only of consequence.  
 A. 48.—From twenty-four to seventy-five.  
 A. 49.—When the fulling process is commenced, it is better to finish it than stop.  
 A. 50.—When lighted in the evening, by lamps.  
 A. 51.—None required.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast, dinner, and tea (say two hours).  
 A. 54.—The major part leave at meal-times.  
 A. 55.—Those that stay do it for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—Turning them off and getting others.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 65.—A few only.  
 A. 66, 67, & 68.—Only commenced business May 1831.  
 A. 77.—I should think not.  
 A. 79.—I do not see any necessity for the present inquiry, as far as regards the manufacture of superfine cloth in this neighbourhood.

WILLIAM TANNER MERCER.

No. 80.

*J. L. Phillips.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN LEDYARD PHILLIPS, Melksham and Box.

- A. 1.—All my factories are at Melksham, Wilts, excepting the fulling-mill, which is at Box, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of broad cloth.  
 A. 3.—Principal factory in 1801; cutting factory about 1814; spinning factory in 1831; I cannot say when the weaving factory and the fulling-mill were erected, as I am only the tenant.  
 A. 4.—Fulling by water; all the other departments by steam, excepting the spinning factory and weaving factory, which are worked by hand.  
 A. 5.—The windows open at the discretion of the workpeople.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—By the persons employed, at their own pleasure.  
 A. 8.—All the machinery which is considered dangerous is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No; none required.  
 A. 10.—None employed under nine years; can't say whether they have been employed previously, but believe they have generally been at the free-school.  
 A. 11.—Yes; it is requisite to employ children from nine to ten years of age, as older children could not do the work so well.  
 A. 12.—No alteration within twenty years, excepting in spinning by mules and cutting by cutters, in both of which processes some children are employed under twelve years; I have, however, only one in the cutting department under twelve years.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of the children are boarded; their friends see them at any time.  
 A. 16.—The foreman of each department of the manufactory.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours for the day's work; occasionally they work over-time.  
 A. 18.—The same. No difference as to age. The children often work with their own parents.

A. 19.



Wiltshire.

J. L. Phillips.

A. 19.—Fulling and scouring about three nights in the week, in addition to every day; cutting for two days only from six in the morning till ten at night; usual time from six till seven. All the children excepting one are above fourteen years in this department.

A. 20.—Cannot say; the works have been fully employed, excepting Easter, Whitsuntide, Melksham Fair (the 27th July), and Christmas, when a whole day holiday is allowed.

A. 21.—Cannot say

A. 22.—All the same time, being from six till seven, with two hours allowed for meals, excepting the dressing and cutting, who work the same time without stopping for meals.

A. 23.—Cannot say, but suppose it not to be much above eleven hours per day; on Saturday the whole works stop at two o'clock.

A. 24.—On two days, as stated, A. 29, one department worked from six till ten; the large body of children employed in scribbling, carding, and piecing from six till seven, with two hours for meals.

A. 25.—When, from any circumstance, less work has been done in any one department, it has of necessity accumulated in the others, and then has been made up by working extra hours in that department.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, from floods and short water in the fulling-mill causing at times an accumulation of work for dressing and cutting, which, if not got up, would occasion great loss. The larger number of children who are employed in scribbling, carding, and piecing, seldom exceed their usual hours (eleven) throughout the year.

A. 27.—Not of late years.

A. 29.—Not done.

A. 30.—If the limit be less than eleven hours actual work, the cost would be considerably increased.

A. 31.—No objection.

A. 32.—The extra hours have been so few that it has not been required.

A. 33.—Don't work at night except in fulling.

A. 36.—None.

A. 37.—Any thing below eleven hours actual work would be highly injurious to the master, and at the same time a considerable loss to those employed.

A. 38.—The temperature is regulated by the workmen, as no particular degree is required for the work.

A. 39.—Just sufficient to keep the oil in a liquid state.

A. 41.—Not once.

A. 46.—Fulling; it is also highly beneficial in the dressing department.

A. 47.—From the commencement of fulling till the cloth is finished, which varies according to the substance from thirty to forty or sixty hours; in the dressing thirteen hours would be sufficient.

A. 48.—In fulling, men and boys from sixteen to twenty; in dressing, men and boys from fifteen to twenty.

A. 49.—In fulling the felting principle is lost if the cloth is suffered to get cold, which cannot be recovered without loss of length and soap; dressing the same in principle, but to a less degree.

A. 50, 51, & 52.—In fulling the workmen sleep for an hour or two at a time when working by night while the mills are going; they are as healthy as possible; they use candles. In the other departments gas is used morning and evening, when required.

A. 53.—From nine to ten for breakfast; two to three for dinner.

A. 54.—All excepting the dressing and cutting departments, who also go home for meals when not working extra hours.

A. 55.—Convenience of both.

A. 56.—The dressers and cutters would earn less money, and occasionally subject the trade to great inconvenience, by not getting up an arrear of work.

A. 57.—Punishment seldom required; chiefly regulated by small fines, all of which go to the workmen's benefit club.

A. 58.—It has occasionally on younger boys, when the infliction of fines has not been found to answer.

A. 59.—By foremen.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—Both.

A. 62.—No.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions to the foreman not to punish severely, as I preferred discharging the delinquent.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—It is essential that children should be initiated early, say from nine to ten years. Most of my men have been with me from that age, or have been employed in the same manufacture elsewhere.

A. 67.—Much the same; always healthy.

A. 68.—No, not required.

A. 69.—No.

A. 79.—I think the hours of work should be generally from six till seven, one hour being allowed for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, and that the dressing and finishing departments



Wiltshire

*J. L. Phillips.*

ments should be without restrictions of hours for all persons above seventeen years of age. The dressing is exceedingly light work, the heavy work being done by machinery. Many of the men and boys sit half their time while the gig-mill is going on.

JOHN LEDYARD PHILLIPS.

No. 81.

*John Clark.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN CLARK, Trowbridge.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wiltshire.  
 A. 2.—Woollen manufacture.  
 A. 3.—At four different periods, but do not know the date of the erections, except the last addition, which was about seven years ago.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening windows.  
 A. 7.—At the option of the persons employed within the different rooms.  
 A. 8.—All are fenced off as securely as possible.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—We have none under nine years of age. It is not usual to notice their previous occupation, and we have not done it.  
 A. 11.—Part of it does, the light work being so easy.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 14.—None employed.  
 A. 15.—This relates to apprentices.  
 A. 16.—We have no apprentices.  
 A. 17.—Some twelve and some fourteen hours a day, and on Saturday some four and some nine hours.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours under fourteen years, and thirteen for some above fourteen years.  
 A. 19.—Not keeping any account, we cannot speak to any one day, but not more than fifteen.  
 A. 20 & 21.—We have never kept any account.  
 A. 22.—All our works are regular.  
 A. 23.—Kept no account.  
 A. 24.—Fifteen hours to a few above fourteen years of age.  
 A. 25.—On account of particular orders for goods.  
 A. 26.—We should lose the sale of the goods if not in the market by the time required.  
 A. 27.—Not for some years.  
 A. 28.—Certainly it is.  
 A. 29.—Less expence; we do not work all night.  
 A. 30.—Very great indeed in the dressing and fulling of cloths; it would be impossible to full some kind of cloths to be saleable with frequent stopping.  
 A. 31.—The work would be done uneven.  
 A. 32.—We have not tried it.  
 A. 33.—Do not work at night.  
 A. 34.—The same set of hands being on the same work do it more regular.  
 A. 35.—We do not work by night.  
 A. 36.—Not working by night, does not apply to us.  
 A. 37.—Would increase the cost of making.  
 A. 38.—The woollen trade does not require more than a temperate heat.  
 A. 39.—Summer heat.  
 A. 40.—Eight or twelve men for two periods of the day, an hour each time.  
 A. 41 to 45.—Do not work by night.  
 A. 46.—The fulling; but which process we do not do ourselves.  
 A. 47.—Some cloths will require one hundred and twenty hours.  
 A. 48.—Men. These all apply to fulling.  
 A. 49.—The cloth felts only whilst it is kept warm in working; this applies to fulling.  
 A. 50.—By gas when light is required.  
 A. 51.—Do not work by night.  
 A. 52.—Do not employ any at night.  
 A. 53.—Two.  
 A. 54.—The greater part.  
 A. 55.—Mutual.  
 A. 56.—Of little consequence.  
 A. 57.—Small fines, and a small stick.  
 A. 58.—Very little and slightly.  
 A. 59.—By the men under whom they work.  
 A. 60.—Slight ones.  
 A. 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—Not unless severe.  
 A. 63.—No written instructions, merely telling them to see the children do the work well.  
 A. 64.—No.

A. 65.



- A. 65.—No; they live where they like.  
 A. 66.—Those employed young are much preferable.  
 A. 67.—Equally healthy.  
 A. 68.—We have no injurious process to require it.  
 A. 69.—We know of no act for the woollen trade.  
 A. 77.—Certainly not.  
 A. 78.—We think any provisions unnecessary.  
 A. 79.—No.

Wiltshire,  
John Clark.

JOHN CLARK.

ANSWERS of EDWARD COOPER for Cooper, Brothers, & Co. (Referred to in the deposition of Mr. EDWARD COOPER, Trowbridge, 3d June 1833.)

No. 8  
Edward Cooper.

- A. 1.—Staverton, in the county of Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Manufacturing of woollen-cloth in all its branches, except weaving.  
 A. 3.—At various times since the year 1800 inclusive; we cannot say the precise dates.  
 A. 4.—Water and steam; water irregular, sometimes too little, at others too much.  
 A. 5.—None, because it is not required.  
 A. 6.—By opening windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of any and all.  
 A. 8.—Whatever is considered dangerous is properly secured.  
 A. 9.—None are considered necessary for such purposes.  
 A. 10.—The lowest average age is about ten or eleven years; there may be two or three at nine, but certainly none under. We know nothing of their previous employments.  
 A. 11.—We do not think a sufficient number of children could be generally obtained without having recourse to those under twelve years, otherwise it would not be necessary.  
 A. 12.—No recent alterations of machinery have altered the nature of the employment of children, as regards their ages, in our work.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children or other persons; all reside at their own proper dwellings.  
 A. 17.—The usual number of working hours are eleven; in some instances variation may take place.  
 A. 18.—The children work as a matter of course the same time as others, because the work of the one depends on the other. This question cannot be answered more specifically because we have not the means of doing it.  
 A. 19.—The fulling is never stopped until Saturday afternoon, if it can be avoided.  
 A. 20.—We really cannot answer such a question: we wish to work every working day, except at three periods when holidays are given, Christmas, and at two fairs in the neighbourhood.  
 A. 21.—It is not in our power to answer.  
 A. 24.—We are not aware that any children have been employed more than eleven hours; and during the winter, only from sunrise to dark, except in particular cases as stated below.  
 A. 25.—Occasionally; in consequence of the machinery having been prevented working by floods or accidents.  
 A. 26.—Not avoidable, from the causes named above.  
 A. 27.—Our working is always as regular as we can keep it.  
 A. 28.—The welfare of every person employed in every branch of the business, both at home and out, depends on the utmost regularity in each department. The above is the only reply we can make to this.  
 A. 29.—It never has been required by us to keep any of our works employed through the night excepting the fulling and dressing.  
 A. 30.—If hours are unnecessarily limited for work, the cost must be greater, or wages reduced.  
 A. 31.—The only branches where we require extra hours are in the dressing and fulling departments, and we adopt the plan of fresh hands to relieve in turn, and no very young persons are employed, and about fourteen may be required.  
 A. 33.—In the dressing we employ two sets, one begins early, and leaves work at mid-day, when the others commence. The actual working hours are about nine for each set.  
 A. 36.—All would be utter confusion, and a great part of the business must be stopped, if we could not dress our cloths at any time which may be required. Some cloths require forty hours dressing, others only six or eight.  
 A. 38.—We never wish it to be higher than fifty-two or fifty-four.  
 A. 39.—We have no particular heat required where children are employed.  
 A. 46.—Milling.  
 A. 47.—Monday morning to Saturday, if possible.  
 A. 48.—From seventeen upwards.  
 A. 49.—Because our cloths would be much injured.  
 A. 50.—Oil-lamps where required.  
 A. 51.—No particular provisions necessary.  
 A. 52.—We are not aware of any particular effects produced by the mode of working adopted by us.



Wiltshire.

Edward Cooper.

- A. 53.—Some half an hour others an hour.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all.  
 A. 55.—Some remain on the premises, because it is most convenient to themselves.  
 A. 56.—There is no restriction as to where the meals are taken.  
 A. 58 & 59.—There are no particular corporal punishments used or necessary; a small hazel stick may occasionally be used.  
 A. 63, 64, & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—We know of none who have not always been accustomed to some branch of the work.  
 A. 67.—With thirty-two years experience, we have never known any particular complaints or disease among the workpeople more than falls to the lot of human nature generally; see the general increase of population in manufacturing districts.  
 A. 68.—Yes.  
 A. 69, 70, & 71.—No.  
 A. 79.—We have about five hundred persons employed in the villages in our neighbourhood, who are wholly dependent on the regularity with which the works in the manufactory are conducted; if, therefore, great restrictions are laid on those branches in which children are employed, they must all suffer a great inconvenience and loss of work. From all the experience we have had of the woollen trade, we do not consider eleven hours work (it being of a light nature) has ever caused any injury to the health of young persons employed by us, and we see no objection to that restriction, as also to the employment of children under ten years of age; nor is there any objection to restricting the night-work altogether, with the exception of the dressing and fulling branches; it is absolutely necessary these be permitted, but a clause to prevent persons under sixteen years of age being employed by night in these may be introduced. As to the penal-clauses proposed in the Bill, we hope in this enlightened age none such will be permitted to disgrace the statute book, and that the first reformed parliament will not pass a bill so harsh and arbitrary.

EDWARD COOPER.

No. 83.

James Edgell.

## ANSWERS of JAMES EDGELL, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge.  
 A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, sloobing wool, braying, dressing, and shearing cloth.  
 A. 3.—1812, 1815; 1818 back part.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, twenty horse.  
 A. 5.—Windows to open, at their own discretion.  
 A. 7.—As they like.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No; some of them wash and clean themselves, and others go home and do as they like.  
 A. 10.—Now and then one has come with its parent to learn at six years of age, but not generally before eight.  
 A. 11.—Some of our work certainly is more adapted for children than for grown people, as they would be obliged to stoop to it, and the children do it standing upright.  
 A. 12.—No alteration lately to make it more or less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 14.—None.  
 A. 15.—Not lodged or maintained. Parents or guardians visit as they like.  
 A. 16.—Some of the children under the controul of sloobers, and some under a foreman.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours, sometimes twelve, and occasionally thirteen, and sometimes six, seven, eight, nine, and ten, and sometimes not at all; eight hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.  
 A. 23.—General time of working is from six in the morning to seven at night.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 25.—According to the trade, when any particular goods may be wanted to a specified time.  
 A. 26.—I do not consider any excess of time has been made use of; as formerly, before there was any machinery, and the greater part of the work was done by manual labour, they worked from one in the morning till seven at night; now many of them have only to watch the machinery, to set it going and stop it; hardly any manual labour.  
 A. 27.—Some years back occasionally, for a short time, from five in the morning till eight at night.  
 A. 28.—But little difference, but of course the more any thing is worked the more it ought to pay.  
 A. 29.—To save the expence, I suppose, of erecting more machinery; which I should not do if I wanted, as I do not like night-work; working by day ought to be quite enough.  
 A. 30.—I pay according to the hours they work, therefore no difference to the workpeople, but stopping in the day would make a difference in expence of raising steam, and an injury to some of the processes.

A. 31.



A. 31.—Two people seldom do their work exactly alike, which is of consequence in some things, and but very little in other things.

A. 32.—No occasion.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Two sets of people would not be so well in some parts of the work, as they would not work exactly alike.

A. 35.—No night-work; never did work by night, nor any intention of doing so.

A. 36.—I do not want to work by night, excepting after eight or nine o'clock.

A. 37.—Limiting our time of working might be attended with great inconvenience, as if we get a foreign order to a given time, and should not be able to accomplish it, the goods might not be saleable for home consumption, and be a great loss.

A. 38.—Common atmospherical air; we only heat it at winter to make it comfortable.

A. 39.—No heat required excepting for drying, which is in a separate apartment.

A. 40.—Eight or ten hands go in the winter at different times to put up and take down, at which times they open the windows as they like, as well as the ventilators.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 46.—The milling cannot be done well without being kept on at night as well as day, which is not laborious only to watch, and which I believe they have different sets by night to watch it, none of it done on my premises being put out to a water-mill.

A. 47.—From the time it is begun until it is finished.

A. 48.—Men at different ages.

A. 49.—Stopping of it would require a great time to get it into the state again it was when stopped, and injure it.

A. 50.—By candle.

A. 51.—Doors and windows.

A. 52.—No night-work; our people are all very healthy.

A. 53.—Some of them take their meal-hours, and some of them take their meals and watch their work at the same time, and help one another.

A. 54.—Some do and some do not, as they like, and some cannot leave.

A. 55.—For the convenience of both and all, as most of them work at piece-work or by the hour.

A. 56.—Some of the work, such as braying and scouring, would not be so well to be stopped just in the midst of working; it would check it, and would not be so well for it.

A. 57.—Turn them off.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Forbidden, but turn them off.

A. 63 & 64.—None.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Depends on the genius; they have all been taken young.

A. 67.—Always healthy, excepting a fever which was in the town generally about thirty years ago.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—I know not what the present Act is.

A. 78.—I know of no disobedience to any reasonable law, but I should not like to be sent to prison for any misfortune that might happen; and if the manufacturer is to be restricted too much, it will go into other countries, and the land of this country will then be worth but little.

A. 79.—No further than the people used to work more formerly at manual labour and more hours than they now stand or sit and watch it, a great many of them, the laborious part being taken off. Mr. Pitt always encouraged trade, which was the life of the country; without it we shall be no better than other countries.

JAMES EDGELL.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM EDGELL, Trowbridge.

A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wilts.

A. 2.—Scribbling, sloobing, braying, scouring, and dressing cloth.

A. 3.—At different times; I do not know when.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, twenty horse power.

A. 5.—They open the windows when they think proper, which has the desired effect.

A. 7.—It is left to the men who work in the factory.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—No arrangement made for cleaning; if any of them choose to do so, they can; some of them do; they have plenty of water if they will use it.

A. 10.—Seven or eight years of age; scarcely any are employed under eight.

A. 11.—Yes; they are equal to some kinds of work at seven or eight years of age, and when they grow older, they find some other employment.

A. 12.—We have no recent alterations to interfere with the children's work.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14.—None.

(APP.—B. 1.)

N

A. 15.

Wiltshire.

Jame Edgell.

No. 84.

William Edgell.



Wiltshire.

William Edgell.

A. 15.—I only employ them ; they are lodged by their parents and friends ; I employ one orphan, who takes his earnings to an elder brother, who provides for him.

A. 16.—Their parents see them as often as they wish to do ; when in the factory, they are under the care of the sloober.

A. 17.—Twelve or fourteen ; it depends on the quantity of work they may have to do.

A. 18.—The usual time of working is eleven hours ; sometimes twelve or thirteen, and sometimes only six or seven ; not more than eight on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.

A. 21.—I cannot tell correctly.

A. 22.—The machines and workpeople are kept to work as stated above in A. 17 & 18.

A. 23.—The usual time is from six o'clock in the morning till seven in the evening ; from six in the morning till two in the afternoon on Saturdays.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours.

A. 25.—When we have goods under hand which are wanted in the market, sometimes for shipping, &c.

A. 26.—In some cases it is unavoidable, as the sale of goods in some cases would be lost ; consequently a considerable loss would be occasioned to the manufacturer, and the labouring class must suffer by losing part of the employment which would be found for them.

A. 27.—It has not been worked more than fourteen hours per day.

A. 28.—Have made no alteration.

A. 29.—For the time they are employed one set of hands is considered best, in order that there may be no difference in the manner of sloobing, so as to cause a difference in the size of the yarn, &c. ; scarcely any two men can do their work exactly alike.

A. 30.—There would be a great disadvantage from being limited to ten or twelve hours per day, as sometimes for a month or two we have work to employ them fully ; and if limited, factories much require to be enlarged, and more machines erected, and sometimes we have not work to employ those already in use.

A. 31.—The earnings of the children, if divided between two sets, would not be worth their attention ; and there would be a disadvantage in having a fresh set of persons to finish work which others had begun.

A. 32.—No ; not considered necessary for the time we work.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Do not.

A. 35.—Do not work through the night.

A. 36.—No disadvantage to me, but in some factories where the proces of milling is carried on the injury would be very great ; see A. 49 ; do not wish to employ them after eight or nine.

A. 8.—The factory is heated in the winter with steam-pipes, so as to make it comfortable for the children and persons employed ; nothing further is required.

A. 39.—In the factory only moderate ; but in the stove the heat is more, for drying wool, cloth, &c.

A. 40.—Sometimes two and sometimes eight for two or three hours per day only.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 42.—None.

A. 43.—None after eight o'clock.

A. 44.—None.

A. 45.—Not after eight o'clock.

A. 46.—The process of milling cloth sometimes takes forty-eight hours, more or less ; braying and scouring require to be kept on.

A. 47.—When the above process is begun, it is better to keep it on until finished.

A. 48.—Men of any age.

A. 49.—Because the heat in this process is only produced by friction, and if allowed to get cold it takes a considerable time to get it where it was left off, besides the waste occasioned in that time.

A. 50.—By candles when requisite.

A. 51.—None.

A. 52.—None employed.

A. 53.—Those who are paid by the quantity or piece take their own time, and those who are paid by the hour have their food brought to them, and they assist each other if required while at their meals.

A. 54.—Some do who are paid by the piece ; others, who are paid by the time they work, do not.

A. 55.—The process of braying and scouring will not allow of persons so employed to leave.

A. 56.—The work, as before described, would in many instances be much injured ; and many of the persons employed, if allowed to leave, would not be back by a given time.

A. 57.—Common correction by a stick.

A. 59.—By the sloober.

A. 62.—If a slight correction has not the desired effect they are turned off, and other children taken in their places.

A. 63.—None.

A. 64.—No.

A. 66.—Those employed young generally make the best workmen.

A. 67.



- A. 67.—I know no difference.  
 A. 68.—I do not know any injurious process in our factory.  
 A. 69.—I do not know what the Act is.  
 A. 79.—I should consider the Bill (if passed) a very serious injury to the trade generally.

Wiltshire.

William Edgell.

WILLIAM EDGELL.

## ANSWERS of JOHN OBAN, Trowbridge.

No. 85.

John Oban.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Braying, milling, and dyeing.  
 A. 3.—Fourteen years.  
 A. 4.—Steam, ten horse power.  
 A. 5.—No occasion for it.  
 A. 7.—By all.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No need of it.  
 A. 10.—Twelve years of age.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred hours.  
 A. 22.—Altogether.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Owing to the breaking of some part of machinery.  
 A. 26.—No.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—No.  
 A. 29.—If the factory works extra hours, children and adults receive extra wages.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 31.—I know of no objection.  
 A. 32.—No need.  
 A. 37.—More machines required, and more hands wanted.  
 A. 38 & 39.—Natural.  
 A. 40.—Nine.  
 A. 41 to 49.—None.  
 A. 50.—By candle.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 52.—Ill health.  
 A. 53.—From nine till ten; two till three.  
 A. 54.—If they choose.  
 A. 55.—For their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—Cannot see any.  
 A. 57.—No children.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 66.—Better acquainted with the nature of the work.  
 A. 67.—Improved.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70 & 71.—No.  
 A. 73.—Yes.

JOHN OBAN.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. CLARK &amp; PERKINS, Trowbridge.

No. 86.

Messrs.  
Clark & Perkins.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge in Wiltshire.  
 A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, spinning, and dressing woollen goods.  
 A. 3.—Built in 1815.  
 A. 4.—A six horse power steam-engine.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Casements, windows, and ventilators in the upper ceiling.  
 A. 7.—By any of the work-persons.  
 A. 8.—Yes, all that are considered to be dangerous.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Seven years of age, and not previously employed.

(APP.—B. 1.)

N 2

A. 11.



Wiltshire.

Messrs.

Clark &amp; Perkins.

A. 11.—Yes, because those under twelve can do it, and those above twelve are employed in other work.

A. 12.—Our machinery has undergone no recent alteration.

A. 13 & 14.—No.

A. 15.—We lodge no children.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve.

A. 20.—About three hundred.

A. 21.—About three thousand four hundred.

A. 22.—Generally all work at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven.

A. 24.—Twelve.

A. 25.—Not at all.

A. 26.—Does not refer to us.

A. 27.—Yes.

A. 28.—Not materially.

A. 29.—Because a change of hands on the same piece of work would be injurious.

A. 30.—In all branches, by an increase of buildings and machinery.

A. 31.—Additional expence.

A. 32.—The extra hours were not sufficient to induce us to try a change of hands.

A. 33.—No night-set; a watchman only employed by night.

A. 34.—We do not conceive it to be our interest to work more than one set of hands.

A. 38.—Our building is warmed in the winter by steam pipes, at the discretion of the workpeople, for their comfort.

A. 39.—Sufficient only to keep the oil liquid.

A. 40.—No hands in extreme temperature.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 50.—By candles and lamps morning and evening.

A. 51 & 52.—We do not work by night.

A. 53 & 54.—One hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, to all except those employed in scribbling and gig-dressing.

A. 55.—Both.

A. 56.—Less work would be performed; consequently the manufacture would require more machines, and the work-persons earn less wages.

A. 57.—They are beaten with a small stick.

A. 58.—On children.

A. 59.—By the man who works at the same machine with them.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—Both.

A. 62.—No.

A. 63.—No instructions given.

A. 64.—No complaint ever made against us or our men.

A. 65.—Our workpeople do not live in our houses.

A. 66.—Children are not employed on the same kind of work that grown persons are.

A. 67.—No change in the last ten years.

A. 68.—No; we are not aware of any injurious effects.

A. 69.—We know of no Act relating to woollen-mills.

MESSRS. CLARK & PERKINS.

No. 87.

Samuel Pitman.

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL PITMAN, Trowbridge.

A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wilts.

A. 2.—Kersey Mere.

A. 3.—Factory built about 1795, for the same purpose as used now.

A. 4.—Horse-wheel till 1812; from that time steam-engine of eight horse power.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—All fenced off with board.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Eight years.

A. 11.—Yes, at ten; because if not employed till twelve, it would be necessary to remove them in about two years, being unqualified by size for the former.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—Eight hours only the last six months.

A. 18.—They all work the same time (eight hours).

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days.

A. 21.—Two thousand eight hundred and one hours.

A. 22.—The different departments are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Ten hours on five days, and six hours on Saturday.



- A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—When the days were long.  
 A. 26.—Ten hours is quite sufficient for any man, woman, or child to work in a factory.  
 A. 27.—Never more than thirteen hours.  
 A. 28.—Not in the least.  
 A. 29.—Covetousness, in not getting machinery sufficient.  
 A. 30.—No increase of cost.  
 A. 31.—There could be no objection.  
 A. 32.—Relays are unnecessary; the number of hours they are employed renders it uncalled for.  
 A. 33.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—It is necessary to work ten hours a day that the people may earn comfortable wages.  
 A. 38.—Usual temperature 60°, lowest temperature °.  
 A. 39.—Rack-stove, 100°.  
 A. 40.—Two persons, one hour a day each.  
 A. 41.—Not any.  
 A. 50.—No night-work for the last two years; when there was, candles were used.  
 A. 53.—One hour for dinner only.  
 A. 54.—All leave.  
 A. 57.—A small stick.  
 A. 58.—Yes, on children.  
 A. 59.—By the master.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—All complaints to be made to the master.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Those who are employed from youth upwards are more expert workmen than those who commenced in matured years.  
 A. 67.—I see no alteration.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70 & 71.—No.  
 A. 73.—I believe they do.  
 A. 74 & 75.—No.  
 A. 77.—I think they would.  
 A. 79.—Except where fulling-stocks are used, the hours of woollen manufactories may be confined to ten or twelve per day without any detriment to the master.

4th May 1833.

SAMUEL PITMAN.

Wiltshire.

Samuel Pitman.

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL SALTER, Trowbridge.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wilts; clothing manufactory of kerseymeres.  
 A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, gigging, cutting, and brushing.  
 A. 3.—Rented of Mrs. Webber.  
 A. 4.—Steam, thirty horse power, and water irregular; about three fourths part of time in work, from six to eight.  
 A. 5 & 6.—By opening the windows; all made to work on hinges.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of all the men in the factory.  
 A. 8.—All are properly fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Warm water at the steam, and cold water at the mill.  
 A. 10.—Generally about eight, not younger.  
 A. 11.—Children from nine to ten will do better than older in the part we call joining.  
 A. 12.—No.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 15.—Not lodge nor maintain; any parents may visit as often as they please.  
 A. 16.—None.  
 A. 17.—From twelve to fourteen.  
 A. 18.—Some twelve, some fourteen; different works have different periods.  
 A. 19.—Not exceeding fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—No account kept.  
 A. 22.—Always work together.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Spring season, when a great demand for goods.  
 A. 26.—Necessary in spring, and when foreign orders are to be executed in haste for shipping.  
 A. 27.—Only occasional, when orders for shipping requires it.  
 A. 29.—Never had any night-work.

(APP.—B. 1.)

N 3

A. 32.

No. 88.

Samuel Salter.



Wiltshire.

Samuel Salter.

- A. 32.—Never had any occasion to work by this method.  
 A. 34.—Do not conceive it would be to the interest of manufacturers; have found night-work never do well.  
 A. 36.—Much better done.  
 A. 37.—Never be able to keep the children together, and introduce bad habits.  
 A. 38.—Proper stoves provided in the winter, and the windows open in summer.  
 A. 39.—No extra heat but in the steam-room.  
 A. 40.—Three.  
 A. 49.—None employed.  
 A. 50.—By gas and candles.  
 A. 53.—Sloobers, feeders to carders and joiners, two hours per day; gig-boys, and feeders to scribblers, cutters, &c., have their food brought to them from their dwellings.  
 A. 54.—Between forty and fifty.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of both, to enable them to make better wages.  
 A. 56.—They would be obliged to rise earlier and work later to have same wages.  
 A. 57.—Discharge them.  
 A. 58.—Not allowed. For bad behaviour and negligence discharged.  
 A. 62.—The dread of being discharged for negligence, &c., is sufficient amongst my people.  
 A. 63.—Never to use large sticks or large straps.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Only one.  
 A. 66.—There is no comparison in my trade in workmen bred to my system and those taken in casually; it takes two months in general to instruct and make them perfect.  
 A. 67.—Have been very healthy.  
 A. 68.—No part of my business I ever found unhealthy.  
 A. 69.—I cannot tell.  
 A. 78.—I require no penalties in conducting my business; have been forty years in it, and my people have behaved well.  
 A. 79.—No.

SAMUEL SALTER.

No. 89.

Messrs. Stancomb  
& Wilkins.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. STANCOMB &amp; WILKINS, Trowbridge.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Kerseymere manufactory.  
 A. 3.—Cannot say at what time the manufactory was erected, but was purchased by us in 1827.  
 A. 4.—Six horse steam-engine.  
 A. 5.—None in particular.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Eight years.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely.  
 A. 12.—Not any difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Not any orphans in our employ.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and seventy.  
 A. 22.—Quite impossible to answer, as no account has ever been kept.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 25.—For about ten days after Easter, Whitsuntide, Trowbridge Fair, and Christmas.  
 A. 26.—It is avoidable, but done by the wish of the workpeople.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Do not work by night.  
 A. 30.—Our time for work has never varied.  
 A. 31.—Never require fresh sets.  
 A. 33.—No, do not work at all by night.  
 A. 37.—As we do not work over-time, it would be to the injury of the workpeople.  
 A. 38.—From seventy to seventy-five in the heat of summer, about forty in the winter.  
 A. 39.—Not any particular degree of heat.  
 A. 40.—None.  
 A. 53.—From nine to ten; two to three.  
 A. 54.—Cannot say how many exactly, but by far the greater part.  
 A. 55.—For mutual convenience.  
 A. 56.—Lessening their earnings.  
 A. 57.—Small stick occasionally.

A. 58.



- A. 58.—Yes, as stated above.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60.—Yes.  
 A. 61.—Prior.  
 A. 62.—No, never having had any notice given of their infliction.  
 A. 63.—Only verbally, and then only when any unruly.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Very few, over whom we have no control, independent of the work.  
 A. 66.—Not any.  
 A. 67.—Not any difference perceived.  
 A. 68.—No such change-set being required.  
 A. 73.—We do not know any thing of any other mills.  
 A. 74.—Cannot say, but do not know of any.  
 A. 77.—Cannot say, as none of them have ever been called upon.  
 A. 78.—Not any.

STANCOMB &amp; WILKINS.

Wiltshire.

Messrs. Stancomb  
& Wilkins.

## ANSWERS of JAMES STANCOMB, Trowbridge.

No. 90.

James Stancomb.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing.  
 A. 3.—Employed for its present purpose, December 1829.  
 A. 4.—Six horse steam-power.  
 A. 5.—Yes.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—Fenced off.  
 A. 9.—They change their clothes at home; they are generally clean; there is every arrangement made for their health.  
 A. 10.—From seven years and a half to ten; almost all ages.  
 A. 11.—The roller-joiners are required before they are twelve; the employment is easy.  
 A. 12.—A greater proportion.  
 A. 13 & 14.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of them. Every day; sometimes more if they choose.  
 A. 16.—No.  
 A. 17.—Generally ten.  
 A. 18.—Ten hours, from eight to fourteen years of age.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 21.—About four hundred and eight hours.  
 A. 22.—Generally all work together, and stop the same.  
 A. 23.—Eight hours.  
 A. 24.—About twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—More work at that time.  
 A. 26.—I don't see they are avoidable, the trade not being regular.  
 A. 27.—Yes, in the years 1824, 1825, 1826.  
 A. 28.—Not in the least.  
 A. 29.—There is work for adults and for children; if the factory work extra hours the adults and children require extra wages.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 31.—I know of no objection.  
 A. 32.—Yes, they have been tried; I have found it answer very well; each change has had twelve hours work.  
 A. 33.—The first set go to work at five in the morning, and work till seven at night; the second set take on at seven, and work till five in the next morning.  
 A. 34.—I see no interest in working one set of hands; because they have the same wages as both.  
 A. 35.—I have always left it to their own choice; they have always more wages for working by night than by day.  
 A. 36.—I see none.  
 A. 37.—If they are to work less hours there must be more machines, and of course more hands.  
 A. 38.—The same; I cannot say; there appears no difference in temperature.  
 A. 39.—If it is warm enough for the workpeople, that is all that is required.  
 A. 41.—Not once.  
 A. 42.—None of them.  
 A. 43.—None.  
 A. 48.—From eight to forty or fifty.  
 A. 49.—None.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 51.—The window.

(APP.—B. 1.)

N 4

A. 52.



Wiltshire.

James Stancomb.

- A. 52.—I believe night-work to be very injurious to the health of any person.  
 A. 53.—One hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All, if they choose.  
 A. 55.—Some prefer staying.  
 A. 56.—I see none.  
 A. 57.—They generally obey without force.  
 A. 58.—Sometimes by a small stick or cane.  
 A. 59.—Sometimes by the person that overlooks them, and sometimes by their parents.  
 A. 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—Generally inquire what it is for; endeavour to avoid punishment as much as possible.  
 A. 63.—If children require to be punished, and won't work without it, I give orders to tell their parents of it; if that won't do, they are sent home.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—They understand it better.  
 A. 67.—I never knew but their health was generally good; it is seldom I hear they are ill. Most of the children are in Sunday-schools; their teachers visit them when ill.  
 A. 68.—No; left to their own choice.  
 A. 69.—Yes.

JAMES STANCOMB.

No. 91.

John Stancomb.

## ANSWERS of JOHN STANCOMB, Trowbridge.

- A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wiltshire.  
 A. 2.—Woollen manufacture.  
 A. 3.—Erected 1828.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5.—Yes.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed in each room.  
 A. 8.—The whole of the dangerous parts are fenced off as far as is possible.  
 A. 9.—No; I have never considered such arrangements necessary in my factory, it being light, airy, and spacious.  
 A. 10.—The two youngest children in my factory are between eight and nine, and work with their own fathers; the others are all above nine; generally speaking, they have not been employed at other trades.  
 A. 11.—No; but joining the rollers being very light work, the parents put them at that work, because they cannot earn any thing in our town in any other way.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—I do not lodge and maintain any.  
 A. 17.—Ten hours and a half per day at present, through the depressed state of the trade. Usually about thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 18.—None of them more than ten hours and a half per day; the younger children only nine hours per day, on an average of five days and a half to the week at present, through the depression of the trade. Usually the elder children thirteen hours, and the younger children twelve hours per day.  
 A. 19.—As near as I can ascertain, thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 20.—Five days and a half per week, allowing two days holiday at Easter, Whitsuntide, Trowbridge Fair, and Christmas, making two hundred and seventy-eight days.  
 A. 21.—I cannot ascertain.  
 A. 22.—Those who work by the hour generally work the whole day; those who are paid for the quantity of work done work only such hours as they find necessary to do their work in.  
 A. 23.—I cannot tell the average, but they never exceeded thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 24.—The elder children thirteen hours, and the younger children twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—My usual or regular hours are thirteen hours for the elder children, and twelve hours for the younger, and I am not aware that those hours were in any instance exceeded; but when business was flat I worked fewer hours.  
 A. 26.—I do not believe that a factory will pay to work fewer hours than as stated in the previous answer.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—Certainly.  
 A. 29.—Never having worked extraordinary hours, I have never found a change of hands necessary; but, generally speaking, the profits of manufacturing are so much reduced that a factory will not answer unless worked a proper number of hours.  
 A. 30.—Certainly. The outlay in a factory and machinery is so great that unless worked a proper number of hours the business must cause a loss to the proprietor.  
 A. 31.—I do not know.  
 A. 32.—I do not know how others have found it, but I have never had occasion to try it.

A. 33.



A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—I have never had occasion to employ more than one set of hands.

A. 36.—I do not consider night-work absolutely necessary in my manufacture, excepting in the fulling department, which cannot be performed without continuous work day and night; but this kind of work is not performed in my factory, as I send my goods to public fulling-mills in the neighbourhood.

A. 37.—I do not think any factory will pay for working less than thirteen hours per day.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of my manufactory while at work is very little warmer than any private dwelling-house; no particular temperature is necessary to the works.

A. 39.—No heat further than for the comfort of the workpeople, excepting in the stove used for drying the cloths in winter, where the heat is about summer heat.

A. 40.—The process of drying or racking the cloths takes but a short time, and requires about four men, and is only used when wet weather prevents me from drying in the open air.

A. 41.—Never after eight or nine o'clock.

A. 42.—None after eight or nine o'clock, and very few after six or seven o'clock.

A. 46.—The fulling process is indispensably continuous; but that part is not conducted in my manufactory, as there are public fulling-mills in the neighbourhood worked by water, to which I send my goods for that process.

A. 47.—I cannot say, as it depends entirely upon the kind of goods, and other circumstances.

A. 48.—I cannot say.

A. 49.—The goods could not possibly be got through the process of fulling unless the process be continued until completed.

A. 50.—Partly by candles, partly by gas.

A. 51.—By windows.

A. 52.—Never having employed people through the night, I cannot say.

A. 53.—All the younger children leave from nine to ten for breakfast, and the whole of my people leave from two to three for dinner.

A. 56.—I think it would be advantageous to the workmen to take their meals out of the manufactory, and no disadvantage to the master.

A. 57.—A very slight correction by a small stick or strap only is allowed.

A. 59.—By the overlookers.

A. 60, 61, & 62.—I allow only a slight corporal punishment by the overlookers; if more punishment be necessary, I dismiss the children from my employ, which both the children and the parents consider as the greatest punishment that can be inflicted.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Very considerable; those make always the best workmen who have been accustomed to the different processes from childhood.

A. 67.—I do not consider the health of my people deteriorated by working in the factory; they appear to me as healthy as others in the neighbourhood.

A. 68.—No, as I do not consider any of the processes injurious.

A. 69.—I am not aware that any Act is in force relative to woollen-mills.

A. 73 to 77.—The mills in our neighbourhood are all woollen-mills, and I am not aware that any Act is in force relative to them in particular.

A. 78.—I approve of excluding the children under a certain age, whatever age the legislature may think best, from the woollen factories; but I think those admitted should be allowed to work twelve hours per day, as the machinery cannot be worked to advantage at fewer hours; say from six to eight, allowing one hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner, as the utmost to be allowed.

A. 79.—The very heavy penalties and regulations proposed in cases of accidents will be extremely harassing and injurious to the manufacturer. The object of getting all dangerous parts of the machinery fenced off would be much better attained by periodical inspections by the parochial authorities, with power to inflict small penalties whenever their recommendations were not carried into effect. I think a benefit society in every factory, every workman to subscribe by a graduated scale in proportion to his earnings, and to derive a proportionate benefit in case of illness, the capital to be invested weekly in a saving's bank, would be very advantageous to the workmen.

JOHN STANCOMB.

ANSWERS of JOHN HENRY WEBB, successor to the late W. E. Waldron Esq., referred to in his deposition, 5th June 1833.

No. 92.

J. H. Webb.

A. 1.—Trowbridge, Wils.

A. 2.—Maker of kerseymeres.

A. 3.—At different times, and as far back as 1770.

A. 4.—Twenty-four horse steam-engine.

A. 5.—Doors and windows.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

(APP.—B. 1.)

O

A. 7.



Wiltshire.

*J. H. Webb.*

A. 7.—When too cold, care is quickly taken by the inmates to close the doors and windows, and the reverse when too hot.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts.

A. 9.—My arrangements are none; but on Saturdays my men and boys wash themselves, and look as clean as possible.

A. 10.—None under seven; none to my knowledge.

A. 11.—Yes, because at twelve years of age they can earn more wages.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 14.—None from parishes.

A. 15.—I lodge none, and nearly all live with their parents, and of course go to their meals twice a day.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours; but upon an average not more than ten.

A. 18.—Question 17. will apply here.

A. 19.—Never more than twelve.

A. 20.—Three hundred.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred.

A. 22.—We start at six, and stop at eight. Two meal hours out of this time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours.

A. 24.—Ten to twelve hours.

A. 25.—None.

A. 26.—Twelve hours a day is my general rule, excepting when trade is bad, then less hours.

A. 27 & 28.—No.

A. 29.—We do not want this sort of thing in the West of England.

A. 30.—But very little.

A. 31.—None, if required, I think.

A. 32.—Not tried in Trowbridge for the last twenty years.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—In the summer months we can prepare for winter goods at the regular hours.

A. 35.—I never tried.

A. 37.—I should say, if buyers would give their orders in due time, twelve hours a day would do for all England.

A. 38.—We are not guided by heat or cold.

A. 48.—Men, women, and children from seven to seventy.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—None, as it is too cold when I use gas, being November, December, January, and February only.

A. 52.—Not working at night, I cannot say.

A. 53.—Breakfast and dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 55.—Neither one or the other.

A. 56.—None.

A. 57.—That if they do not behave well, I turn them off and get others.

A. 58.—Very rarely.

A. 59.—Foreman.

A. 63.—My instructions are, that if children do not get on well, not to strike them, but on Saturday turn them off.

A. 64.—Never from me, or the late occupier, W. E. Waldron Esquire.

A. 65.—Some do, and they are all very clean; and as far as their morality goes, we have had a pretty good supply of this from our late church pastor, the Rev. George Crabbe, LL.B.

A. 66.—I have no particular instance, as most of my children attend Sunday-school.

A. 67.—All as healthy as ever they have been, which I can recollect twenty-five years.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Not at all.

JOHN HENRY WEBB.

No. 93.

*Benjamin Overbury.*

## ANSWERS of BENJAMIN OVERBURY, Westbury.

A. 1.—Boyer's Factories, Westbury Leigh, parish of Westbury, Wilts.

A. 2.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, spinning, weaving, dressing, &c. woollen cloth.

A. 3.—The water factory about thirty-six years, and the other about thirty-four; both erected for the present business.

A. 4.—Water-power only; irregular, the mill being situated on a stream without a sufficient mill-head, and of course nearly dependent on the water coming down, there not being a head sufficiently large to secure two hours consumption of water. Power varies according to the abundant or scanty supply of water.

A. 5.—None, except opening the windows.

A. 6.—Entirely so; but the factories being small, it is quite adequate to their ventilation.



A. 7.—The windows can be opened by any of the workpeople who choose.

A. 8.—Yes, nearly all that can be called dangerous.

A. 9.—No arrangements as to changing their clothing or washing, or making it imperative on them to do so. Several of them occasionally wash when they leave work; but as the dark-coloured woollen manufacture is very dirty to those engaged in some processes, it is impossible that such can work at it and keep themselves clean.

A. 10.—The youngest we have is ten years of age — has been here one year; the second eleven, has been here two years. Neither have been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—The roller-joining or piecing does require the employment of young children, as after they attain an age much beyond twelve years they are too large, their work being near the ground.

A. 12.—The introduction of machinery during the last twelve years has employed a greater number of children above and under that age.

A. 13.—None at an early age, *i. e.* under fifteen.

A. 14.—No parish apprentices.

A. 15.—Do not lodge or maintain any such.

A. 16.—That of an overlooker or foreman.

A. 17.—As follows: hand-spinners, ten hours; slubbers, ten hours; weavers, eleven hours; hand-dressers, eleven hours and a half; gig-dressers fourteen hours and a half: average last year.

A. 18.—Billy-piecers, ten hours; age from ten to thirteen: boys, &c. at cutters, thirteen hours; age from twenty to ten: boys at gigs, fourteen hours and a half; age from seventeen to twelve: average. The youngest children, *i. e.* billy-piecers, do not exceed ten hours per diem.

A. 19.—Excepting the stocks, which in the West of England generally work day and night, the greatest number of hours was worked by the gigs, eighteen hours, from four to ten; but this was not customary.—See A. 24.

A. 20.—The principal part three hundred and eight days, as nearly as I can ascertain.

A. 21.—As above, three thousand three hundred and eighty-eight hours, some parts being occasionally stopped as much as three days per week for want of water.

A. 22.—This is not our plan of working, except as stated above, as we work all parts together when water is abundant.

A. 24.—The boys at gigs have in a few instances, not so many as ten, worked eighteen hours, deducting two for rest between; that is sixteen hours work.

A. 25.—When water was very short we were obliged to stop parts, and sometimes the whole of the machinery two, three, and four times a day. The long hours were occasioned by the loss of time by stopping.

A. 26.—Unavoidable in our case, most certainly, as the hours must either depend on the supply of water, which I cannot regulate, or the water be suffered to run away.

A. 27.—In this account I have given the average of two years, except where required to state the maximum, which it will be seen I have done. I have only occupied the mill two years.

A. 28.—As I have not ever worked it more than I have stated, I can only say, that an increase of cost of production would be the infallible consequence of a reduction of the hours, because more capital would be required to be invested in mill-room, power, and machinery.

A. 29.—Unless the works were in constant operation day and night, two sets of children would be hardly necessary, as in many instances the hours of working beyond the ten or eleven, as the case may be, are not sufficient to remunerate the children for coming, and to divide the work would be to starve both sets.

A. 30.—I am of opinion that, should the restriction be enforced, the cost of production would be very much increased in all the branches of my manufactory affected by the provisions of the contemplated measure in the proportion of the productiveness of my machinery to being lessened. See A. 28.

A. 31.—None where there is sufficient work to employ two sets; but I should think it impossible to get a set of children to take two or three hours a day; their earnings would not be worth their coming.

A. 32.—Where any part of the machinery has been worked all night, or nearly so, a change of hands being judged necessary has always been practised with adults as well as children.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—When I employ a night set as well as a day set, as I do with the scribbling-engines, which sometimes work all night as well as day, and which are fed by two women, both above twenty-one years of age, a boy aged twelve, and a girl aged eighteen, they manage thus: the first set begin at six o'clock on Monday morning, working till twelve at night, when the two women, who generally work ten hours in the daytime, never exceeding that number, feed till five in the morning; when these leave off, the other set who retired at twelve come on again. This does not happen more than three days per week all the year round, not averaging a night's work for each individual, there being four of them; and these hours are peculiar to this operation, and not general in the trade. We change on account of the number of hours being too great for any person to work. They work uniformly by night, only sometimes taking the first six hours, and sometimes the last. I am obliged to do this, because of want of room and power, even if I had more machinery.

A. 36.—The loss of all the water-power at night, the necessity for larger premises and more machinery to do the same work, and probably to introduce more machinery where it would be a cheaper power than manual labour; because I do not believe that with the



Wiltshire.

Benjamin Overbury.

present prices of goods and the raw material a manufacturer can give more for labour to remunerate himself; and in the above case, the children being deprived of labour would of course be sufferers, or their earnings be lessened.

A. 38.—About fifty degrees Fahrenheit in winter, and in summer as cool as open windows, &c. will make them.

A. 39.—About fifty-five degrees Fahrenheit, temperate.

A. 40.—All in that temperature.

A. 41.—The scribbling-engines alluded to about one hundred and fifty times all night, and perhaps two hundred and fifty, part of it, as nearly as I can tell.

A. 42.—Three.

A. 43.—Severally four, three, and three.

A. 44.—Three.

A. 45.—Sometimes from seven to twelve, and sometimes from twelve to five; depending on the coming down of the water longest time.

A. 46.—Yes; the milling or fulling of woollen cloth.

A. 47.—It should never stop, if possible; because, after stopping, the process will not recommence till the cloth gets warm by the action of the fulling stocks.

A. 48.—Men, generally above the age of twenty-one; our mill-man being thirty-nine.

A. 49.—I have done so on the other side. I may add, that locally the water-power here would be considerably diminished by a restriction to working only by day, and the mill rendered less valuable.

A. 50.—By candles and lamps.

A. 51.—The windows can be opened when the weather induces the workpeople to do so.

A. 52.—I have observed no demoralizing effects when under proper regulations.

A. 53.—They vary, according to circumstances, from one hour to half an hour; most having a full hour.

A. 54.—The greatest part of the workpeople do generally, as all, unless the machinery they attend is working during the meal-hours, can leave it if they please.

A. 55.—Several coming from a distance prefer taking their food there to returning, and in a few instances, not exceeding six, they take their meals without stopping the machinery they are attending, unless they get others to attend for them when they eat their food; these of course stay for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—Either the stoppage of the machinery, or the substitution of others while they were away.

A. 57.—Several of them being paid by the piece, that is, a certain sum for a certain quantity of work, do not need much overlooking.

A. 58.—Very seldom indeed.

A. 59.—By the foreman, by the father of one family, and occasionally by the hand-slubber, who has four children under his care.

A. 60.—Yes, in one or two instances; not exceeding two.

A. 61.—As I never saw any instance of cruel punishment, I have never interfered but in the above cases, when it was done by my direction.

A. 62.—I have not done so, as, although always on the premises, I never had occasion to do so.

A. 63.—None have been given.

A. 64.—Since the present occupier has been here there have been no complaints of any kind made.

A. 65.—Some of them do. There is no existing code of regulations over such; but all the houses being near the manufactory, and since the state of the public health has been a matter of importance, they have been visited with a view to promote cleanliness.

A. 66.—We generally find, that in all processes where quickness is required persons learn much more readily as children before they are grown up than afterwards.

A. 67.—I have only occupied the factory two years, since which I think the health of the workpeople is improved, arising, I should suppose, from those who were before in want being able to live better.

A. 68.—No; we have only one process which is at all unhealthy, *i. e.* the cleaning of the wool from dust.

A. 69.—I am not aware of any Act which interferes with the hours of labour, but only in cases of cruel treatment.

A. 73.—I know of no recent cases of infringement, or inhuman or cruel conduct.

A. 74.—Not as I have ever heard of.

A. 77.—I should think not, as an overlooker in the neighbourhood was summoned before a magistrate for beating a boy some years since, and there were no marks of indisposition in the parents to complain.

A. 78.—I should think that persons residing on the spot, fully acquainted with the circumstances of the case, being appointed with power to visit and collect evidence, and summarily to punish cases of cruelty and oppression, would be a superior plan to the measure in contemplation.

A. 79.—That I consider the meditated provision for a person injured by machinery, which in many cases is the consequence of the carelessness, &c. of the individual, is most oppressive and unjust. I should also think that the magistrates in the neighbourhood might be invested with powers sufficient to punish in case of any cruelty or oppression, of which I know of none, if such should occur. I see very great objections to the measure in contemplation. Why bring



bring under restrictions and penalties the trade and operations of manufacturers more than other commercial men? The merchants and others often find themselves in a situation to require the extra services of those employed by them.

BENJAMIN OVERBURY.

Wiltshire.

*Benjamin Overbury.*

## ANSWERS of NATHANIEL OVERBURY, Westbury.

No. 94.

*Nath. Overbury.*

- A. 1.—All our manufactories are in the parish of Westbury, county of Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Manufacturing fine cloths and kerseymeres, principally the latter.  
 A. 3.—There has been no material alteration since the works have been in possession of the present firm, except in 1829, when a steam-engine and the necessary buildings were erected; but the trade has been carried on from twenty-five to thirty years.  
 A. 4.—Both steam and water, the latter irregular; the power so various as hardly to be defined, except that the deficiency is regulated by a twenty-horse power steam-engine.  
 A. 5.—We have no distinct provision for ventilation.  
 A. 6.—Ventilation depends on opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is left to the discretion of those employed, but the number of hands in each room is small in proportion to its size.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the gear-work are fenced off so as to avoid risk of accidents if there is not carelessness; but some parts which have lately been in course of alteration will, when finished, be more completely enclosed.  
 A. 9.—We have no arrangements of this kind, nor do we think there is any thing in our manufactory to render them necessary.  
 A. 10.—Ten years; we have only one child under that age in our employ. We are not aware they have been employed in other trades.  
 A. 11.—Yes; because the nature of the work requires persons of low stature, and is very light.  
 A. 12.—Not under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any.  
 A. 16.—Yes; we have an overseer for each department of our trade.  
 A. 17.—About twelve hours is the regular time, but it so much depends on the state of trade, and so frequently varies, that we cannot give a specific answer.  
 A. 18.—Ten, twelve, or fourteen hours. No difference on account of age, as children and adults work together.  
 A. 19.—Twenty-two hours has been the case in one department, in all others not above fourteen that we are aware of.  
 A. 20.—We have no data by which to give a positive answer; we work almost every day except Sundays and holidays.  
 A. 24.—Twenty-two hours twice in the week for a short period, but only arising from peculiar circumstances not likely again to occur, and in the department alluded to in A. 19.  
 A. 25.—The excess of time arose in this particular case from the trade becoming brisker at the time we were making an alteration in the dressing and cropping process.  
 A. 26.—Yes; by having a larger proportion of building and machinery than is necessary for the usual purposes; but that would impose a tax on the manufacturer, already heavily burdened.  
 A. 27.—Not since it has been in our hands, except for short periods; but in former times, when trade has been very brisk, hands have been employed more hours we have no doubt.  
 A. 28.—We pay almost every thing by the piece, therefore in the cost there is no direct difference; but of course the greater the quantity of work done by each machine, the less is the expence.  
 A. 29.—We have no inducement except when trade demands an extra exertion that is not sufficient for two sets, we are induced to wish the persons employed to increase the hours of labour; but if it were possible to make trade regular it would be better for masters and servants. We know of no general regulation or understanding.  
 A. 30.—The increase in the cost of production by a limitation of hours will necessarily either oblige the manufacturer to abandon his chance in a brisk market, or to have more factories and machinery than is generally necessary.  
 A. 31.—We should prefer two sets, but in many cases it requires constant practice and experience in the children, and the little extra employment would not remunerate two sets of children.  
 A. 32.—When any accident has happened to part of the machinery, and we have been obliged to work the other part extra hours, we have then employed the persons thrown out as a relay, and it of course answers the same purpose.  
 A. 33.—In some departments we have, in others we could not.  
 A. 34.—The advantage of two sets of hands, provided there were full employment for them, arises from the increased quantity of work from the same dead capital.  
 A. 35.—When we have had occasion to work at night, the same sets of hands have worked.

(APP.—B.1.)

O 3

A. 36.



Wiltshire.

Nath. Overbury.

- A. 36.—No disadvantageous effect, except in the fulling process, which would be greatly injured by it.
- A. 37.—As already mentioned, it will increase the outlay in machinery and building, and must decrease the rate of wages.
- A. 38.—We work at the common temperature.
- A. 39.—No particular degree ; we apply steam in brushing, and in the winter in drying.
- A. 40.—One in brushing and five in drying ; all men.
- A. 41.—We cannot say, but we know it has only happened in the department alluded to in A. 19.
- A. 42.—Thirty-six children.
- A. 44.—Thirty-six.
- A. 45.—Generally from seven till ten in the evening.
- A. 46.—Fulling, and that only.
- A. 47.—It depends on the nature of the manufacture.
- A. 48.—Men, and occasionally boys from fifteen to twenty-one.
- A. 49.—Because the fulling process ought to be continued till the fabric is sufficiently thickened.
- A. 50.—By both oil and candles.
- A. 51.—No particular provision.
- A. 52.—Our night-work has generally been so little that we have not had much opportunity of judging.
- A. 53.—Nine to ten for breakfast, and two to three for dinner ; these hours have been shortened when any particular stress of work has arisen.
- A. 54.—They do not profess to take their meals at the factory ; but some who live at a distance have their food brought to them.
- A. 55 & 56.—They do leave, as it relates to their employers.
- A. 57.—We have no means except as under, and that of discharging children when very disobedient, which we generally adopt.
- A. 58.—Yes.
- A. 59.—By overlookers or foremen.
- A. 60.—Yes.
- A. 61.—They do not require our previous sanction.
- A. 62.—No ; we would only require that they should be avoided as much as possible.
- A. 64.—No.
- A. 65.—No, except in two or three cases as common tenants.
- A. 66.—We have no particular observation to make to this ; of course experience renders an individual more perfect.
- A. 67.—They are generally healthy, but we cannot recollect what they were ten years ago.
- A. 68.—We have no particularly unhealthy process.
- A. 69.—We know of no particular act to which we are subject.
- A. 72.—No convictions.
- A. 77.—Certainly not ; we think there is no reason to fear on that head.
- A. 78.—We can only say that we are anxious for the welfare of those under our care as far as circumstances permit, and we believe no legislative enactment will improve the relative situation either of workman or master.

NATHANIEL OVERBURY.

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### WORCESTERSHIRE.

Worcestershire.

No. 95.

Henry Brinton.

#### ANSWERS of HENRY BRINTON, Kidderminster.

- A. 1.—Kidderminster, Worcestershire.
- A. 2.—Dyeing worsted and manufacturing carpets.
- A. 3.—Erected about fourteen years.
- A. 4.—Hand-labour entirely.
- A. 5 & 6.—To every twenty feet in length, eight feet in width, and ten feet in height, there is a casement window.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of the workpeople.
- A. 8.—There is no machinery employed.
- A. 9.—None ; nor do I perceive any necessity.
- A. 10.—I have made a specific return.
- A. 11.—Not necessarily.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 16.—They are completely under the control of the weavers, to whom they are assistants.
- A. 17.—About twelve.
- A. 18.—About twelve : when the weaver works the assistant must.
- A. 20.—On all working days but Christmas-day, and the general fast.
- A. 24.—They do not work in sets ; each weaver has one assistant.

A. 37.



A. 25.—Sometimes particular orders required extra hours, and sometimes the negligence of the weaver in the beginning of the week occasioned over-work necessary at the end.

A. 26.—I do not think this can be altogether avoided; it seldom depends upon the master, but men will sometimes be idle, and they are generally necessitous.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 29.—Avarice.

A. 30.—I should think there would be none, but I never tried it. Each man and his assistant have always worked as he pleased.

A. 36.—Some inconvenience to the master; none to the weaver.

A. 37.—I think if the factories here were kept open only thirteen hours a day, and those fixed, it would be better for all concerned as it respects health, comfort, and profit.

A. 38.—Very little above the surrounding atmosphere in winter, and below it in summer.

A. 41 & 42.—Ten; but not above one or two weavers and assistants at any one time.

A. 43.—Eight or nine.

A. 44.—One or perhaps two.

A. 45.—Eight or nine.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Each weaver has a tallow candle.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Very few are so employed, and I have not seen any.

A. 53.—The custom is an hour at nine for breakfast, and another at one for dinner.

A. 54.—All, I believe.

A. 57.—Scolding and whipping.

A. 58.—No doubt they are, but I have very seldom witnessed it.

A. 59.—By weavers.

A. 62, 63, & 64.—No.

A. 65.—Frequently they do, but I am not aware of much being done; I do a little.

A. 66.—I know of no difference between those apprenticed at fourteen and those brought up from childhood.

A. 67.—I have perceived no difference.

A. 68.—None are considered injurious.

A. 69.—No.

A. 79.—I think no child under eleven should be employed as a drawer or assistant in the weaving of Brussels carpets, and that no factory should be open more than thirteen hours each day, from six to seven in summer, and seven to eight in winter. The nature of the trade, being altogether a fancy one, is such, that at times the looms are compelled to be kept incessantly going; in this case a fresh relay of weavers and drawers to be appointed.

HENRY BRINTON.

Worcestershire.

Henry Brinton.

#### ANSWERS of J. MORTON, Kidderminster.

No. 96.

J. Morton.

A. 1.—Town and parish of Kidderminster in the county of Worcester.

A. 2.—Brussels and Wilton, Venetian and Kidderminster or Scotch carpeting, are the chief descriptions.

A. 3.—Most of my factories and premises came into possession in their present state by purchase about twenty years since, having been for many years before used for the same purpose. The additional building or factory, capable of holding twenty-four Brussels looms, was erected by me in 1824, and has been in use since that time.

A. 4.—No steam or water-power; all manual labour except the occasional use of one horse to keep in motion a machine for stacking woollen yarns.

A. 5.—None other than by opening the windows and doors.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the weavers.

A. 8.—I have no machinery of the kind alluded to.

A. 9.—No; such precautions being unnecessary.

A. 10.—There is an instance of one child being now employed at the low age of nine years, but it is unusual for the weavers to employ them as drawers under ten years of age; I believe none are previously employed at any other trade, with very few exceptions.

A. 11.—Not necessarily so, and more are employed above twelve years old than under that age.

A. 12.—A less proportion, and I have reason to think further alterations are in progress that will still further diminish the number of children to be employed. I am alluding to hand-looms in all my answers.

A. 13.—No, but the weavers frequently do; and in such cases the man is allowed a loom by his master for the use of his apprentice in addition to his own.

A. 14.—Amongst my weavers there is only one who has an apprentice from a parish, and that one was removed from the house of industry at Worcester.

A. 15.—Apprentices usually lodge with and are maintained by the weaver, his master, unless their parents reside in this town, in which case they usually live at home.

A. 16.—None that I am aware of.

A. 17.—My factories are open from the hour of six A.M. to eight P.M. in summer, and from daylight until the same hour at night in winter, excepting the hour for breakfast and one hour

(APP.—B. 1.)

O 4



Worcestershire.

*J. Morton.*

hour for dinner time; but no particular notice has been kept of the hours employed each day by the workmen; generally they do not work their full time.

A. 18.—Same answer as that to Q. 17 will apply to this, as the drawers and weavers work together, except that the former are often employed in winding quills and changing bobbins during the absence of the weaver, and consequently they are engaged in the factories longer in each day than the weaver.

A. 19, 20, 21, 22, & 23.—The factories are kept open every day in the year (excepting Sundays and Good Friday) during the hours stated in A. 17, and have only been exceeded in a very few instances, and then only for the admission of one or two weavers and their drawers to enable them to complete some work by a given time, which has either been previously neglected by their weavers, or where, from particular circumstances, only a limited time, shorter than usual, would be allowed for finishing the work.

A. 24.—Not able to answer this question with precision, but I believe it has happened to some six or eight of my weavers and their drawers that they have been obliged to exceed their usual hours of work three or four times during the last year by four hours, viz. two in the morning and two in the evening.

A. 25 & 26.—The causes for excess in the hours of work have been stated above, and had become unavoidable or would not have been resorted to, for this obvious reason, that work so made is never so well manufactured.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—This does not apply to the manufacture of carpeting, and, as far as I know, the practice is to have a change of hands for night-work.

A. 30.—As a manufacturer of carpeting, buying, as is the custom, for piece-work, that is, a given price per yard, I should be affected by the reduction in the hours of labour only in so far as my stock of materials would be longer under process of conversion to a marketable state, and capital be thus considered less productive. This result would, however, be comparatively of little consequence, provided it did not produce a demand for higher wages.

A. 31 & 32.—These questions, I presume, apply to proprietors of mills. I am not competent to answer them.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—In my answer to Q. 24 I have referred to instances of workmen having been employed extra hours. Besides those in houses, it has happened occasionally that two or three looms were kept at work during the whole night as well as day. In such cases the rule has been for the weaver and his drawer to work twelve hours: viz. from noon till midnight, and to be relieved by another weaver and drawer taking the work from midnight to noon next day; intervals for meal-hours being, of course, allowed.

A. 36.—The effect would be just such as I should desire. It would be a salutary regulation, and I hope to see it become the law of the land. It would prevent the risk of fire, and often prevent plunder.

A. 37.—I have already anticipated the answer to this question in A. 30. It would, to a certain extent, retard the operation of capital, but I should not regard that, especially as I think it possible such a regulation of the hours of labour may cause the weaver to be more regular in the distribution of his time; such a result would most materially benefit the operative and his employer.

A. 38 & 39.—No considerable degree of artificial heat is required in summer; the windows are opened, and in winter the factories are warmed by a coal-fire in a grate of small dimensions. The factories are divided into shops of the dimensions of thirty-seven feet six inches long, by seventeen feet six inches wide, and eleven feet high; containing four looms requiring four men and four children as drawers, to work them.

A. 40.—The number of men, women, and children employed in my manufactory is 176.

A. 41.—Not more than three or four times that I am aware of, and then only with three looms at work.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 47.—There are no processes in my manufactory necessarily continuous beyond the space of two hours.

A. 48.—Children are employed as drawers, their ages varying between nine and eighteen years. Girls and women are winders and warpers, whose ages vary from twenty to sixty-five years. Men are the weavers, who, by the custom of the trade, are qualified to work as such at the age of twenty-one years.

A. 50.—One candle to each loom, suspended in front of the weaver.

A. 51.—None required.

A. 52.—Necessarily injurious.

A. 53.—One hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner for those employed at day-wages; but the weavers being paid piece-work, the time taken by them is not particularly noted.

A. 54.—They usually leave the premises.

A. 55.—When they do not, it is for the convenience of the workpeople alone.

A. 56.—I have stated such to be already the practice.

A. 57.—I am not aware of any other than a threat of dismissal by the weaver, who, for the time being, is the master of the child.

A. 58.—No; I never knew of an instance of it.

A. 62.—It is well known by all persons employed by me that corporal punishment is forbidden, and would never be permitted with impunity.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions have been given to my overseer to report to me any instance of corporal punishment or oppression of any sort towards the children, should it occur.



A. 64.—None whatever.

A. 65.—Many of the workmen do live in the houses of their employers, but it is not so generally the case as formerly; I have not more than ten or a dozen who occupy houses of mine. I am not aware of any control or superintendence of the nature here referred to.

A. 66.—Experience has proved those to be most skilful who have been drawers to the loom from early age, but general character depends chiefly on the example of him with whom he has been placed for instruction. It is difficult to adduce instances.

A. 67.—I think their health has considerably deteriorated. The cause of it I ascribe chiefly to the privations they suffered during the strike or turn-out in 1828, of twenty-three weeks duration. The debts they contracted at that period with the smaller tradespeople of the town were large, and the discharge of those debts has been a constant drain upon their earnings ever since.

A. 68.—We occasionally change the loom of a man who is weak to narrow work, because it is easier, and give the wider work to a man more robust.

A. 69. I have no mill, nor am I acquainted with the regulation of one, and consequently am not competent to answer the remaining queries.

A. 78.—The provisions of the proposed Bill are enough, as far as I see, for the regulation of the hours of labour in mills where the works are under one roof; but in works such as mine, where the factories are often separated in distant parts of the town, the same degree of superintendence on the part of the master cannot be exercised. Besides the children (the drawers), being under the control of the weaver and paid by him, the master does not, in the ordinary way, interfere between them. That the children may therefore have the full benefit contemplated by this measure, I would suggest that the weavers so employing the children should be more especially referred to in the proper clauses of the Bill. They may be said to be already comprehended, in clauses 34 and 35, under the term "or other person," but I conceive it would have a beneficial tendency if more special reference was made to the duties required of them as the employers of children.

8th May 1833.

J. MORTON.

Worcestershire.

J. Morton.

GEORGE HOOMAN, for Pardoe, Hooman, and Pardoe, Kidderminster.

No. 97.

George Hooman.

A. 1.—Borough of Kidderminster, county of Worcester.

A. 2.—Carpet manufacturing, and worsted and woollen yarn spinning.

A. 4.—Steam and water; water hitherto regular; steam fifty-horse power; water about thirty-horse power.

A. 5.—No; merely windows.

A. 6.—Yes, on opening windows.

A. 7.—Discretionary; at the option of all persons employed therein.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—We have conveniences for washing, for cooking their victuals if they choose to bring them with them (but they generally go home to take their meals), and privies, for the use of females only, in each room; we have others out of doors for the use of the males.

A. 10.—We never inquire, but believe we have none employed under ten years of age. We seldom inquire as to the second part of this question.

A. 11.—Young children are of course employed for economical reasons.

A. 12.—Not in our own mills.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not, when engaging workpeople, make inquiries on these points. We do not lodge and maintain any of our workpeople.

A. 16.—Not whilst employed at our works.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, exclusive of meal-hours.

A. 18.—The same hours as above, viz. twelve, and no difference made as to ages.

A. 19.—A small portion of our works was employed from six in the morning until ten at night; but this was only for a short period, and all the workpeople so employed were eighteen years of age and upwards.

A. 20.—About three hundred days.

A. 21.—About three thousand six hundred hours.

A. 23.—About twelve hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, exclusive of meals.

A. 25.—Last autumn; demand for the particular description of work.

A. 26.—Of course avoidable, but at the sacrifice of non-completion of orders in a specified time.

A. 27.—Only occasionally for short periods, and then only a portion of our works.

A. 29.—A belief that his profits will be enhanced by an increased production at a proportionately less cost.

A. 33.—Yes; the night-hands work nine hours for the same wages as the day-hands work twelve hours.

A. 35.—When we have had recourse to night-work, we have employed distinct sets for the night and day, and have not exchanged them, excepting perhaps in an individual case or two.

A. 36.—Could such a prohibition be made general and effectual, we believe it would not be at all to our disadvantage.

(APP.—B.1.)

P

A. 38.



Worcestershire.

*George Hooman.*

A. 38.—We do not require high temperature in our mills; taking the average of the rooms, we imagine they seldom exceed sixty-five degrees, excepting it may be during the heat of summer.

A. 39.—About seventy-five degrees; perhaps a few degrees higher in the heat of summer.

A. 40.—About six.

A. 41.—Our works driven by water were worked during last autumn and the early part of the present year, in all about five months, by night.

A. 42.—Perhaps from twenty to thirty.

A. 43.—Nine hours each night except Saturday evening, and then six hours.

A. 44.—Perhaps from twenty to thirty.

A. 45.—Between eight in the evening and six in the morning.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Windows.

A. 53.—Day-hands, forty minutes for breakfast and forty minutes for dinner, with an allowance for coming into their work in the morning and after each meal-time of, together, full half an hour; night-hands are allowed a rest of one hour, viz. from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 54.—All, excepting those who choose to remain.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 57.—If not obedient to our rules they are discharged.

A. 58.—No; if at all, they are unknown to us, and contrary to our strict orders.

A. 66.—We should say there is at least twenty per cent. difference in skill in these two descriptions of people.

8th May 1833.

GEORGE HOOMAN.

## ANSWERS of T. SIMCOX LEA, Kidderminster.

No. 98.

*T. Simcox Lea.*

A. 1.—I have no mill and no power-looms, so that I am unable to communicate any information bearing upon the present inquiry; but I have annexed a few memoranda, and shall be happy to wait upon the Commissioners if they should wish it.

A. 2.—The workpeople in my employ are occupied in the weaving of bombazeens and carpets, or in processes connected with those manufactures, subsequent to the spinning of the yarns.

A. 8.—The bombazeen weaving in this town is all done by hand in the houses of the workpeople, but this trade is at a very low ebb, owing to the reduced wages paid in other parts of the kingdom.

A. 10.—It is not usual to employ children in the carpet trade at all until the age of ten or eleven, when they draw the lashes for the weavers and are paid by them; the manufacturers have no control over their children. The wages are from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per week, older children doing the work required quicker than those of ten or eleven.

A. 13.—Apprentices in the carpet trade are not taken by the masters, but by the workmen, and rarely now from any other parish. I do not consider that the population of the town has been in full employ at any time during the last six or seven years.

A. 18, 19, & 20.—Carpet weavers all work by the piece, and their hours of attendance at the factory are voluntary. It is usual to have the doors open to them about fifteen hours in the day; they go home to breakfast, dinner, and often to tea, unless they live at a distance, when their tea is brought. If they worked regularly their average production would not occupy this time, but it is a prevailing habit with a large proportion of the men to neglect their work at the beginning of each piece, and to work extra hours when at the latter part; and it is customary (a very bad custom) to allow them the key of the shop earlier and later before the taking in days.

A. 31 & 32.—In the carpet trade it is a frequent and increasing practice for many looms to be kept constantly going by a double set of hands, originating chiefly in orders from retail dealers in London, who pledge themselves to execute them in an unreasonably short time; impracticable on any other plan. This is injurious both to the health and morals of the workpeople, the drawers being often girls from fourteen to eighteen years of age. The manufacturers resort to it only from necessity, and always against their inclination.

A. 38.—No heat is required for carpet-weaving; the carpet factories in this town are all well ventilated by sliding windows on each side of the shop, and coal fires are made in the winter.

A. 65.—Many of the workpeople in this town live in the houses of their employers; but such houses, with the exception of a foreman or overlooker's occasionally adjoining the factory, are scattered about the town in streets, and the tenants are upon the same footing as other workmen.

3d May 1833.

T. SIMCOX LEA.



## ANSWERS of ROBERT BAKER.

Worcestershire.

No. 99.

Robert Baker.

- A. 1.—Newport-street, All Saints, Worcester.  
 A. 2.—Gloving trade.  
 A. 5.—Five windows, which may be opened at the pleasure of the workpeople  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all.  
 A. 10.—Generally not under fourteen years of age, with the exception of one boy as an errand-boy, who has his meals and sleeps at home.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 20.—Six days each week, except fast-days and holidays.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and thirty-two, I suppose.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 25.—None.  
 A. 27.—Yes; when trade was better, seven years since, previous to the introduction of French gloves.  
 A. 28.—No.  
 A. 50.—In the winter with candles.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 77.—Only on the truck system.

ROBERT BAKER.

## ANSWERS of JAMES BRISTOW, City of Worcester.

No. 100.

James Bristow.

- A. 1.—Newport-street, parish of All Saints, city of Worcester.  
 A. 2.—Cutting of gloves; staining of skins.  
 A. 3.—June 1828.  
 A. 4.—No engine employed.  
 A. 5.—None, with the exception of opening the windows.  
 A. 6.—The opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—No machinery employed.  
 A. 9.—None required.  
 A. 10.—Twelve years of age, as boys.  
 A. 11 & 12.—No.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 15.—I do not maintain any apprentice.  
 A. 16.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 18.—No difference.  
 A. 19.—Not more than twelve.  
 A. 20.—Every day, except Sunday and festival days.  
 A. 22.—Regularly from six in the morning till eight in the evening, two hours being allowed for meals.  
 A. 25.—We never exceed fourteen hours, including meals.  
 A. 26.—We do not consider this beyond the regular hours.  
 A. 27.—At no time, except in case of public mourning.  
 A. 29.—I know not of any in our line of business that are employed through the night, or even extra hours, unless it be their own will and pleasure.  
 A. 31.—We have no occasion for a second set of hands, young or old.  
 A. 35.—Our hands are all employed by day.  
 A. 36.—I cannot say, as our hands never work the whole of the night; eight o'clock in the evening they in general leave off business.  
 A. 38.—The men employed work in rooms of moderate temperature; they regulate it to their own comfort.  
 A. 42.—We employ none by night.  
 A. 46.—There is no necessity for continuing that length of time.  
 A. 47.—The hands employed may leave off at any time, without any injury to their employer.  
 A. 48.—Apprentices from fourteen to twenty-one; from that age to forty or fifty.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 51.—By the opening of windows, if required.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—The whole of them.  
 A. 57.—We do not employ any children in our manufactory; they work at home.  
 A. 58.—None whatever.  
 A. 62.—I have never had occasion to do so.  
 (APP.—B.1.)



Worcestershire.

James Bristow.

A. 63.—I have no children under my control, with the exception of my own family.

A. 64.—In no one instance.

A. 65.—They live in houses most convenient to themselves, of their own choice.

A. 66.—We have none but those who have served a regular apprenticeship.

A. 67.—The whole of the persons employed by me have in general enjoyed tolerable good health for these last eighteen years, with the exception of two individuals who have died, the one with a fever, the other with consumption; the latter I believe to have been constitutional; they were both upwards of thirty years of age.

A. 68.—Sometimes.

A. 69.—I do not make use of any mill.

JAMES BRISTOW.

No. 101.

Mr. Allen.

## ANSWERS of — ALLEN, Worcester.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Clement, city of Worcester.

A. 2.—Leather-dressing and glove-manufacturing.

A. 3.—In the year 1824.

A. 4.—Manual power.

A. 5.—Windows.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—Of all.

A. 8.—No machinery used.

A. 9.—None required.

A. 10.—At nine years, to go on errands.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—No machinery used.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—Have no parish apprentice.

A. 15.—Have no orphans.

A. 17, 18, &amp; 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—The whole year, except holidays.

A. 21.—Twelve hours per day.

A. 22.—The whole day.

A. 23 &amp; 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—No time.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—No night-work required.

A. 30.—No.

A. 37.—Because our work is not laborious, and when out of our employ we cannot say what company they keep.

A. 38 &amp; 39.—No particular degree of heat required.

A. 46.—We do not work more than twelve hours.

A. 50.—With candle.

A. 52.—Industry.

A. 53.—Two hours per day for men and boys.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—Loss of time.

A. 57.—No means.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64 &amp; 65.—No.

A. 66.—Better workmen.

A. 67.—Have not been a factory ten years.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Have no mills.

— ALLEN.

No. 102.

Thomas Cox.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS COX, Worcester.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Helen, city of Worcester.

A. 2.—Glove manufactory.

A. 3.—Building employed as workshops by present occupier about twenty years.

A. 4.—No power by steam or water required.

A. 5.—No specific or particular ventilation required.

A. 6.—Sometimes windows are opened to admit air in very hot weather.

A. 7.—If ventilation is required, windows are thrown open by the persons employed, three or four being in a room.

A. 8.—There are no dangerous parts or dangerous machinery used.



A. 9.—I make no arrangements with the workmen to change their clothes, &c., but they generally appear healthy and clean; a clean business.

A. 10.—About thirteen or fourteen years of age boys are taken as apprentices, and have seldom been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—Children (boys) are employed to go of errands, under twelve years of age, but not required to work much.

A. 12.—No alterations or machinery used.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—No parish apprentice.

A. 15.—I do not maintain or lodge them; they lodge and are maintained by their parents. I pay them wages.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—About ten or twelve hours.

A. 18.—About ten or twelve hours; no difference can be made.

A. 19.—Occasionally fourteen hours, but very seldom more than twelve.

A. 20.—Three hundred and sixty-five days, except Sundays and Christmas and other holidays; say three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—About three thousand six hundred and sixty hours.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Average eleven hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—Only in cases when work has been much wanted.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—I do not consider that the reduction in the hours of work would enhance the value on gloves, as the labour is done by piece-work.

A. 29.—This question does not apply to any part of a glove manufactory.

A. 30.—I do not find any increase in the cost of production from limitation of hours of work, because all labour is done by piece-work.

A. 32.—Never occasion to work extra hours, and no change of hands required.

A. 33.—Never employed night-hands.

A. 34.—Nature of trade does not require two sets of hands; each person must finish his own work.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, tea half an hour.

A. 54.—All persons employed leave the work at meal-times.

A. 56.—Never in practice.

A. 57.—Proper correction, as circumstances may require.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—Nothing of the sort.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 67.—Know of no difference in their health.

A. 68.—Does not apply to glovers.

A. 69.—No mill employed.

A. 77.—Workpeople not afraid of displeasing their masters by evidence.

A. 78.—Cannot suggest a better principle or regulation than the present for regulating the hours of labour and treatment towards children.

A. 79.—No further observations to make, otherwise than that the questions do not apply to a glove manufactory.

THOMAS COX.

Worcestershire.

Thomas Cox.

#### ANSWERS of PHILIP BALL, late PHILIP BALL & Son, Worcester.

No. 103.

Philip Ball.

A. 1.—Saint Martin's parish, city of Worcester.

A. 2.—Glove manufacturer and leather-dresser.

A. 3.—Workshop built about forty years, for glove-making.

A. 4.—All manual labour.

A. 5.—All windows.

A. 6.—Work done up stairs not required to open windows.

A. 7.—By every person employed.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Work done almost in the country, except by men cutting out gloves &c.

A. 10.—None under ten years of age.

A. 11.—If parents can keep them without work.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—No parish apprentices.

A. 15.—None to lodge or board; paid by the week.

A. 16.—Their parents, except when at work; then by the foreman.

A. 17.—From six in the morning to eight at night; usual time allowed for meals, &c.

A. 19.—Never to exceed their twelve hours.

A. 20.—Every day, Sunday excepted.

A. 23.—At most, twelve hours.

(APP.—B. 1.)

P 3

A. 24.



Worcester.

*Philip Ball.*

- A. 24.—We have no sets of children.  
 A. 25.—If Government continue to allow the importation of French gloves, we shall not long have cause to employ any hands.  
 A. 27.—We have some difficulty to find employ or even half for our hands since the importation of French gloves.  
 A. 33.—We have no cause for night-hands.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 53.—One hour dinner, and half hour breakfast and tea.  
 A. 54.—Every person.  
 A. 57.—No means.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—We always prevent any infliction of punishment on our boys.  
 A. 63.—Never once.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—They are employed at their own houses.  
 A. 67.—We do not know that there has.  
 A. 77.—Not in the least.  
 A. 79.—We must reduce our manufacture unless French gloves are stopped, as at present our trade is falling off fast.

PHILIP BALL.

No. 104.

*W. Jones.*

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM JONES &amp; SON, late Johnson &amp; Jones, Worcester.

- A. 1.—St. Martin's parish of the city of Worcester.  
 A. 2.—Glove-manufacturing.  
 A. 4.—Manual labour.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Of all.  
 A. 8.—No machinery.  
 A. 9.—No need.  
 A. 10.—Sometimes one or two for errand-boys, and those not under ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—Not if parents can maintain them until that age without work.  
 A. 13.—We do.  
 A. 14.—Not parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—Never have any to lodge and board.  
 A. 17.—We have few but what work piece-work, and have no control over them; they have the work at their own homes.  
 A. 18.—In summer the apprentices are expected to work twelve hours, in winter ten hours, exclusive of meals.  
 A. 19.—Not more than fourteen.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand six hundred.  
 A. 22.—They have not.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours at most.  
 A. 24.—We have no need of sets of children.  
 A. 25.—None, nor likely to be any as long as Government continues to allow French gloves to be imported.  
 A. 27.—Some years back, previous to the introduction of French gloves, but since then it has been difficult to find work, and sometimes half work, for them the usual hours.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 41.—None at all; it is difficult to find work in the day since French gloves have been introduced.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast and tea half an hour each, and dinner one hour.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Not any in particular.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—We have.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 67.—We do not know there has.  
 A. 77.—Not in the least.  
 A. 79.—We have to say that we hope Government will put a stop to the importation of French gloves, or we must lessen the quantity and price of work, which is now very short.

WILLIAM JONES &amp; SON.



## ANSWERS of JOSEPH &amp; SAMUEL BURLINGHAM, Worcester.

Worcestershire,

No. 105.

Messrs. Burlingham.

- A. 1.—In the parish of Saint Peter the Great (so called) in the city of Worcester.
- A. 2.—Closing the seams of boots and shoes, and cutting out the work ready for the work-people, who make it up at their own homes.
- A. 3.—The greater part of the building in which the manufactory is carried on has been erected a great many years, and a small part of it about twenty years ago.
- A. 4.—Neither steam nor water employed as a power; all manual labour.
- A. 5.—Partly by means of skylights, which are made to open or lift up altogether, by which means the rooms in which they are are most effectually ventilated.
- A. 6.—By the opening of doors, windows, and skylights.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of those employed in the different rooms.
- A. 8.—No machinery used.
- A. 9.—None; the nature of our business does not require any; most of the persons employed keep a coat and apron at the manufactory, which they put on and wear when at their work.
- A. 10.—Ten years of age; two have been employed as errand-boys, and one has worked in a rope-walk.
- A. 11.—It does, on account of its being less expensive; and the branch in which the children or boys are employed, that of closing the seams of boots and shoes, is light easy work, and best adapted for boys.
- A. 12.—No machinery used.
- A. 13.—One only at the present time.
- A. 14.—Apprenticed by his parent.
- A. 15.—None of the boys employed are orphans, and all of them lodge and board with their parents.
- A. 16.—The boys are placed under the superintendence of a foreman, who overlooks them and puts their work ready for them.
- A. 17.—From ten to eleven hours.
- A. 18.—From ten to eleven hours; no difference made as to age.
- A. 19.—Eleven hours and a half.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.
- A. 21.—Not more than three thousand two hundred and fifty-five.
- A. 22.—No difference; all going on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Ten hours and a half.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 25.—Very seldom, and only on occasions of getting a lot of goods in time for shipping.
- A. 26.—Unavoidable, from the time allowed for the execution of orders for shipping being often so limited.
- A. 27.—From the great depression in trade, the manufactory has not been carried on, in the average, quite so long each day as formerly.
- A. 28.—It makes no difference to us as regards machinery, none being used, but only as regards rent and taxes, which are the same as when the manufactory was carried on an average longer time, and more work done.
- A. 29.—No night-work nor change of hands.
- A. 37.—No reduction in the working hours at all necessary, or required by any of the workmen employed.
- A. 38.—Moderate; in summer the rooms are properly ventilated, and in winter suitably warmed by means of stoves.
- A. 39.—None required.
- A. 48.—None so employed.
- A. 50.—Candles and oil are used in the winter time when the days are short.
- A. 51.—No night-work.
- A. 53.—From half an hour to an hour.
- A. 54.—All leave their work at meal-times.
- A. 57.—They are dismissed if they do not conduct themselves properly, or spoil their work.
- A. 58.—Not in the manufactory.
- A. 59.—Sometimes, though very seldom, and then by their parents.
- A. 60, 61, & 62.—We never interfere between the parents and their children.
- A. 63.—The overlooker never inflicts corporal punishment, and, when occasion requires, makes his complaint against any boy to his employer; if the boy does not reform after repeated admonishing, he is then dismissed.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—No.
- A. 66.—Cannot make any selection applicable to this question.
- A. 67.—Not otherwise than what is natural from increase of years.
- A. 68.—None, no process in our manufactory being injurious.
- A. 73.—Are not competent to answer this query.
- A. 77.—We have no reason to suppose that our workpeople would be afraid to give evidence when called upon.
- A. 78.—None necessary in our line of business that we know of.

JOSEPH &amp; SAMUEL BURLINGHAM.



## ANSWERS of HENRY DAVIS, Worcester.

Worcestershire.

No. 106.

Henry Davis.

- A. 1.—Parish of St. Peter, city of Worcester.  
 A. 2.—Cutting, laying-out, and finishing gloves.  
 A. 3.—When erected unknown by the present occupier. First employed as a glove manufactory in 1824.  
 A. 4.—No steam; water regularly.  
 A. 5.—No other ventilation but windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows only.  
 A. 7.—Of all the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous machinery employed.  
 A. 9.—Unnecessary.  
 A. 10.—Nine or ten years.  
 A. 11.—Only as errand-boys.  
 A. 12.—Don't apply to the glove trade.  
 A. 13.—I employ three apprentices.  
 A. 14.—Not from parishes.  
 A. 15.—Maintain none.  
 A. 16.—None.  
 A. 17.—Fourteen hours, including meal-times.  
 A. 18.—Not any difference made.  
 A. 19.—Sixteen.  
 A. 20.—All, except Christmas-day and Sundays.  
 A. 21.—Impossible to tell, not keeping any account.  
 A. 22.—All open at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve.  
 A. 24.—Employ but one set all day.  
 A. 25.—When trade was very brisk, or when lazy.  
 A. 26.—Seldom any excess; when so, quite avoidable.  
 A. 27.—None.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—Less hours, less wages.  
 A. 39.—Glazing gloves, the only process which requires heat; can't tell the degree; never had a thermometer in.  
 A. 40.—Two.  
 A. 41.—Never later than ten to eleven o'clock.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—Candles.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 52.—None work after ten o'clock.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast; one hour dinner; half an hour tea.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 66.—Do not know any difference.  
 A. 67.—Much the same.  
 A. 68.—No injurious process.  
 A. 69.—No mill.

HENRY DAVIS.

## ANSWERS of RICHARD LOWE, Worcester.

No. 107.

Richard Lowe.

- A. 1.—Parish of St. Peter the Great, city of Worcester.  
 A. 2.—Cutting of gloves, grounding of leather, staining, &c.  
 A. 3.—Used as a manufactory about twelve years, and erected and enlarged at different times.  
 A. 4.—No steam used.  
 A. 5.—All good open windows.  
 A. 6.—Of course, it is more healthy, and they do as they please.  
 A. 7.—By their own will.  
 A. 8.—No part dangerous.  
 A. 9.—Have no necessity for either.  
 A. 10.—They begin to work about ten years old, some few as errand-boys, &c.  
 A. 11.—There are a many employed under twelve years with their parents at home, making gloves, &c.  
 A. 12.—I think it has made no difference in the glove trade, as it is mostly labour.  
 A. 13 & 14.—No.  
 A. 16.—The masters have nothing to do with them.  
 A. 17.—They work by the piece, and, of course, work as long as they like.  
 A. 18.—Same as above.

A. 19.



A. 19.—About twelve hours.

A. 20.—All, except Sundays and a few holidays.

A. 21.—As above.

A. 23.—About twelve hours.

A. 24.—I do not employ any.

A. 25.—Seldom exceeded, frequently otherwise, owing to the shameful introduction of French gloves.

A. 27.—When the glove trade was better, and we had some profit; but that is now shamefully taken away, by an unfair competition in French gloves.

A. 31.—Never employ any such.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—Have no night-work.

A. 37.—Ours are not bad hours; do not know other trades.

A. 38.—Ours is healthy.

A. 50.—Have none, except in winter, and then they leave work at eight o'clock.

A. 52.—About half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner.

A. 54.—Generally.

A. 55.—For general convenience.

A. 57.—Have none.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—They live in small tenements, and would live very comfortable but for the introduction of French gloves.

A. 66.—We have none employed from infancy.

A. 67.—Ours are generally healthy.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Have no mills.

A. 70.—No, I never keep a tommy shop, but some do, and I wish all those were made an example of; they injure the poor shamefully.

A. 71.—No.

A. 73.—Here are no mills.

A. 76.—Not quick enough with these tommy men.

A. 77.—Yes, for fear of losing their work, trade being very indifferent.

A. 79.—I should like to see those tommy shops stopped, as I think they are a great injury to the poor and likewise to the fair trader. I do not see that I can give any further information.

9th May 1833.

RICHARD LOWE.

Worcestershire.

Richard Lowe.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS PRICE, Worcester.

108.

Thomas Price.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Peter, city of Worcester.

A. 2.—Glove manufactory.

A. 5.—Windows, which open.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 10.—Have no children employed in the manufactory.

A. 11.—Does not require children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Eleven hours.

A. 23.—Ten to eleven.

A. 25.—At no time.

A. 27.—We worked more time before the introduction of French gloves.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast; one hour for dinner; half an hour tea.

A. 54.—All leave at meal-times.

A. 58.—Inflicted on none.

A. 64.—Never.

THOMAS PRICE.







## ADDENDA.

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### ESSEX.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. COURTAULD and Co., Braintree.

- A. 1.—Braintree, Bocking, and Halsted, Essex.
- A. 2.—Silk-throwing, weaving, dyeing, dressing, and mechanical.
- A. 3.—At Braintree, old buildings first employed by us in 1816; further buildings erected in 1826. At Bocking, Old Water Bay Mill converted by us in 1819; steam-power mills erected in 1828, 1830, and 1832. At Halsted, water-mill erected in 1825; steam-power factory in 1832.
- A. 4.—At Braintree, man power (five men). At Bocking, water; average eight horse power, falling to three horse power; steam, four horse power. At Halsted, water, eight horse power, falling to two horse power; steam, nine horse power.
- A. 5.—A number of small cowls along the roof, with sliding shutters, to close the ventilation when required, and abundance of windows.
- A. 6.—At the Halsted steam factory an extended ground floor with lofty ceiling, abundance of high windows all opening at top, with trap-doors in the ceiling and open shutters in the gables above, and steam pipes for winter; provide admirably for fresh air, and agreeable temperature.
- A. 7.—The convenience of the workpeople is the only consideration in regulating the heat and ventilation, and it is under the control of overseers.
- A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—Nothing further than means for washing in those departments of the business connected with delicate colours requiring especial cleanliness in the people.
- A. 10 & 11.—We do not wish to employ any children under twelve; when we do so, it is at the solicitation of themselves or their friends, when we sometimes consent to employ them as young as seven or eight years, and occasionally, but not commonly, find children of these ages earn their wages as well as older hands.
- A. 12.—Our patent original machinery requires in a throwing-mill a larger proportion of skilful hands, and consequently admits of a smaller proportion of very young children.
- A. 13.—Among the mechanics only.
- A. 14.—Self-apprenticed.
- A. 15.—No hands lodged or maintained by us.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours net work by day, or ten hours and a half net work by night.
- A. 18.—The same hours for all.
- A. 19.—Generally our throwing-mills, *i. e.* the twisting-machines, work constantly, night and day, stopping only at meals. (Formerly, when the mills did not work through the night, it was usual to work them three hours over-time.) All other works keep constant time of twelve hours.
- A. 20.—The whole number; less a few days of customary holiday.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 26.—The adoption of night-work, with a double set of hands, has superseded over-time for any.
- A. 27.—Formerly the over-time hands, say about one tenth of the whole number, made fifteen hours.
- A. 28.—Night-work is perhaps cheaper than over-time, although we usually thought more work was done in the over-time hours than in the earlier part of the day.
- A. 29.—A double set of hands is quite inappropriate as a means of providing for a few hours of over-time, which the circumstances of a business may require in some of its branches. Where regular night-work is established a double set is obviously necessary, and a master can have no inducement to attempt to do without it.
- A. 30.—Twelve hours has always been recognized in this neighbourhood; this time has not been limited.

B. 1.

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Essex.

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No. 109.

*Samuel Courtauld.*

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Essex.

*Samuel Courtauld.*

A. 31 & 32.—It would be impossible to obtain a double set of hands upon an emergency requiring over-time in some department; and if as a permanent arrangement a double set were provided in such department for the sake of one fourth over-time, either the hands must be content to receive less than two thirds their usual wages, or the master must pay three hands in full for doing the ordinary and easy work of two.

A. 33.—One set begin their day at half past five in the morning and conclude it at half past six in the evening; another set take the intervening hours of night. Thus the day comprehends thirteen hours, and the night eleven hours.

A. 34.—A capital of say 12,000*l.* is invested in the building, machinery, and works of the spinning department of the general business. In this department say thirty-five hands keep employed; in the various other departments, of winding, weaving, &c. say seven hundred hands. If a double set of spinners were not kept, either one half the total number of hands must be discharged, and the business correspondently reduced, or another 12,000*l.* must be invested, merely to employ these thirty-five hands by day instead of night.

A. 35.—It is always optional with the hands to give up night-work for day-work when they please. At one factory the sets are changed every week; at another it is thought preferable to allow the night-hands to continue such for considerable periods, conceiving that perpetual change prevents their so well accommodating themselves to the unusual periods for meals and rest. Night-work is generally preferred by the hands, on account of the afternoon of leisure it affords them from one o'clock in the day, when they usually rise, until half past six in the evening, when they go to work.

A. 36.—The condition of our trade holds out no inducement to us to double our crape and other spinning works. If night-work in them were prohibited, the effect must therefore be to diminish our crape and other manufacturing business by one half. Several hundred families now employed by us in hand-loom and half our factory children must be discharged, and all this for the sake of denying some thirty-five young women a work they prefer to any other they can get.

A. 37.—Twelve hours net work in our business, under the favourable circumstances of very light employment in no sedentary or fixed position, in a pure atmosphere, of which the temperature is regulated solely in reference to the comfort of the children, is certainly found perfectly consistent with the health and spirits of the children. A reduction of the working hours would therefore reduce in absolutely the same proportion the amount of business done in a given establishment; and as all current charges would remain the same, the cost of production would be larger upon the smaller return, even if it be supposed that wages were also reduced in proportion to the reduced hours, to the great distress of the workpeople themselves.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is perhaps about 50° to 60° in winter, and 60° to 75° in summer, according to the circumstances of particular buildings. From 50° to 60° is the most favourable to the condition of the fabric; below 40° is decidedly unfavourable.

A. 39.—Except in drying-stoves, a high temperature is not required in any process.

A. 41.—The crape and marrabout spinning constantly.

A. 42.—Sixty, a few more or less.

A. 43.—Ten hours and a half.

A. 44.—Thirty-five; two or three more or less.

A. 45.—From half past six at night until half past five in the morning.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By candles or vegetable oil lamps, and oil or resin gas.

A. 51.—None in particular.

A. 52.—The effects are in many respects favourable, as compared with day hands, whose leisure time is all thrown into the late hours of evening. The best and best-conducted hands and females only are selected for night-work; they have more leisure time than the day set by two hours, and it is all thrown into the early afternoon hours. When disorderly persons are filling the streets, the night sets are steadily at their work. In point of fact, our night-hands are quite as steady and respectable as any other.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast and half an hour at dinner.

A. 54.—All may, and most do; it depends on the state of the weather, and their inclination at the time.

A. 57.—A regular system of forfeits and rewards the stimulus of piece-work, and dismissal in the last resort.

A. 58.—No.

A. 60.—Formerly something like a system of slight chastisements, connected with a system of task-work, was adopted, but the gradual though very obvious improvement in the conduct of the people has rendered corporal punishments unnecessary, and for several years they have been wholly superseded by piece-work, forfeits, and rewards.

A. 66.—This inquiry has led us to prick off the best and best conducted hands in our service, and we find a singularly large proportion of these have been employed by us from the earliest age at which any have been taken. In the booking sheets these hands are distinguished by a cross against their names.

A. 67.—I think the orderly and industrious habits introduced with our manufacture into this neighbourhood, and the better food and clothing obtained by its means, have been gradually improving the health of the class employed. Intermittent fevers, and scrofulous affections used, I think, to be very much more prevalent among our children twelve or fifteen years since than they are now; but I have not the present means of ascertaining the fact.

A. 68.



A. 68.—There is no injurious process to require such change.

A. 69.—I believe it is not.

A. 79.—In answer to this inquiry, I beg to observe generally, that if any circumstances can justify legislative interference between workpeople and their employers, they must at least be such as make out an undeniable and strong case of hardship and wrong. Now as respects the silk trade, certainly no such case can be made out. Mr. Sadler founds his case upon the broad assumption that more than ten hours employment in factory is necessarily inconsistent with the health and comfort of children, and his evidence goes to show that the attempt to keep children employed for a longer period necessarily involves much harshness and severity to urge them to exertions continued beyond their strength. Now as respects our silk factories, there is not the slightest foundation for such a position. No children among the poor in this neighbourhood are more healthy than those employed in factories, as none are so well fed and clothed. Their employment cannot be called labour; and so far is it from being necessary to use any severity to rouse their flagging powers at the close of the day, that all our overseers would testify that at no part of the day is there more cheerfulness, and at no time is the work better done, than after the lamps are lit of an evening. A certificate of the healthfulness of the silk-factory children, was signed last year for Sadler's committee (but which he managed should never reach them) by the several clergymen, dissenting ministers, magistrates, surgeons, guardians, and overseers of the poor, of the three parishes. Then, as to night-work, it is perfectly voluntary, and is so managed as to be sought for by the day-hands, for the greater leisure time and better earnings it affords them. It is not injurious to their health or unfavourable to their morals; and to prevent the night-work of about thirty-five hands would stop half our business, and reduce to most severe distress several hundred families now regularly employed in it. Almost all the children work by the piece or by the pound; coercion or corporal punishment of any kind is unknown; dismissal is the utmost severity practised; they seek the employment and are benefited by it. Is it possible to imagine any thing in legislation more uncalled for and unwarrantable than laws to prevent their working as their interest and their necessities prompt them to do? No legislation is called for by the circumstances of the silk trade, and any interference must be mischievous both to masters and servants; but if, in reference to popular excitement, delusion, or otherwise, it be thought something must be done, I would respectfully lay before the commissioners the following statement of the extent to which I consider legislative interference might be carried, without essentially injuring the workpeople or their employers in this neighbourhood. That no children should be employed in factories under ten years of age; that none under seventeen years be permitted to work more than twelve hours (net work) out of the twenty-four, or to be employed as night-hands; that none should be permitted to work by night more than alternate weeks, and that all corporal punishments should be interdicted. Finally, I testify that the real hardship of the labouring poor here is rather the want of adequate employment than its severity; and the really painful task of a master manufacturer is the daily necessity of refusing employment to numbers of famishing applicants; and the factory hours are comparatively few, and the factory employment is light; but the hand-weavers at their own homes sit in a confined posture for many more hours, their appearance is pallid and overwrought, and they are really entitled to the most benevolent consideration, and their cry and just demand is for cheap bread. May the wisdom of the legislature grant them this effectual relief.

Essex.

Samuel Courtauld.

#### OBSERVATIONS ON A BILL to regulate the LABOUR of CHILDREN and YOUNG PERSONS in MILLS and FACTORIES.

It must be premised that the following observations upon this Bill are made in reference to its bearing upon the silk trade only; whether any of its clauses may be desirable or necessary for the protection or the improvement in the condition of children engaged in cotton, flax, or any other branch of manufacture, the interests of which are affected by the provisions of this Bill, is a question which it is not intended to approach, excepting so far as general views of the impolicy and injustice of legislative interference with the terms of employment and rate of wages between masters and their workpeople must be applicable to all.

Legislative interference in the arrangement and conduct of business is always injurious, tending to check improvement and to increase the cost of production, and can only be justified by absolute necessity: before such interference is proposed a very strong case should be made out, which, as regards the silk trade, has not, and it is believed cannot, be done. It is most unjust to assume that an evil does exist, and then proceed to enforce a remedy highly injurious to the manufacturer, and oblige him to prove a negative.

In 1816 an attempt was made to apply to silk mills the regulations which were thought necessary in cotton establishments. Evidence was then produced proving that the same necessity did not exist in the former case; that the occupation was perfectly innoxious, the labour light and suitable for children; that their health was not affected, nor their constitutions at all impaired; and that they grew up as robust and vigorous as persons engaged in the ordinary avocations of life; and in consequence of such evidence the silk manufacture was exempted from the operation of the Bill.

In the operation of silk-throwing the employment (particularly of the younger hands, which consists in merely tying broken threads together,) is as light as possible, and labour



Essex.

*Samuel Courtauld.*

it cannot be termed. So far as muscular exertion is required, a child is as competent to perform it as a grown-up person. Nor has it any tendency to cramp the energies either of mind or body; no constrained or uneasy position or attitude is necessary; in performing the work the limbs are all at perfect liberty; nor is the attention so intensely exerted that the mind of the child is at all fatigued. In the working of cotton deleterious particles are liable to be thrown off, and a damp and high temperature is necessary, which perhaps renders it in some degree an unhealthy employment; but this is not at all the case as regards silk, the fibre of which is perfectly compact; and the temperature of the factories is regulated merely with reference to the comfort and feelings of the workpeople. In fact silk is worked to greater advantage in a moderate temperature, and the mills and factories are therefore well ventilated.

Another and important circumstance which distinguishes silk from many other descriptions of mills is the perfect cleanliness that is requisite to be maintained, both of person and premises, in order to preserve the beauty of the material. This applies to the operation of throwing and weaving, and is highly favourable to the comfort and health, and has at least a tendency to improve also the morals of the persons employed.

The regulations and restrictions introduced into this Bill are vexatious, embarrassing, and arbitrary, peculiarly inapplicable to silk, and if carried into operation would be very injurious to masters and workpeople.

The clauses limiting the time of working to ten hours, the prescribing when those hours shall commence and terminate, the time to be allowed for meals, and particularly the declaring the hands shall work only eight hours on Saturday, are most arbitrary interferences between master and workpeople. Some mills begin working at half past five in the morning, others at six, seven, or in the winter-time even so late as eight o'clock. And this variation depends not wholly upon the season of the year, but frequently upon the distance of the mills or factories from the residences of the greater part of the hands; and if this be considerable, it is in every respect better and more agreeable to the children to commence their work at a later hour in the winter, which by the provision of this Bill they will not be permitted to do.

The limitation of the hours of labour is peculiarly inapplicable to silk-mills. In the operation of throwing, the silk passes through several distinct processes, and as many different sets of hands; and from the endless variety in the size, quality, and facility of the working of the silk, it is impossible so to adjust the various processes as to keep them exactly balanced; and consequently it is necessary frequently to work one department longer than another, in order to keep employed the hands engaged in the following process, who would otherwise be losing time. This injury is greatly aggravated in cases where the throwster is also a manufacturer, and weaves the produce of his mills; for being prevented from so working his mills as to produce a uniform supply, he could not employ his looms with any regularity, and his weavers would be perpetually stopping for want of silk.

Interference and restriction increase the cost of production. It is notorious that at the present moment every branch of the silk trade experiences the greatest difficulty in competing with the foreign manufacturer; and the present Bill, by increasing the cost of production, will evidently increase that difficulty, and, in fact, probably throw them altogether out of the market.

The average time that machinery is worked in silk-mills may be taken at twelve hours per diem, or seventy-two hours per week; the Bill limits the time to fifty-eight hours per week, being a diminution of nearly one fifth; consequently the returns of silk-throwsters are decreased twenty per cent., and of course a correspondent increase of cost occasioned.

This decrease of return is most particularly injurious where silk manufacturers throw their own silk, as they will be thereby prevented from supplying more than four fifths of their present establishment of looms, and the remaining one fifth must immediately be stopped.

If it be supposed that the rate of wage will be reduced in proportion to the decrease of labour, the reduction will be twenty per cent., and application to the parish must be made to make up the difference; if, on the contrary, the rate of wage will remain the same, although the product of the labour is decreased, it is manifest the cost of labour will be increased twenty per cent., and so far increase the difficulties of the throwster and manufacturer, his returns being decreased, and his cost of labour being increased twenty per cent.

The Bill will defeat its object, for its tendency is to increase the operation of the causes which have occasioned the evils complained of, because the present depression of the working population is occasioned by a want of demand for their labour; the operation of the Bill is to increase this evil. It not only opens no new field for labour, but injures those already existing; and while the cause of the evil is the want of demand for labour, it actually diminishes that demand, and thereby aggravates the evil it is intended to remedy. For nothing can be clearer than that restriction upon any branch of manufacture increases the cost of production, which immediately occasions decreased consumption, and consequently a decreased demand for the labour which is employed in such production.

These observations were made upon the Bill brought forward by Mr. Sadler, and probably may not entirely apply to all the details of the present Bill, but substantially they do, and they may be considered as a reply to Q. 79.

SAMUEL COURTAULD.



## ANSWERS of GEORGE HENRY HOLAH, Resident Superintendent, Braintree.

Essex.

No. 110.

George H. Holah.

- A. 1.—Braintree, Essex.  
 A. 2.—Silk-throwing.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1810, and continued working since that time.  
 A. 4.—Worked by water with regular and constant power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—From the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All machinery considered dangerous, and within reach of the hands, is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—They are provided with soap, and every convenience for washing themselves, also drying their clothes if wet.  
 A. 10.—Formerly seven years of age, but none are now employed under nine, many of whom have previously been engaged in lace tambouring and straw plaiting.  
 A. 11.—Children are more preferable at nine than twelve years of age for silk employment; they in general make better hands, and sooner become accustomed to the employment and discipline of a silk-mill; between the ages of nine and twelve years their hands have become hardened, and their fingers frequently distorted, from domestic service.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—No children are lodged and maintained.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours per day.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours per day; no difference for age.  
 A. 19.—Not more than twelve hours any day.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and three days and a half.  
 A. 22.—The spinning and throwing mills continue working during meals, but without the attendance of the hands.  
 A. 23 & 24.—Twelve hours per day.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 37.—Reduction of wages to the persons employed; diminished quantity of work done; while standing expenses of rent, &c. remain the same, and therefore increased cost.  
 A. 38.—The temperature is regulated solely by the comfort of the hands. A moderate temperature is best adapted to the work.  
 A. 39.—A hot-air room, heated by a stove, is used to dry the silk on the reels, but it is attended by one man only, and is distinct from other parts of the mill.  
 A. 50.—Oil and candles during the twelve hours of day-time when there is not sufficient natural light.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and half an hour for dinner, for all.  
 A. 54.—All that choose leave the mill during meal-times, and those who take their meals in the mill have opportunities of exercise on the premises in the open air.  
 A. 57.—Reproof, disgrace, and forfeit of wages.  
 A. 58.—Slight correction, such as an occasional box on the ear.  
 A. 59.—By the female overlookers.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Three adults and two children live in the cottages of their employers, but are not under any superintendence when out of the mill.  
 A. 66.—I am fully convinced that those who commence the business of a silk-mill in infancy are more skilful than those who begin later; that there are not more than six hands who began after eleven years of age.  
 A. 67.—Since 1825 six hands have died of consumption, and two of other disorders up to 1831. From 1831 to 1833 four have died of consumption and two of brain fever, during which time more than four hundred hands have been on the books; and the ague and scarlet fever have prevailed in the town and neighbourhood.  
 A. 68.—There are no injurious processes in the mill.  
 A. 69.—No.  
 A. 79.—The employment of a silk-mill requires cleanliness, and is favourable to health. There is no dust, or effluvia, or loose particles arising from it, as is the case in cotton-mills; and the chief exertion required is in standing to their work. Besides two carpenters, two labourers, and the superintendent, only females are employed.

GEORGE HENRY HOLAH.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HALL, Abbey Silk-mills, Coggeshall.

No. 111.

John Hall.

- A. 1.—Little Coggeshall, Essex, Abbey Silk-mills.  
 A. 2.—Silk-throwing.  
 A. 3.—The original mill supplied the Abbey with flour in King Stephen's time; was rebuilt by Mr. White in 1773, and used as a fulling-mill; enlarged by Thomas Sawyer and John Hall in 1818, and converted into a silk-mill.  
 A. 4.—Water-power, very irregular; in winter eight horse night and day; in summer frequently obliged to stop for six hours in a day. Have added a steam-engine, ten horse power.  
 A. 5.—Pipes are constructed to pass from the upper room through the roof. The windows  
 (APP.—B. 1.) Q 4



Essex.

John Hall.

windows all open as required, and have many tin ventilators which regulate themselves according to the heat of the rooms.

A. 6.—The opening of windows are the best and principal means.

A. 7.—The ventilation is attended to by the overlookers, and is at the discretion of any hand in the mill to admit or exclude air.

A. 8.—The shafting is all under cover, except the main shafting, which is seven feet high.

A. 9.—I have a convenient room for the hands to exchange or dry their clothes, warmed by steam. Cisterns and sinks in each room for the hands to wash at three times a day. Introduced in 1826.

A. 10.—Nine years of age is the time I fix to receive children into the mill; but some parents, who have large families, state they cannot keep them at home after they are eight; they become so desirous of coming to the mill with their sisters, that I am induced to take them nine hours per day.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require children under twelve years of age, provided we could get a supply at and above that age.

A. 12.—I think not; but a child at ten or eleven can do as much work as one at twelve, and being satisfied with less wages, induces throwsters to give them employment.

A. 13.—No, not one.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain one. Those who come too far to walk home to sleep, their parents procure them lodgings in the town, and come frequently to see they are comfortable. If orphans, the parish officers pay for their lodgings, and see to them weekly.

A. 16.—Every one is attended to, either by parents or the overseers of the poor.

A. 17.—Those who work by day eleven hours and a half; those who work by night ten hours and a half.

A. 18.—All who work by day begin and end at the same time, and work eleven hours and a half, except a few instances when they are sent in under nine years of age, or are at all out of health, then they come after breakfast, and make nine hours.

A. 19.—We work day and night regularly from September to April, Saturday and Sunday night excepted. The water then falls short; after which night-work depends partly upon rain.

A. 20.—About three hundred and five days, and about two hundred nights.

A. 21.—About ten thousand.

A. 22.—Every department goes on regularly together from six o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock at night (except meal-times). At seven an entire fresh set of hands come in, all above seventeen years of age, who work the mills only, or the last process.

A. 23.—About eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Eleven and a half.

A. 25.—Have not had occasion to exceed the regular hours.

A. 26.—There is no occasion to work children beyond the fixed hours; it can easily be avoided, either by increasing the hands and machinery upon the first operation, or by purchasing prime good working silks, so that the supply of bobbins may equal or exceed the demand of the drawers, or second operation, and so on. It is bad management alone that makes it necessary to work the youngest class over time.

A. 27.—Have made no alteration.

A. 28.—I do consider that the reduction of working-hours must enhance the value of a given quantity; but not in the same ratio.

A. 29.—Ignorance and avarice; but the man who tries the experiment pays dearly for it. If children are worked beyond their strength, they make bad work and double waste. This system fills the market with a bad finished article, and is generally sold at a low price, which has a bad effect upon the whole trade.

A. 30.—I have made no alteration as yet in my hours of work. My calculation is this; if my week is reduced from sixty-nine hours to sixty hours, making allowance for candle, coals, &c., my wages will be increased ten per cent. Wages are about one third of the cost of producing one pound of fine organzine silk, say at 6s. upon the cost of the raw, it will add 3d. per pound to the price. If the supply is decreased by short hours, the prices would advance 6d. at least.

A. 31.—There surely cannot be a man existing who would not prefer two sets of hands to one, where extra hours are required. I presume the extra hands are not to be got.

A. 32.—I expect a change of hands are tried in every mill, provided they can be procured.

A. 33.—I employ all my power by day, so as to prepare a supply of bobbins for the mills at night. The mills require only a few old hands to superintend them; and water-power being cheap is my only inducement to work at night.

A. 34.—I do not comprehend this Query, unless it means a set by day and a set by night; if so, to increase the supply.

A. 35.—My night set work uniformly. Should any one wish to change, I find no difficulty in filling up her place. The fifty per cent. extra wages given for night-work induces plenty to accept it in preference to day-work.

A. 36.—At the present profits upon throwing I can barely produce a sufficient quantity of work to cover my outgoings; if my present quantity of production is reduced from 25,000l. to 20,000l. my mill would be ruined, and bankruptcy ensue, unless the advance took place mentioned in A. 30.

A. 37.—It is my sincere opinion that if the working hours are at all under sixty, many throwsters who have the means will remove to the opposite coast.



Essex.

John Hall.

A. 38.—A moderate temperature is the best for silk work; 50° to 60°; either too hot or too cold makes the silk brittle.

A. 39.—If too warm the gum flies off and we lose weight; if too cold, say at freezing, the thread is brittle and makes much waste.

A. 40.—Not applicable to silk throwing.

A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—I do not employ any children at night-work.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—By obtaining high wages they dress more; in other respects we perceive no difference.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, three quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—It is optional; if fine nearly all go out; if wet many take their meals in and about the mill.

A. 55.—The moment the machinery stops the hands are at liberty to do as they think most comfortable, to go home or stop in or about the mill.

A. 56.—If it is fine my hands all leave the mill.

A. 57.—I give rewards to every hand employed every Monday morning, according to the report of conduct the preceding week,—five, ten, fifteen, up to thirty per cent. advance upon the wages stated; which has the effect of keeping them all regular and well conducted, as their parents allow them to set this apart for clothes, and pocket-money for their own use.

A. 58.—Occasionally.

A. 59.—By foreman only; he is the overlooker; I have one to each room.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—Both.

A. 62.—No.

A. 63.—My instructions upon this matter are given so frequently in the hearing of all employed, that no copy is necessary. I allow nothing but a small strap to be used, and never allow a child to be touched except across the shoulders: if an overlooker was to strike a child upon the head I should discharge him. It is the disgrace of the punishment, and not the severity of it, that has the best effect.

A. 64.—Not one since the mill was established.

A. 65.—Not one.

A. 66.—It is a fact that those who commence about ten years of age always make the best hands.

A. 67.—The health of the children is generally improved; we do not average two deaths to one hundred children employed in the mill per annum for the last five years; regular employment; good bread; cheap clothing; the poor laws liberally administered in the parish; several good charities; the cottages mostly roomy and very clean, well stocked with flour and pork; dress neat and always clean; surprises all strangers who visit us. Previous to our establishing the silk-mill the parish was deeply in debt, the poor children in rags, miserable looking wretches, more like an Irish than an English village.

A. 68.—All processes in the silk-throwing business are equally healthy. The winders and drawers all stand; my mill girls all sit; sitting agrees better with one than another, so we accommodate them in that way.

A. 69.—I never saw any Act that relates to my mill; I never had occasion to inquire for one.

A. 77.—Not at all should a case occur to require it.

A. 78.—I do not consider myself so competent as those who have already taken this matter in hand to say how obedience is to be enforced; my opinion is, that in case the time is reduced below sixty hours per week, wages will be so reduced that the masters and workpeople will all join to break the enactment, and the law will be a dead letter. Should Saturday be limited to six or eight hours, my works shall never move on that day. I shall engage all my hands to work by day instead of by week, and having no competition for their labour, what are the people to do? I am favourable to a time bill, but am not aware of any advantage children can derive from mixing in the crowd on Saturday's market, having others to market for them.

JOHN HALL.

## ANSWERS of STEPHEN BROWN, Colchester.

No. 112.

Stephen Brown.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Martin's, borough of Colchester.

A. 2.—Silk-throwing.

A. 3.—Built 1825–1826, commenced work July 1826, gradually increased and completed in 1828, enlarged 1832, 1833.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of twenty-four horses power.

A. 5.—There is no other provision afforded for the ventilation of the rooms save that of the windows, which, being numerous, afford the best and only effectual means of ventilation.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows.

(APP.—B.1.)

R

A. 7.



Essex.

Stephen Brown.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the overlooker, who adds to or diminishes therefrom at the will or caprice of the workwomen.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are all fenced off.

A. 9.—The arrangements for the health and convenience of those employed consist of suitable places for adding to or diminishing the quantity of clothes, with a constant supply of good fresh water with which to wash as often as occasion may require, such arrangements having date with the erection of the mill.

A. 10.—I profess to take no child below ten years of age, although frequently deceived by parents, whose anxiety to place them to the work is such as to induce them very frequently to mis-state their age.

A. 11.—Children require to be taught as early as ten years of age to make good and efficient hands at the different processes as they advance in years.

A. 12.—Recent alterations in machinery have had no effect either way.

A. 13 & 14.—No.

A. 15.—I lodge and maintain none; but those who are orphans are at stated periods properly attended to by the parish officers of the parish to which they may belong, whose duty it is to see their wants supplied and morals protected.

A. 16.—Every child is properly attended to by either parents, guardians, or parish officer.

A. 17.—Twelve are the stated number of hours by day, and ten and a half by night.

A. 18.—Twelve hours, and no difference made unless under peculiar circumstances, such as indisposition or other casualties.

A. 19.—There have been twenty-two hours made in an extreme case, but such very seldom happens.

A. 20.—About three hundred and eleven days.

A. 21.—About three thousand seven hundred and fifty, including nights, may be the hours which the women have worked; and about three thousand four hundred for that of children.

A. 22.—Every department commences with seven o'clock in winter and six in summer, and terminate after twelve hours labour.

A. 23.—About eleven hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—Never exceed the usual number of hours for day labour.

A. 26.—Nothing but bad management could ever occasion it.

A. 27.—Owing to the variations in the different filatures of silk it has sometimes happened that I have been obligated to work a greater number of hours at one particular process, to keep pace with the other processes of throwing.

A. 28.—The cost is enhanced, but not in the same ratio.

A. 29.—The inducement to continue the same hands throughout the process both by day and night arises out of the great uncertainty of their being regularly required at night, and the casualty of good or bad silk being about to be worked requiring more or less at one process; besides the great desire to admit of hands belonging to the establishment earning all they can by over-time.

A. 30.—The increase in the cost of production from the limitation of hours of work is greatly enhanced in all the branches of silk-throwing, in the proportion of such limitation, it being usual that each branch should be only so far extended as to keep pace with the others, or as near as possible.

A. 31.—The objection to question 31 arises out of the great uncertainty of the hands being constantly required, thereby rendering their earnings of too great uncertainty to induce them to hold themselves in readiness to form relays of working hands.

A. 32.—Children are never employed by me over and above the usual twelve hours day-work; extra hours in night employment is confined to women.

A. 33.—I employ no two sets of hands; those women who are occasionally required by night work also by day.

A. 34.—One set of hands only being required, it becomes unnecessary to enhance the expence by having two; besides my anxiety to admit of every hand earning all she can to induce her to continue at the work, and become a more efficient workwoman.

A. 35.—A limited number of hands work by night, and those women only with whom there is a partial change with day-workwomen.

A. 36.—The effect on the present very distressed state of silk-throwing would be so to lessen the profits as to render those engaged in it incapable of competing with the Italian throwster.

A. 37.—The effect, in my opinion, would be to annihilate many an industrious throwster, and to throw the numerous hands depending upon him for employment upon the poor's rate.

A. 38.—About 60°; much above or below renders silk difficult to work with advantage.

A. 41.—About thirty.

A. 42.—Not any.

A. 50.—By candles and gas.

A. 51.—None, save what the windows afford.

A. 52.—No effects are visible, as far as I am enabled to form an opinion, save that of dress.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast and fifty minutes at dinner.

A. 54.



A. 54.—Nearly all leave the premises, the only exception being those who come from a distance and provided with their meals on coming to their work in the morning.

A. 55.—Those who do not study their own convenience of taking with them in the morning their meals, or otherwise, the regulations of my mill making it an optional point to be settled by themselves.

A. 56.—I am not aware that it would produce any effect either way.

A. 57.—Forfeits and withholding rewards, which latter is a gift for good conduct, in case their deserving it, at the end of the week, and is given or withheld at the option of the overlooker.

A. 58.—Never, with my knowledge or sanction.

A. 62.—I forbid them under any circumstances, and have never been made acquainted with any such having taken place.

A. 63.—My instructions are general and verbatim, to inflict no corporal punishment.

A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made against myself, foreman, or overlookers.

A. 65.—The workpeople occupy no houses belonging to me.

A. 66.—Children of tender years are more easily taught, and, having their minds early engaged in the work, become more efficient hands, than those taken in at a later period of life.

A. 67.—The hands employed at my mill are and have always been, from the commencement of its going to work, generally strong, healthy, and robust, and remarks to that effect are constantly being made by the neighbouring magistrates, clergy, and gentry, who occasionally visit my mill: I can ascribe it only to the healthful state of my rooms, where, in the winter months, the poor children are well protected from the inclemency of the weather, and are happy in having such an asylum from their miserable dwellings.

A. 68.—Every process in my mill is healthy, and requires no change in the employment of the hands.

A. 69.—I know of no Act of Parliament which has reference to the regulations of my mill, and am of opinion there will never be required one to regulate its internal government.

A. 77.—Never having been placed in a situation to form an opinion, I cannot say, but should answer generally, I do not think they are in any fear of displeasing me.

STEPHEN BROWN.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. WITTS and RODICK, Pebmarsh Silk-mill.

No. 113.

Messrs.  
Witts & Rodick.

A. 1.—Pebmarsh Silk-mill, Essex, gives employ to women and children, who bring home at the end of the week the means of support to their families, whilst the wages given by farmers during part of that period were insufficient for their maintenance.

A. 2.—Trams, organzeen, and mirabout.

A. 3.—In 1800 erected a silk-mill, formerly a flour-mill; the power of water used to grind corn. The building was erected in 1800 as it now is, except in 1823 a steam-engine was added.

A. 4.—Both water and steam. If the power of water is sufficient, steam is not used; but when water is short, steam is applied, as great irregularity in the supply of our water-power occurs at certain seasons of the year.

A. 5.—A perfect arrangement for ventilation by valves at the east and west end of the ceiling (which is lofty).

A. 6.—Does not depend on opening of windows.

A. 7.—By foreman and overlookers.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts of the machinery are inclosed.

A. 9.—Personal cleanliness is indispensable; much attention is paid to neatness in dress. They have an opportunity to change their clothes, or to dry them at the stove if necessary. In the entry they can hang up their cloaks, bonnets, and umbrellas. They have access to a constant supply of a fountain of water on the premises.

A. 10.—A few eight years old, but generally not taken till ten or twelve years old; most of our children belong to agricultural families. No other trade is carried on in our village but this silk-mill.

A. 11.—Children of ten or twelve years of age are more handy and sooner instructed to handle silk than older persons who have been employed in field-labour, &c.; and we find parents object to come to work unless we consent also to employ their girls, who, if left at home, would either get into mischief, or must be paid for to have care taken of them.

A. 13.—We did employ twenty-four apprentices; since an Act of Parliament limited the distance we discontinued apprentices.

A. 14.—Mile End and Lambeth.

A. 15.—Some orphans, and were visited by their relations and by the parish officers occasionally, and reports made half-yearly. The resident minister of the parish often visits them.

A. 16.—A matron, housekeeper, and a foreman.

A. 17.—Uncertain; their employ is regulated by circumstances; viz., a sudden decrease of water, a proper supply of the raw materials, a forward or retarded state of some part of the process of winding, &c., and other circumstances connected with machinery too numerous to detail.

(APP.—B. 1.)

R 2

A. 18.



Essex.

Messrs.

Watts &amp; Rodick.

A. 18.—Thirteen hours, deducting two hours for meals.

A. 19.—All day and night a part of the machinery; but the winding part never at night.

A. 20.—All the year, except Sundays, Christmas-day, and other holidays.

A. 25.—When there occurs an excess or a deficiency in any particular process of machinery, viz. winding, spinning, or doubling.

A. 26.—Excess beyond the usual hours is with us unavoidable occasionally, in order to forward one process, to relieve another process of throwing; and such excess is voluntary and always coveted by the hands, as they are paid for such extra employ.

A. 27.—We only worked our silk-mill during the day formerly, and often were compelled to shorten our hours for want of water; but since we added steam-power, and since the import duty has been reduced on foreign thrown silks, we have been compelled in self-defence to use more exertions to enable us to remunerate our outlay, which has been expensive, and have worked part by night by a small number of hands, who are generally married women or adults, and those changed as stated in A. 33 and 42.

A. 28.—The competition of the foreign throwster would ruin us, and deprive all our hands of employ, as our parish has no other employ for women and girls.

A. 29.—Certainly, in all branches, to a great extent. See A. 26.

A. 30.—Limitation of hours of work, or rather of employ, would be an additional expence in all processes of throwing silk, for expensive machinery would be idle when water-power is abundant (for which rent is paid), which rent is a per-centage on all silk that is thrown.

A. 31.—At Pebmarsh the population is not superabundant for our employ; to induce fresh hands to settle would not be practicable; cottages wanted, and the land-owners set themselves against an increase.

A. 32.—This would not answer with us; but young children are never required for our night-work.

A. 33.—Night-hands begin to work one hour after the day-hands leave work.

A. 35.—Change occasionally when requested to do so.

A. 36.—Our machinery would not be productive now foreign competition is so increased by the reduction of the protective duty on throwing; our water-power would run to waste; in all probability it would cause us to shut up the mill.

A. 37.—Any legislative interference (beyond the common law of the land) with the employ of persons in so easy, clean, and healthy a business as a silk-mill, would injure a manufacture at present unable to repay the cost of machinery. It would also render the hands insubordinate.

A. 38.—From 56° to 70°.

A. 39.—The silk-throwing does not require a higher degree of heat than 55°.

A. 40.—Varying from one hundred and forty to one hundred and fifty.

A. 41.—Most part of the year.

A. 42.—Six children and six women.

A. 43.—Three of each from eight to one o'clock; three of each from one to six.

A. 45.—Five hours.

A. 46.—Occasionally for weeks the spinning and throwing mills require continuous work with very few hands to attend them during the night.

A. 47.—During the whole day, with the exception of meal-times.

A. 48.—Seventeen to forty years of age.

A. 49.—To compete with the foreigner, and to make the most use of the power of water when we have abundance. See A. 26.

A. 50.—By candle; burning oil injures silk.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 52.—As healthy as others, and is the employ most desired, being best paid.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour each meal; the leaving off and settling again takes up nearly half an hour each time.

A. 54.—Many do, but some bring their food with them, and in winter sit round the warm air pipes to eat their meal, or in summer sit out in the open air to eat their food, and afterwards engage in some active game of play; all persons use their own discretion except apprentices, who regularly go to the cottage where they reside, and sit down to their three meals daily, and after eating play about in the open air, if they like, till the bell rings.

A. 57.—Trifling fines, or withholding rewards to apprentices, or a degrading dress.

A. 58.—Never before 1830, except a box on the ear; since, a cane the size of a quarter of an inch diameter has been used by the foreman very seldom, to excite attention; now that system has been discontinued.

A. 62.—We have that confidence in our foreman that we always left it to his discretion, and he has exercised it with judgment and humanity; any instances we witnessed ourselves being so trifling, we have sanctioned it rather than forbid it.



A. 63.—We have never had occasion by writing to give instruction to our overlooker or foreman on this subject, as in repeated conversations we found they coincided with our views of humanity and discipline.

A. 64.—In thirty years, once for cutting off ornamental curls of hair as a punishment for disobedience and theft.

A. 65.—Apprentices have a cottage to reside in, with a matron to superintend, and alternately some of these children are employed to do part of the household and domestic work, to enable them to be useful to themselves in future life, when out of their time. They all are taught to read, and their catechism, hymns, and prayers, and twice each Sunday attend the parish church, are examined by the parish clergyman annually, and when of age for confirmation are taken to Halstead church, when the Bishop of London holds a confirmation there, four miles off.

A. 66.—Great; a person brought up in the mill will generally earn double what another who came later in life; instance, Mary Potter and J. Bacon.

A. 67.—For thirty years the health of the children in the mill has been better than the rest of the village population; last year not a single instance of cholera in any persons employed in the mill. We have had only one instance of death in the apprentices in thirty years, though the average has been above twenty apprentices constantly.

A. 68.—We know of no injurious effects of any particular process in a silk-mill, it is a healthy employ, requires no labour, only constant attention of the eye; extremes of heat and cold are avoided as injurious to the manufacture.

A. 69.—We are not aware there exists any Act of Parliament to regulate silk-mills; we consider that they require no particular legislation beyond the common law of the land; all further interference we think would tend to injury, be inconsistent with political economy, and be holding out a premium for informers.

A. 77.—Such is the spirit of independence prevalent amongst the working-classes in this district, and the encouragement the administration of the poor laws gives to this spirit, that the workpeople would try to hold their masters in fear by constant threat of some infringement of the law, instead of feeling any reluctance to give evidence.

A. 78.—We can only suggest, let silk-mills alone; exempt them from any legislative provisions in any new Bill; they require not any. They are now, and have been, well conducted as far as we have observed in various parts of England. The persons employed are healthy. The remuneration of the owners is so much reduced since 1826 as to cause many mills to stand still, though increase of speed has been tried to increase remuneration.

A. 79.—It is one of the most comfortable employments for females that has been encouraged in this kingdom, and tends to induce habits of order, care, and cleanliness more than most others. The children who keep their time habitually, and consequently make the best earnings, are the finest looking and most healthy.

We flatter ourselves that it would gratify any one who interests himself or herself about the condition of the operative poor, to see all our hands on a Lord's day at the parish church, as they then appear, or also after the hours of work on a week-day enjoying themselves with the greatest cheerfulness and activity, thus proving silk-mill employ does not injure them by over-work.

BROOME P. WITTS.  
E. L. RODICK.  
H. RODICK.

## HERTFORDSHIRE.

ANSWERS of THOMAS R. SHUTE, Watford, Rickmansworth, and Chesham.

A. 1.—Watford, Hertfordshire; Rickmansworth, four miles from Watford; and recently Chesham in Buckinghamshire, twelve miles from Watford.

A. 2.—Silk-throwing only.

A. 3.—The mill at Watford was erected about the year 1760, and was raised one story about the year 1814; the mill at Chesham was built about 1830; that at Rickmansworth in 1831.

A. 4.—The mill at Watford, where the heavy machinery is, is worked by a stream of about twenty-five to thirty horse power; the mills at Rickmansworth and Chesham, which only assist the Watford mill, by steam-powers; the stream at Watford is very regular for a river.

A. 5.—The rooms are lofty, about ten feet and a half high, having thirty-six windows in each; in some of the windows are ventilators.

A. 6.—When the rooms are too warm the upper sashes of the windows are pulled down, which produces a thorough circulation of air through the room.

A. 7.—The overlooker or persons employed may, at their pleasure, pull down the sashes of the windows.

(APP.—B. 1.)

R 3

A. 8.

Hertfordshire.

No. 114.

T. R. Shute.

Essex.

Messrs.

Witts & Rodick.



Hertfordshire.

T. R. Shute.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off; a serious accident has not occurred during my recollection.

A. 9.—The work is clean, and requires cleanliness; should the workpeople come to work with dirty hands, a tub of water and soap is kept in each room, where they are sent to wash; the people take off their bonnets and cloaks, and hang them up in the rooms where they work; this has always been the case.

A. 10.—When parents bring their children, I require that they should be about eight years of age before I take them in; I am not aware that any of these children have been employed at any other trades.

A. 11.—Most certainly; at twelve years most children who have been used to any other sort of work would be unfit for silk; their fingers would be coarse and rough.

A. 12.—They have rendered necessary a greater proportion under twelve years of age; the same competition that the silk trade has been forced into with the foreigner obliges us to adopt the same facilities that he has; the work is light, and requires no other bodily exertion than that used in tying knots, so that many children of ten or eleven years of age, who have been engaged in the work for two or three years, can work nearly if not quite as well as an adult.

A. 13.—No, I do not.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any; they return to their homes every evening.

A. 17.—The mill is open for working eleven hours and a quarter each day; the people come as they choose to work; there is not, nor do I think any compulsion can be used to bring them to work; many, perhaps the majority, absent themselves for one or two whole days in the week, calculating the time they keep by the hours of working during the long days (I mean as to light). The time of working is divided into three divisions; from their first coming in the morning until breakfast, from after breakfast until dinner-time, and from dinner-time, until the hour of leaving the factory, so that the people may work the whole or any portion of the day, (attending to the divisions of it made by the meal-hours,) as they may think fit.

A. 18.—Those under twenty-one years of age are left to their free choice in the same way as the seniors, excepting those who are beginning to learn the business, who are only allowed to work ten hours a day, if they would or would not; and this regulation is kept in force for one or two years according to their ages.

A. 19.—The mill is kept open for work regularly, for six days in the week, excepting the regular holidays, which are two days at Christmas, two days at Easter, two days at Whitsuntide, and four half holidays, which are three days of Watford Fair and Shrove Tuesday; the mill has been opened for those disposed to work at all other times for some years, unless any accident to the machinery has compelled me to close it; besides this, I should observe that I frequently work over-time, which is inevitable in the silk business, or many of the hands would be obliged to lose much of their time. It proceeds from this cause; silks vary much in quality and the facility with which they are wound; to prepare it for the weaver it has to go through three or four different processes; the winding or first process regulates all the rest. When the silk winds well, or more so than the average at which the different parts of my machinery are calculated upon, it fills up all the bobbins, and those who work at the drawing-engines have the option, if they choose to embrace it, to work over-time; this over-time extends to two hours longer than the period for which the mill is usually open; if this was not done, those who work at the winding could not come to work the following day: when the silk winds badly, the winding-engines must work over-time, or the drawers would have no employment on the following day. As the chief objections raised to the factory system by those who understand but little about it have been on account of the number of hours that persons are employed, I wish to explain myself on this point fully; over-time forms another division of the day, which, like all the rest is perfectly left to the choice of the hands to work or not, as they think fit; most of them are very glad of the opportunity to embrace it, as it enables them to lay by a little money to enjoy themselves during the regular holidays, or at other times when they may wish to visit their friends, or for other causes; possibly many who work two hours later at night will not come until after breakfast on the following day.

A. 23.—It is impossible to say the average hours that each person has worked; I should say that the majority lose from one to two days in the week.

A. 24.—The longest period from one meal time to the other in the shortest days of the year is five hours, which, taken with what I have before stated, is the reply to this question.

A. 25.—I should suppose that the nature of the work renders it necessary for me to offer them the choice of over-time for four days in the week during six months of the year.

A. 26.—In A. 19. I have stated why it is inevitable.

A. 27.—The factory has been worked in this manner as long as it has been in my possession, or as long as my recollection can extend to, which is about twelve years.

A. 28.—If I were to work my factory a less number of hours than I do, the foreign throwster would take all the business, I should be ruined, and my people starved.

A. 29.—The hours of working in silk-throwing are not regulated by any laws, excepting those who desire to work the two hours over-time. I have a distinct set of hands for the nights.



Hertfordshire.

T. R. Shute.

A. 30.—In all branches a very material increase, especially in the spinning and throwing, sufficient to give the foreign throwster such an advantage over me as would compel me to abandon my factory or be ruined.

A. 31.—The ordinary hours are never exceeded unless by the free choice of the people. If I were to work a less time than I do, neither I nor my people would live. A relay of hands during those hours is unnecessary, as the people are not at all fatigued, and the population of the place would not afford it.

A. 32.—It would be impossible to procure a relay of hands for the extra hours, which are only two when it does happen; the population of the place will scarcely supply a sufficiency for one set. I have employed a night-set of hands for many years as well as a day-set; they come to work when the others leave off; at the present season of the year (the month of May) they come at seven o'clock in the evening, and leave work at six in the morning, when the others come; they have half an hour for their supper allowed them, when I give them either tea or beer, so that they work ten hours and a half.

A. 34.—It would be my interest, under any circumstances, to work two sets of hands; but under the peculiar circumstances under which the silk-throwing trade is placed I am compelled to do so, making every effort in our power. The foreigner presses very hard on us; if I did not work during the night he would have such an advantage as would stop my business altogether. I would not engage to take a thousand pounds per annum to cover my loss if I was prevented from working during the night as well as the day. My power is water; coals here are very dear; in case I did not work during the night half my power would be wasted, and the large capital invested in expensive machinery would only make half the return that it should. The difference is this; by way of illustration, suppose my mill was a farm of two hundred acres, and I only cultivated one hundred acres, I should have the same rent, rates, taxes, and nearly the same expences for managing the one hundred acres that were unproductive as if the two hundred acres were under cultivation; but the most important reason for working during the night is this, that by employing about thirty-three persons during the night, half of whom are above the age of twenty-one years, and the other half boys from fourteen to eighteen years of age, I can employ from three hundred to four hundred more persons during the day, that is, about double the number of persons that I should employ if I worked during the day only. As this town (Watford) will not supply hands sufficient, I have two other small factories at Rickmansworth and Chesham, where I wind the silk by steam-power; the power required for winding is very small compared with that of throwing it, but it will require about fourteen persons to wind what one hand can throw into organzine; the winding is all day-work.

A. 35.—I have a set of hands which keep regularly to night-work, and they prefer it to day-work.

A. 36.—An absolute destruction to it.

A. 37.—I don't think that a corresponding reduction in wages would, if the number of hours was reduced, place the throwster in a situation to compete with the foreigner; the hindrances and injuries to the work in stopping are so great, the wages of the hands must inevitably be reduced in the first place, but the loss to the master will be double or more than the amount of the reduction of wages.

A. 38.—Neither heat nor cold are applied in any manner for the purpose of assisting the manufacture; my object and interest is to keep the rooms at a temperature comfortable to the people.

A. 40.—The temperature for all processes is the same.

A. 41.—The mill is worked as regularly during the night as the day; that is to say, the spinning and throwing rooms.

A. 42.—About sixteen hands is the regular number under twenty-one years of age.

A. 43.—For ten hours and a half.

A. 44.—Sixteen regularly.

A. 45.—From the time the day-hands leave off until they come in again in the morning.

A. 46.—Yes, the spinning and throwing.

A. 47.—During twenty-four hours.

A. 48.—I employ thirty-three night-hands for spinning and throwing; half are boys from fourteen to eighteen years of age, and the others men and women, chiefly the latter.

A. 49.—Firstly, I could not produce my work cheap enough and sufficiently spun for the manufacturer to compete with the foreigner; secondly, the other two factories that I have would be rendered useless; they assist me in producing the work cheap for the competition, and the hands would be thrown out of employment. My object is to produce the greatest return from the least outlay of capital. The foreigner, with many other advantages over the English throwster, works his mill night and day, and is under no restrictions.

A. 50.—By candles; smoke injures the silk.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 52.—I am not aware that it produces any different effect in their habits than the day-work does on the day-hands; I should say that it is more comfortable to many, as they prefer it.

(APP.—B.1.)

R 4

A. 53.



Hertfordshire,

T. R. Shute.

A. 53.—The hours for meals for all classes are alike; half an hour is allowed for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for tea.

A. 54 & 55.—All, excepting two persons, the overlookers of the spinning and throwing rooms, who watch that no accident happens to the machinery; to stop this machinery would injure the silk; it would make it break or snarl (that means become knotty, which spoils the weaver's goods.)

A. 56.—The people do not leave for tea; the time occupied by three or four hundred people leaving their work and becoming settled again is nearly half an hour.

A. 57 & 58.—They are occasionally, but rarely, chastised with a thin cane about the size of two goose-quills; this applies to the younger persons: the elder are fined for destroying the silk, or other misdemeanors, according to a fixed scale.

A. 59.—By overlookers, the foreman, and the parents.

A. 60.—Yes, by my desire. I consider the morals and characters of the young people, whilst they are at work in the factory, committed to my charge; and when mild means fail, I think it my duty to order temperate punishment to be tried to correct any growing wicked habits, such as wilfully destroying the silk, theft, or lying, which must occur when there are a number of young boys employed. If I find that after once or twice being punished they remain incorrigible, I turn them off. I should always prefer punishment, where it was possible, to be administered by parents; but they, unfortunately, rarely do it with judgment; they rarely chastise a child unless they are in a passion, and that, too frequently, for some trivial offence, whilst they suffer the heavier faults, which affect a child's moral character, to go unpunished. Unless some mild chastisement were used occasionally, factories might justly be charged with fostering most bad vices in young people.

A. 61.—Any chastisement approaching to a sharp caning should have my previous sanction.

A. 62.—I do all in my power, by rewards and kind treatment, to prevent the necessity of corporal punishment; but, when necessary, I order it to be inflicted with a thin cane only, or by a slap in the face.

A. 63.—My instructions to the foreman and overlookers are, never to flog a child so as to produce marks on his back, and never to use his cane when a slap in the face will be sufficient.

A. 64.—I am only aware of two complaints having been made for the last seven or eight years before the magistrates on account of children being punished; one was for a bruise on the hand, which I believe was accidentally struck by the cane, which was intended for the back. I told the magistrates, that if I believed the overlooker had struck the blow maliciously, I would have discharged him; but that as the man had superintended about eighty-eight children for five or six years, and this was the first complaint preferred against him, I believed it to be an accidental blow; it made the hand black and swell, without producing any further injury. The other complaint was of a very trifling nature, made, I firmly believe, by the boy, that he might be discharged from my employment, and maintained in idleness by the parish.

A. 65.—Some of the workpeople live in cottages belonging to me, but more than half live in other houses. I have the village swept up every week, I permit no filth to be left about, and I suppress drunkenness and immorality as well as I am able.

A. 66.—A young woman who has commenced in infancy may earn, when grown up, from six to seven shillings per week, whereas scarcely any who commence at fourteen or sixteen years of age would ever earn more than three or four shillings; in fact, they are unteachable, and destroy the value of more silk than they earn in wages.

A. 67.—As the employment has always been the same, I am not aware of any alteration in the general health of the people; I should say, for the number employed, there is very little sickness amongst them.

A. 68.—None of the employments are injurious; the labour in all is much the same. At Rickmansworth, where the factory has been at work during only two years, I can form a better estimate of the effects of the employment on the children; their appearance has much improved, they appear to be better clothed, better fed, and look more healthy. I never knew an instance of a person growing deformed from the employment; I only know of two instances out of about five hundred persons, whom I at present employ, and those proceed from natural causes. If any person was to go round the factory, and select the most healthy and finest children there, I have little doubt that they would be those who keep their time most regularly and work longest; they earn more money, and are consequently better fed and clothed.

A. 69 & 70.—No, it is not.

A. 79.—Young hands are necessary at the spinning to work at night; they do the work better than the large hand of an adult; they are quite as healthy as those who work in the day-time; the noise and spirits that the children exhibit in their play would convince any body that they are not fatigued with their day's work, I mean when it is accomplished.

THOS. ROCK SHUTE.



## NORFOLK.

## ANSWERS OF WILLIAM MARTIN, Norwich.

Norfolk.

No. 115.

*William Martin.*

- A. 1.—In the parishes of St. Swithin and St. Benedict, city of Norwich.
- A. 2.—Sorting, winding, throwing, and warping silk.
- A. 3.—One building for throwing silk erected in 1811; one for sorting, winding, and warping silk in 1814; one for winding and throwing silk in 1816; one for winding silk in 1831.
- A. 4.—Twenty horse condensing steam-engine and a sixteen horse steam-engine; formerly worked by water, but discontinued in consequence of an inefficient supply.
- A. 5.—Air-holes where necessary.
- A. 6.—Windows, the control of which is left to the workpeople, with instructions to keep the rooms as cool and comfortable as possible.
- A. 7.—By the overlooker and workpeople.
- A. 8.—Fenced off.
- A. 9.—Self-acting water-closets in each room, and lead sinks, with a plentiful supply of water.
- A. 10.—From eight and upwards.
- A. 11.—Yes, cheapness, to enable us to compete against free trade.
- A. 12.—Not aware of any.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Mill hands, from 12 years to 35 years of age, twelve hours and a half each day; one hour allowed for rest; Saturday, 10 hours and a half, out of which forty minutes are allowed for rest, as they leave work two hours sooner.
- A. 18.—Warpers, from 13 to 30 years of age, eleven hours ten minutes each day; Saturday, 10 hours and a half. Winders, from eight to twenty-three years of age, eleven hours ten minutes each day; Saturday, ten hours and a half. Can sit down at their work occasionally.
- A. 19.—No alteration in the hours.
- A. 20.—Regularly kept at work—see Nos. 17 and 18—for the time, deducting six days holidays at different periods of the year.
- A. 22.—Young hands, winders and warpers, leave off one hour earlier than the mill hands, except on Saturdays.
- A. 23.—Mill hands, twelve hours and a half each day; 10 hours and a half on Saturday. Winders and warpers, eleven hours and ten minutes each day; ten hours and a half on Saturday.
- A. 33.—Since our building was destroyed by fire at Yarmouth in May 1832 we have kept our mills going by night with a fresh set of hands.
- A. 34.—Don't apply to us.
- A. 35.—Uniformly by night, and do not change periodically.
- A. 36.—Winders and weavers thrown out of employ.
- A. 38.—This is regulated according to the convenience of the people.
- A. 39.—The common temperature.
- A. 41.—Major part of our throwing mills since May 1832. See answers 33. and 36.
- A. 42.—No children.
- A. 43.—Ten hours work, with ten minutes each hour for rest, and at one o'clock fifteen minutes.
- A. 44.—No children; 128 young women from sixteen years of age and upwards.
- A. 45.—Eight at night till six in the morning; leave off at half past eleven on Saturday night.
- A. 50.—Candle and gas.
- A. 51.—Windows.
- A. 52.—We are not aware of any difference between the night-hands and day-hands.
- A. 53.—For breakfast, half an hour at half past eight o'clock; dinner, one hour at one o'clock; tea, twenty minutes at five o'clock.
- A. 54.—All have the option of leaving at breakfast-time and dinner-time, but some not at tea-time.
- A. 55.—For both.
- A. 56.—Those who do not go home to take their meals have it in a room on the premises prepared on purpose, as some live at too great a distance to go and return in time with comfort to themselves.
- A. 57.—Children pay forfeits, which are divided amongst the most deserving at the end of every month.
- A. 58.—Not allowed by the proprietors.
- A. 63.—Instructions are for people to abstain from beating children.
- A. 66.—The majority of those that have been reared in the concern we consider are the most proficient.
- A. 67.—We consider that the health of the children and young persons employed in the silk-mills is promoted by the regularity, cleanliness, and comfort of our establishment; that they are not over-worked, and, that so far from their constitutions being impaired by their occupation, they are as robust and vigorous as persons of the same age engaged in any other
- (APP.—B.1.) S of



Norfolk.

*William Martin.*

of the ordinary avocations of life, and more so than could reasonably be expected from any care which their parents would be able to bestow upon them in their own cottages.

A. 78.—Not aware of any existing law to regulate the hours of labour in silk-mills.

WILLIAM MARTIN.

No. 116.

*John Brown.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN BROWN for the firm of Grout, Baylis, and Co.

A. 1.—St. Nicholas parish, Great Yarmouth, county of Norfolk.

A. 2.—Winding and throwing of silk, warping, and power-loom and hand-weaving.

A. 3.—In the year 1822; another building in 1826. The 1822 building burnt down 27th May 1832; rebuilt the same year.

A. 4.—Eighty horse steam-engine; condensing, not high pressure.

A. 5.—Air-holes where necessary.

A. 6.—Windows and sky-lights.

A. 7.—By the overlookers.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—Always have had sinks in each room for the convenience of the workpeople, as also self-acting water-closets, and water is always laid on to sinks and water-closets.

A. 10.—From seven and upwards.

A. 11.—Cheapness.

A. 12.—Not aware of it.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half. Out of this twelve hours and a half each day the mill hands are allowed one hour's rest; on Saturday they work ten hours and a half, and rest forty minutes.

A. 18.—Eleven hours; ten hours and a half on Saturday.

A. 19.—No alteration in the hours.

A. 20.—Regularly at work (see Nos. 17 and 18 for the time), deducting six days holidays.

A. 22.—Young hands, winders and warpers, leave off one hour earlier than the mill hands and weavers, except on Saturday.

A. 24.—Never exceed the hours already stated.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Not having practised this, cannot say.

A. 33.—Since our building was burnt down we have a set of night-hands.

A. 35.—They work uniformly, and do not change periodically.

A. 36.—Not mills enough to keep the weavers at work.

A. 38.—The temperature of the manufactory regulated according to the convenience of the people.

A. 39.—The common temperature.

A. 41.—Only our throwing-mills. Reason given for working them, see answer 36. Mills worked 254 nights.

A. 42.—No young children; those persons employed are from fourteen to twenty-four.

A. 43.—Ten hours work, with ten minutes each hour for rest, and at one o'clock twenty minutes.

A. 44.—No children; not more than seventy-two hands.

A. 45.—Eight at night till six o'clock in the morning, leaving off at half past eleven o'clock on Saturday night.

A. 50.—Candle and gas.

A. 51.—Windows.

A. 52.—We are not sensible of any difference in the habits and moral conduct of one class of hands from another.

A. 53.—Half past eight o'clock, breakfast, half an hour; one o'clock, dinner, one hour; five o'clock, tea, twenty minutes.

A. 54.—All have the option of leaving at breakfast and dinner-time, not at tea-time.

A. 56.—Time would be lost in going to and fro, and, as the work is not hard, numbers of the weavers prefer not leaving off at all at tea-time.

A. 57.—Children pay forfeits, and these forfeits are divided at the end of the month amongst those that are most deserving.

A. 58.—Not allowed by the proprietors.

A. 62.—Prevent it when it has come to our notice.

A. 66.—The majority of those that have been reared in the concern we consider are the most proficient; Wright, Gaymer, Page, weavers.

A. 67.—Our people are considered very healthy, and we are not aware of any alteration in their health having taken place in the last ten years.

A. 69.—Don't know.

22d May 1833.

JOHN BROWN.



## SUFFOLK.

Suffolk.

No. 117.

Samuel Gee.

ANSWERS of SAMUEL GEE, for Messrs. Grout, Baylis, and Co., Mildenhall.

- A. 1.—Mildenhall, Suffolk.
- A. 2.—Winding silk.
- A. 3.—Erected 1819.
- A. 4.—Manual power.
- A. 5.—Air holes in ceiling.
- A. 6.—And windows.
- A. 7.—By the overlooker.
- A. 8.—Fenced off.
- A. 9.—Every arrangement necessary for the comfort of the children.
- A. 10.—From eleven years old and upwards.
- A. 11.—Not absolutely, but in order to meet the great competition produced by the free trade system and other causes.
- A. 12 & 13.—No.
- A. 14.—Never had any.
- A. 17 & 18.—All eleven hours ten minutes each day, except Saturday, then ten and a half hours.
- A. 19.—No alteration in the hours.
- A. 20.—Regularly kept at work, see A. 17 & 18 for time, deducting six days holidays in the year.
- A. 22.—All work same hours.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours ten minutes each day, ten and a half hours Saturday.
- A. 24 & 25.—None exceed the hours stated.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 33.—Never.
- A. 38.—Regulated to the comfort of the people.
- A. 39.—Common temperature.
- A. 50.—Oil lamps and candles in winter evenings.
- A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, twenty minutes tea.
- A. 54.—All leave if they like, except at tea-time.
- A. 55.—For both.
- A. 56.—Those who live at a distance prefer eating it in a room provided on the premises, or they would be hurried to go and return in time.
- A. 57.—Forfeits, which are divided amongst the most deserving at the end of every month.
- A. 58.—Very rare.
- A. 59.—By the overlookers.
- A. 62.—Yes.
- A. 63.—Instructions are from the proprietors to abstain from beating children.
- A. 64 & 65.—No.
- A. 66.—Those reared in the concern are most proficient.
- A. 67.—The appearance of the children is superior to the same class not employed in manufacture, by reason of the regularity, cleanliness, and comfort of the establishment.
- A. 68.—No necessity.
- A. 69.—Do not know.
- A. 73.—None in this town.
- A. 78.—Not aware of any law to regulate labour in silk-winding.

SAMUEL GEE.



Staffordshire.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

No. 118.

*Samuel Alcock  
& Co.*

ANSWERS of SAMUEL ALCOCK &amp; Co., Burslem.

- A. 1.—Burslem, in the county of Stafford.
- A. 2.—Manufactory of china and earthenware.
- A. 3.—Erected, 1765; enlarged, 1816.
- A. 4.—None employed.
- A. 5.—No specific provision for ventilation.
- A. 6.—On the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—Regulated by some of the persons employed.
- A. 8.—No steam employed.
- A. 9.—No particular arrangement.
- A. 10.—At nine years old, and have not been previously employed.
- A. 11.—Yes, in some branches of work, where they assist the workmen by doing that part of the work which is light and easy; and it is also very convenient for the workmen, because they have to pay them their wages.
- A. 12.—No machinery employed.
- A. 13.—Yes.
- A. 14.—None received.
- A. 15.—None employed under this specification.
- A. 16.—None such employed.
- A. 17.—Ten hours.
- A. 18.—Ten hours, making no difference.
- A. 19.—Twenty-four hours in some cases.
- A. 20.—About three hundred days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred.
- A. 22.—No distinct difference except the over-men, who at intervals work through the night.
- A. 23.—Ten hours.
- A. 24.—From ten to twelve hours.
- A. 25.—No particular time; the hours of work are sometimes exceeded when an order arrives and is wanted off in haste.
- A. 26.—Excess beyond the regular hours of work on particular occasions is unavoidable, owing to the great diversity of processes and branches of workmanship necessary to constitute pottery; and the various kinds of work contained in the orders received, not equally dividing itself in all the branches, occasions one part of the workmen to work extra hours, for but few workmen are capable of taking up two branches of workmanship.
- A. 27.—Yes.
- A. 28.—In some cases.
- A. 29.—The work of children and adults is generally intimately connected with that of other workpeople, and owing to the fluctuation of business, and the manufacturer so adjusting the number of his workpeople to the main scope of his business, sometimes renders it necessary for them to work extra hours, but not to such an extent as to require a change of hands.
- A. 31.—The work is not so laborious and of such duration as to require relays; besides the extra hours not being regular or uniform.
- A. 32.—No, because it would occasion too great a multiplicity of hands, and the extra being occasional and not regular renders it unnecessary.
- A. 33.—Not required.
- A. 34.—Because it would greatly increase the cost of production, by employing a greater number of hands than the nature of the work requires, the light work not being constant and uniform.
- A. 35.—No night-set employed.
- A. 36.—Night-work in some processes is indispensable.
- A. 37.—It would enhance the cost of production, and in some cases cause a reduction in the workmen's wages in proportion to the reduction of working hours; it would also (by the same ratio) cause a greater difference between the specific time of one part of the workmen and the maximum of time required for the completion of some processes by the other.
- A. 38.—Usual temperature, 105° Fahrenheit's thermometer; lowest, 90°.
- A. 39.—120° Wedgwood's pyrometer.
- A. 40.—Six. (We have about thirty-six firemen and assistants, thirty of whom are employed in the lesser heat.)
- A. 41.—Two hundred and sixty.
- A. 42.—None.
- A. 46.—Yes, firing the ovens.
- A. 47.—From thirty to forty-five hours.
- A. 48.—From the age of fifteen to fifty.
- A. 49.—Because the degree of heat required must be attained by a slow and gradual ignition.
- A. 50.—By candle-light.
- A. 51.—None but casual means.
- A. 52.—In most cases their habits are not perceptibly different from those of other workmen, neither in body, power, or ability.
- A. 53.—From nine o'clock in the morning to half past, and from one to two o'clock.



B. 1.

- A. 54.—About half.  
 A. 55.—It is at the option of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—None.  
 A. 57.—None in particular.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 66.—None employed from infancy that are come to years of maturity.  
 A. 67.—They have as good health, in general, as they had when first employed.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—No mill employed in the manufactory.

SAMUEL ALCOCK &amp; Co.

Staffordshire.

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 Samuel Alcock  
& Co.
 

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## ANSWERS of JOHN CORMIE, Burslem.

No. 119.

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 John Cormie.
 

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- A. 1.—Burslem, county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Manufactory of earthenware.  
 A. 3.—At once, forty years since.  
 A. 4.—None.  
 A. 5.—The same as is general in earthenware factories; the workshops being separate are well aired.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 8.—None used.  
 A. 9.—There is no branch of the work particularly injurious to health, except the attendance at the ovens and the glazing of the ware. Formerly the glazing and firing were indiscriminate; now the glazier never attends the ovens; when firing he works in clothes which he puts off when he leaves work. An attention to cleanliness has prevented for the last twenty years the former effect of lead-glazing on the health.  
 A. 10.—Six or seven years of age, as waiters upon other young lads; generally as apprentices from eleven to thirteen years; women as painters at the same age.  
 A. 11.—Yes.  
 A. 12.—Machinery cannot be used in the greater part of the work, which is and always must be by hand-labour.  
 A. 13.—Yes, a considerable number.  
 A. 14.—None from parishes.  
 A. 15.—I am not aware any are orphans.  
 A. 17.—On Mondays and Saturdays, about six hours; other days, ten hours; sometimes, at their own pleasure, twelve oven-men, when the ovens are firing; from twenty to twenty-six hours in attendance.  
 A. 18.—Same as those on whom they attend, and in every other respect as those of twenty-one years.  
 A. 19.—Generally from ten to twelve hours; in two or three extraordinary cases for twenty hours in some departments. The general rule is from six A.M. to six P.M.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen days.  
 A. 21.—(Suppose) 3,130 hours.  
 A. 22.—All work together.  
 A. 23.—Sixty.  
 A. 24.—Sixty; that is the full extent.  
 A. 25.—When a vessel is unexpectedly to sail, and part of the order is unfinished, we must then work extra hours. This observation will hold generally.  
 A. 26.—Unavoidable, for the reason stated above.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—This question does not apply to me, nor to earthenware manufacturers generally.  
 A. 30.—Never tried.  
 A. 31.—It being necessary to bind apprentices to learn any part of our trade, they must be kept to one sort of work, and therefore cannot be relieved by others.  
 A. 32.—Not tried, and for the reason stated above.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 37.—As all my workpeople work by piece-work, and are paid only for what they do, preventing them would lessen their income, and in some cases disarrange the manufactory, as the whole of the branches are dependent one on the other; viz., if one set work and the other do not the whole are stopped.  
 A. 38.—Generally atmospheric. In the ovens, dependent on the state of firing; never very oppressive nor injurious to health. In stoves, about 80°. None remain to work there, but carry articles out and in.  
 A. 40.—Forty.  
 A. 41.—Painters only for three nights; no other branch except oven-men, who are all night once a week, and this is unavoidable.  
 A. 42.—None.  
 A. 46.—The oven-men only.  
 A. 47.—Biscuit-oven, forty-eight hours; glost-oven, twenty-two to twenty-four hours.  
 A. 48.—Men of all ages, and young men from fourteen to twenty years of age.

(APP.—B. 1.)

S 3.

A. 50.



Staffordshire.

*John Cormie.*

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—None.

A. 52.—On oven-men, that they sleep the greater part of the following day.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Not all; they sometimes cook their meals in the works.

A. 55.—For their own convenience.

A. 56.—As father, mother, and children may work at separate manufactories, they could not in the hour or half hour all meet at their own home; the consequence would be to drive them to those.

A. 57.—I have seldom used any other means than persuasion and pointing out the bad effects of disobedience.

A. 58.—Never by my authority, and beyond a stroke of the hand never corrects.

A. 59.—By overlooker; sometimes by parents; when necessary, they are sent for.

A. 60.—Never.

A. 62.—Have forbidden corporal punishments, and from experience of thirty years think them useless.

A. 65.—In other houses. I have three of my workmen who live in houses belonging to me, but do not interfere with them in any way.

A. 66.—I know of little difference; my workpeople seldom leave me, and they are generally steady and moral in their habits. I am careful to select such, and many have been with me ten, twelve, and twenty years.

A. 67.—During the last ten years I do not know of any difference.

A. 68.—No; this cannot be done with oven-men but by agreeing to change among themselves.

A. 69.—Have no mill.

A. 78 & 79.—If beer-shops and gin-shops were put down, a great many of the evils which afflict parents and children would be removed, and masters would be relieved from witnessing and hearing of such things as the government have no conception of. Beer-shops are the pests of manufacturing districts.

16th May 1833.

JOHN CORMIE.

No. 120.

*Henry Davenport.*

## ANSWERS of HENRY DAVENPORT, Burslem.

A. 1.—Burslem, in the county of Stafford.

A. 2.—Manufacture of china and earthenware.

A. 3.—These works have been erected at different times for thirty or forty years back, but no dates can be furnished. The increase of the erections has been gradual.

A. 4.—Neither.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—There are doors and windows sufficient for ventilation.

A. 7.—It is at the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—No machinery used.

A. 9.—Most of them change their clothes (or part of them) when they commence work, and wash themselves on leaving it, more or less, according to the kind of work.

A. 10.—None employed by the proprietors under nine years of age, but in a few instances younger children assist their parents.

A. 11.—The great object in employing children is the low rate of wages at which they can be employed in doing the light work of the manufactory.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—None from the parish.

A. 15.—No orphans lodged or maintained; all live with their parents or friends and frequently work with them.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—The usual hours are from six until six in summer, and from seven until six in the winter.

A. 19.—In some instances a part of the hands have worked from six A.M. to ten or twelve at night.

A. 20.—About two hundred and ninety days.

A. 21.—Cannot state; some of the branches work occasionally longer than others, accordingly as the orders run; but as most of the hands are employed at piece-work, the time cannot be given correctly.

A. 22.—The people generally work a whole day.

A. 23.—Average is ten hours and a half in summer, and nine hours and a half in winter, Mondays and Saturdays are made shorter than any other days.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours, exclusive of meal-times, which are half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, half an hour tea; but this is at their choice, as there is no machinery to be kept going.

A. 25.—Generally for the completion of orders wanted for immediate shipment.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, owing to the nature of some of the various processes of our manufacture; but this only relates to a part of the manufactory.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.



A. 29.—The only inducement is the completion of orders which are to be prepared in a limited time, and for which there are not goods of every description wanted ready in the stock, and without which the assortment would be incomplete.

Staffordshire.

A. 30.—A limitation of the hours of work would naturally induce a rise in the price of workmanship, but to what amount cannot be stated, as the plan is untried.

Henry Davenport.

A. 31.—Not practicable in the manufacture of china and earthenware, nor is it necessary, extra hours being seldom required.

A. 32 & 33.—No.

A. 36.—Ovens are the only night-work, and cannot be avoided.

A. 37.—A reduction of the working hours would cause less wages to be paid, and the workmen would suffer privations accordingly; but in these manufactories no reduction is necessary.

A. 38.—The temperatures are various, but are not obliged to use any specific degree of heat in the work-shops which is hurtful to the people employed.

A. 39.—Have never ascertained it, except in the ovens used for firing the wares, which of course does not come within this inquiry.

A. 41.—Not at all, except firing ovens for baking the ware.

A. 46.—Ovens only.

A. 47.—Fifty hours.

A. 48.—Eighteen and upwards.

A. 49.—The fires, when once lighted, cannot be extinguished until the process is complete.

A. 50.—Candle.

A. 51.—Same as in day-time.

A. 52.—Not any, it is so trifling.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, and, if working extra hours, half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—More than half.

A. 55.—The workpeople suit their own convenience.

A. 56.—Persons living at a considerable distance from the manufactory could not find convenience to take their meals out of the manufactory.

A. 57.—Fine and discharge.

A. 58.—No.

A. 65.—Some live in their own houses, some in houses belonging to their masters, but mostly in houses which they rent; in all cases their cleanliness is apparent, and almost proverbial.

A. 66.—It is a general case that those who have been longest at a trade are the most skilful, and in all the branches an apprenticeship is required to perfect them as workmen.

A. 67.—Not any alteration perceived.

A. 68.—When any employment is found not to suit the health of the workman, he seeks another more suitable, being always at liberty to do so; in the case of apprentices the master generally will make the change.

A. 69.—No mill.

HENRY DAVENPORT.

## ANSWERS of JOB JACKSON, of the firm of J. J. Jackson, Burslem.

No. 121.

Job Jackson.

A. 1.—Burslem.

A. 2.—Manufacturing earthenware.

A. 3.—Erected at different times, before it was occupied by us.

A. 4.—Manual labour.

A. 5.—Windows and doors.

A. 6.—Yes.

A. 7.—It is generally regulated by the workpeople themselves.

A. 8.—None used.

A. 9.—We have no arrangement as to this.

A. 10.—Seven or eight years of age.

A. 11.—Yes, to assist the adults.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—No.

A. 15.—We are not aware any of the children in our employ are orphans. Parents who have children employed under us see them as often as they please.

A. 16.—Their master and their parents.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, say from six to six.

A. 18.—About twelve hours.

A. 20 & 21.—We have no means of ascertaining.

A. 22.—Yes; but we have no means of ascertaining, as we do not keep an account

A. 23.—About twelve hours.

A. 24.—About the same as above.

A. 25.—No account kept.

A. 26.—It is sometimes unavoidable; we never wish our people to work more than twelve hours if it can possibly be helped.

(APP.—B. 1.)

S 4

A. 27



Staffordshire.

Job Jackson.

A. 27 & 28.—We formerly used to work fifteen hours, but we find we can get quite as much work done in twelve hours, as the people keep closer to work, and of course there is considerable saving in fuel, &c.

A. 29.—We think it is a wrong idea to keep people at work longer than twelve hours; they cannot possibly attend to it as they ought.

A. 30.—We think there is a decrease in the cost of manufacturing, for the reasons stated above.

A. 37.—We think, as stated before, that twelve hours is quite sufficient for any person to work.

A. 38.—We have no means of ascertaining.

A. 39.—Very considerable; we should think 80° to 90°.

A. 40.—Perhaps about forty or fifty.

A. 46.—Yes, the firing of ovens.

A. 47.—From eighteen to fifty-two hours, according to the nature of the process.

A. 48.—Children about twelve or fourteen years are employed to sit up, one to an oven, with one man.

A. 49.—It is impossible to carry on our business without it.

A. 52.—We do not employ people in the night, except as before mentioned.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—They do as they please as to this, but they generally do leave.

A. 57.—They are generally employed by the men, and for the most part are their own children.

A. 58.—Not that we are aware.

A. 62.—No, we never had occasion to interfere.

A. 65.—We do not let dwellings to our workpeople.

A. 66.—In nearly all the departments of our manufactory a regular apprenticeship is served; the business could not be learned without.

A. 67.—We have no means of ascertaining.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—We suppose it is.

JOB JACKSON.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. CLOWES &amp; Co., Cobridge.

No. 122.

Messrs. Clowes & Co.

A. 1.—Cobridge, Staffordshire potteries.

A. 2.—Manufactory of earthenware.

A. 3.—Twenty-five years ago.

A. 4.—Done by manual labour, but steam used merely for grinding flint and colours.

A. 5.—The workshops are all ventilated.

A. 6.—By opening of the windows and doors.

A. 7.—By the workmen employed, as they require it.

A. 8.—No machinery is used.

A. 9.—No arrangements whatever; all depends on their own habit of cleanliness.

A. 10.—About eight years of age; cannot speak to their having been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—We consider not.

A. 12.—Does not apply to the manufacturing of earthenware.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—We do not employ parish apprentices.

A. 15.—Some of the children employed are orphans, but we do not lodge or maintain any of them, and they are not visited by their parents or guardians.

A. 16.—Superintended by overlookers.

A. 17.—From half past six o'clock in the morning until nine o'clock at night, Saturday and Monday excepted.

A. 18.—The same as those about twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and eighty-five days.

A. 21.—Two thousand five hundred and twenty.

A. 22.—The manufactory has been carried on generally.

A. 23.—Twelve hours, deducting one and a half hours for meal-times.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, allowing half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 25.—They have not exceeded twelve hours for the last year, and have turned out as much work as though they had worked over-time.

A. 26.—We consider that as much work may be done in twelve as in fifteen hours: we speak from experience.

A. 27.—Yes, fifteen hours per day.

A. 28.—We consider it is more profitable to the manufacturer to work twelve hours instead of fifteen hours.

A. 29.—In the manufacture of earthenware, we are of opinion it is quite unnecessary to work more than twelve hours per day.

A. 30.—The cost of production is certainly more, but may be avoided by limiting the time to twelve hours.

A. 31.



- A. 31.—In the earthenware manufacture we are of opinion none are necessary.  
 A. 32.—Never has been tried.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 34.—We have before stated, one set of hands employed twelve hours quite enough.  
 A. 35.—Are only employed daily.  
 A. 36.—We only require them to work in the day.  
 A. 37.—We consider all children should work twelve hours daily under twelve years of age, allowing the usual meal-times of one and a half hours.  
 A. 38.—Various degrees of temperature, according to the different branches, but not excessive, except the firing and drawing of ovens.  
 A. 39.—From fifty to sixty.  
 A. 40.—About thirty, and only about eight are usually employed at a time.  
 A. 41.—No part of our works have been carried on during the night, except the men, alluded to above, firing the ovens.  
 A. 42.—If eight men are employed at night, each has a boy to assist him to carry the coals to the oven.  
 A. 43.—The whole of the night at intervals.  
 A. 44.—Say about eight.  
 A. 45.—The whole, at intervals, from six o'clock at night to six the next morning.  
 A. 46.—In firing the ware in its first state, called biscuit-firing.  
 A. 47.—About fifty to fifty-two hours, but none of the men work more than twelve hours at a time.  
 A. 48.—Of all ages, and boys from about fourteen to eighteen years of age.  
 A. 49.—It is requisite to burn the ware to its proper hardness.  
 A. 50.—With candles.  
 A. 51.—Merely the same as by day.  
 A. 52.—The effect of night-work cannot be so conducive to health as that by day.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast and an hour dinner.  
 A. 54.—Yes, several do whose houses are near the manufactory.  
 A. 55.—The convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—They have every convenience for cooking, and get their meals at the manufactory as comfortable as if they were at home.  
 A. 57.—Punishable by fines and stoppage of wages.  
 A. 58.—Yes, but very slightly.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers, and sometimes by their master.  
 A. 60.—Yes.  
 A. 61.—Both.  
 A. 62.—No.  
 A. 63.—No particular instructions have been given to my foreman; it is not often practised.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—No workpeople of ours live in any of our houses.  
 A. 66.—Very few children are taken when very young, and have not noticed any difference.  
 A. 67.—The general health of the workpeople the last ten years we should consider better, as they have become more cleanly, and since the article of lead has been reduced for the making of glaze the branch of dipping the ware is much more healthy by substituting tincall and borax.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—The mill is merely used to grind flint-stone, colours, and other materials for the potters use.

Staffordshire.

*Messrs. Clowes & Co.*

Messrs. CLOWES &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM BAILEY, Stoke.

No. 123.  
*William Bailey.*

- A. 1.—Parish of Stoke, county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Manufacturing china earthenware, printing, enamelling, &c.  
 A. 3.—A part of the works erected about forty years ago for manufacturing earthenware, and another part erected about twenty-five or thirty years since for the ornamenting department.  
 A. 4.—Neither steam or water employed.  
 A. 6.—The workshops are ventilated by opening the windows, &c.  
 A. 7.—Ventilated by the discretion of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous machinery used.  
 A. 9.—A good supply of water, and they have change of clothing when necessary.  
 A. 10.—Children come apprentices at twelve and fourteen years of age; none under that age have been previously employed at other trades.  
 A. 14.—None come apprentices from parishes.  
 A. 15.—Three orphans that lodge with their friends.  
 A. 16.—Persons solely employed for their instruction.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours a day.  
 A. 18.—Apprentices and others twelve hours a day.  
 (APP.—B. 1.)

T

A. 19.



Staffordshire.

William Bailey.

- A. 19.—Fifteen hours a day.  
 A. 22.—Not been carried on at different times.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—Not more than fifteen hours, which includes their meal-times.  
 A. 25.—According as orders are wanted.  
 A. 26.—No.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 38.—About eighty degrees in summer, and fifty or sixty in winter.  
 A. 39.—About eighty degrees.  
 A. 40.—Nearly the whole of the hands.  
 A. 41.—Never during the night.  
 A. 46.—Firing the ovens.  
 A. 47.—From twenty-four to twenty-six hours.  
 A. 48.—Men of all ages.  
 A. 50.—No lights wanted.  
 A. 51.—No ventilation wanted.  
 A. 52.—Generally healthy strong men.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—All leave that think proper.  
 A. 57.—Use no means not necessary.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 66.—Various.  
 A. 67.—The workpeople have generally good health.  
 A. 69.—Have no mill.

WILLIAM BAILEY.

No. 124.

T. & J. Carey.

ANSWERS of THOMAS &amp; JOHN CAREY, Lane End, Longton, Stoke-upon-Trent.

- A. 1.—Lane End and Longton, in the parish of Stoke-upon-Trent, in the county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of earthenware.  
 A. 3.—The manufactory was erected in 1816, and since then no additional erections have been made.  
 A. 4.—Manual labour only employed.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Opening of doors and windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—There are none.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—At about eight years. Not having been employed before.  
 A. 11.—Yes, but the work is not very laborious; simply carrying the moulds from which the plates, &c. are made to and from the stoves for drying; and the female children in cutting the paper prints from the engravings in proper form to lay upon the ware to leave an impression.  
 A. 12.—No machinery.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—None from parishes.  
 A. 15.—Only one orphan, who resides with an uncle.  
 A. 17.—From ten to twelve hours when at full work.  
 A. 18.—From ten to twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Cannot say; we keep no account; probably, in the hurry of preparing shipping orders by a given period they may in some few instances exceed fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Impossible to say at all correctly.  
 A. 23.—About ten hours per day.  
 A. 24.—The same as the men.  
 A. 25.—By the causes stated in A. 19.  
 A. 26.—We consider it unavoidable.  
 A. 27.—Yes, when trade is very dull.  
 A. 28.—It makes little difference, for they generally work piece-work.  
 A. 36.—Does not apply to our manufacture.  
 A. 46.—Firing or burning of the earthenware.  
 A. 47.—About forty hours.  
 A. 48.—Men of middle age, and sometimes assisted by young men about sixteen or eighteen years of age.  
 A. 49.—The earthenware would be spoiled if the firing was discontinued after once began.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 51.—Same as by day.  
 A. 52.—No ill effects have ever come under our observation.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner to every class of persons.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all. What do not, bring their food to the manufactory on account of living at a distance.

A. 55.



- A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—None.  
 A. 57.—Reproof.  
 A. 58.—Very seldom.  
 A. 59.—By those persons under whose superintendence they are, whether they be foremen, parents, or overlookers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—No; it has so seldom taken place that such steps were unnecessary, but very few instances having occurred during the sixteen years we have been manufacturers.  
 A. 65.—Some do, and some do not.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been employed from an early age are generally the most proficient.  
 A. 67.—We perceive no alteration.  
 A. 68.—No; the parties themselves are not restricted from exchanging work with each other, such as firemen and dippers, which is the only unhealthy employment.  
 A. 69.—Does not apply to our manufacture.  
 A. 79.—We are decidedly of opinion that the less legislative interference there is between master and servant the better.

THOMAS & JOHN CAREY.

Staffordshire.  
 T. & J. Carey.

## ANSWERS of F. &amp; R. PRATT, Stoke-upon-Trent.

No. 125.  
 F. & R. Pratt.

- A. 1.—Parish of Stoke-upon-Trent, in the county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Manufacturing earthenware.  
 A. 3.—Erected for an earthenware manufactory.  
 A. 4.—Neither.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—No machinery.  
 A. 9.—We are not aware of any being needed.  
 A. 10.—From ten to twelve.  
 A. 11.—In some cases.  
 A. 12.—No machinery.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—We have no parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—No orphans.  
 A. 16.—An overlooker.  
 A. 17, 18, & 23.—Ten hours.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 46.—Biscuit ovens only.  
 A. 47.—About forty-eight hours.  
 A. 48.—A man, and a boy of fifteen or sixteen years old.  
 A. 49.—Gradual heating, for burning or baking the ware.  
 A. 33.—For breakfast half an hour and dinner one hour.  
 A. 54.—Many leave, and all are at liberty to leave.  
 A. 55.—Convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 57.—To see that work is done, or no wages.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 67.—If there is any alteration, it is for the better.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—No mill.

F. & R. PRATT.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS GOODFELLOW, Tunstall, Wolstanton.

No. 126.  
 Thomas Goodfellow.

- A. 1.—Tunstall parish, Wolstanton, county of Stafford.  
 A. 2.—Pottery.  
 A. 3.—Cannot tell, as the manufactory was erected before it was occupied by me; should think it has been employed as a pottery for fifty years.  
 A. 4.—Neither; all manual labour.  
 A. 5.—Yes; casements and doors.  
 A. 6.—On opening windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all or any of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—Do not employ machinery.  
 A. 9.—None needed.  
 A. 10.—Eight or nine years.  
 A. 11.—Yes, as some of the trades will not allow of sufficient wages for children of more than ten years.  
 A. 12.—Have not any machinery.  
 (APP.—B. 1.)

T 2

A. 13.



Staffordshire

Thomas Goodfellow.

- A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—No parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—Children generally live with their parents.  
 A. 16.—Yes, foreman.  
 A. 17.—The regular time is from half past six o'clock in the morning to six'clock in the evening, allowing them half an hour to breakfast, and one hour to dinner, making their labour ten hours a day.  
 A. 19.—Greatest number of hours fourteen, but this very seldom occurs.  
 A. 20.—Every day except Sundays.  
 A. 21 & 22.—Cannot tell; no account kept.  
 A. 23.—Nine hours.  
 A. 24.—Refer to A. 17. Never more than fourteen hours, this very seldom occurs.  
 A. 25.—To complete a foreign order when the vessel is to sail on a certain day.  
 A. 29.—It is sometimes necessary to work to complete a foreign order, that it may be ready in time for the vessel it is to sail by; this very seldom occurs. It is necessary that oven-men sit up all night when the kilns are firing, and only this man can finish it. This is regular through the trade.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 31.—In cases of oven-men; refer to A. 29.  
 A. 32.—No, do not think it necessary, as it so seldom occurs.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 35.—Sit up with the kiln in their turn, say one night a week.  
 A. 36.—In cases of oven-work it would spoil all our goods, as the kiln cannot be fired under seventeen hours, and sometimes twenty hours.  
 A. 37.—Working hours not too long, as the men are generally healthy.  
 A. 38.—Cannot tell, as the workmen regulate it themselves.  
 A. 40.—Eleven.  
 A. 46.—Yes, firing biscuit ovens.  
 A. 47.—Fifty-four hours, but are relieved every twelve hours.  
 A. 48.—From fourteen to sixty years.  
 A. 49.—Because goods cannot be fired in biscuit state without it.  
 A. 50.—By candles.  
 A. 51.—Casements and doors.  
 A. 52.—What is done is not injurious.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour to breakfast, and one hour to dinner.  
 A. 54.—Generally all.  
 A. 55.—All who stop do so for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—Generally by discharging them.  
 A. 58.—Sometimes, but very slight and seldom.  
 A. 59.—By all.  
 A. 60.—Sometimes.  
 A. 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—No.  
 A. 65.—Some do live in the houses of their employers, but no control is exercised over them more than other tenants.  
 A. 66.—None.  
 A. 67.—Do not perceive any difference.  
 A. 68.—No, there is no necessity for it, as the men are generally healthy.

THOMAS GOODFELLOW.

Wiltshire.

No. 127.

J. Spiers.

## WILTSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of J. SPIERS, Silk Factory, Chippenham.

- A. 1.—Chippenham, in the county of Wilts.  
 A. 2.—Weaving, winding, and silk-throwing.  
 A. 3.—The building is eighty feet by twenty-one. No addition has been made to it since its first erection; it contains five floors; the ground floor has been occupied during the last two years with a silk mill; the second, third, and fourth are occupied with engine-loom for the manufacture of galloons, doubles, hat-bands, &c., and the fifth is used for weaving, winding, and warping.  
 A. 4.—The power employed is a six horse steam-engine, which has worked regularly twelve hours per day during the six summer, and eleven hours per day during the last six winter months.  
 A. 5.—There is a ventilator at both ends of each shop, the object of which is to admit the pure and eject the foul air.  
 A. 6.—Air is also admitted by the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated at the discretion of the persons employed generally.  
 A. 8.—Such parts of the machinery considered dangerous are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The employ being perfectly clean and temperate, have no arrangements either for washing or changing clothes.



Wiltshire.

*J. Spiers.*

A. 10.—Ten years is the lowest age at which children are employed; have only two so young and two others, who are now more advanced, were previously employed in a cloth factory.

A. 11.—There is no actual necessity for the employment of children under twelve years of age; the employ being light, is very suitable; but the chief motive for their employment is, that they receive less wages than is given adults, and I apprehend a sufficient number of the latter could not always be obtained.

A. 12.—The recent application of new and improved machinery as regards the silk-trade affords opportunity of giving employment to more children than formerly, but this applies only to soft-silk-winding.

A. 13.—Formerly apprentices were employed; at present none.

A. 14.—Apprentices are not employed.

A. 15.—The children employed are none of them orphans, and are under the care and protection of their parents, by whom they are maintained.

A. 16.—All the children employed are under the care of their parents.

A. 17 & 18.—All persons employed in my factory, without regard to age, have worked twelve hours each day during the last six summer months, and eleven hours during the winter months, except Saturday, on which day the greater portion work only eleven hours either summer or winter.

A. 19.—During the last year, on no occasion has any person in my employ worked more than twelve hours in one day.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty.

A. 22.—The whole of my works are carried on at one and the same time each day.

A. 23.—Eleven and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve.

A. 25.—Under no circumstances have the usual or regular hours of work been exceeded.

A. 26.—Excess beyond the regular hours is always avoidable and always avoided by me.

A. 27.—Have formerly worked them twelve hours per day, but at no period more.

A. 28.—Were the persons employed to work a greater number of hours, and thereby produce a larger quantity, the cost would be something less.

A. 29.—If the persons employed are paid by the week, and no extra pay given for overtime, the motive must be to obtain a large produce at the least possible expense, and it is obvious it must have that effect should the works be carried on wholly or in part by apprentices; it will also save a great expense in machinery, as one third more will be required to produce the same should it be kept going but ten in lieu of fifteen hours.

A. 30.—From a limitation of working-hours an increase in the cost of production must of necessity follow, but the extent depends on the value and the quantity produced.

A. 31.—To have two sets of children the gain would not be equivalent to the extra expence, particularly where one set is kept to work fourteen or more hours per day; from the great expence of lights and various causes, night-work is never so profitable as that by day.

A. 32.—Relays or change of hands may have been tried, but never to my knowledge.

A. 33.—I employ only one set of hands, and that is a day set.

A. 34.—The interest of a manufacturer in working two sets of hands, where the nature of the work does not require it, is, I apprehend, with a view of obtaining the largest produce possible from a comparatively small portion of machinery.

A. 37.—The effect on a further reduction of working hours would be followed by an increased demand for hands, and probably an advance of wages.

A. 38.—My factory is heated by means of steam-pipes, running completely through each shop, which are used only for the purpose of warming the factory.

A. 39.—From fifty-five to sixty degrees in winter only.

A. 40.—From one hundred and twenty to one hundred and thirty.

A. 49 & 50.—None in my employ work by night.

A. 51.—A ventilator at both ends of each shop.

A. 52.—None in my employ work by night.

A. 53.—One hour is allowed for dinner; from one o'clock till two.

A. 54.—All persons leave if they choose.

A. 55.—If they remain in the factory it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Persons leaving the factory at meal-times do not on their return settle to their work so readily as when it has not been left.

A. 57.—In some cases slight correction, but in general, should they not be found attentive, dismissal.

A. 58.—Severe punishments are never inflicted.

A. 59.—When children are corrected it is either by the foreman or overlooker.

A. 60.—Slight correction has occasionally been inflicted, but never with such a degree of severity as to call for my interference.

A. 61.—My sanction is never given either prior or subsequently.

A. 62.—I at all times forbid corporal punishments, and very seldom hear of any, even the slightest correction, taking place.

A. 63.—My general instructions to my foreman and overlookers are, not to inflict corporal punishments, but if the children are not industrious to discharge them.

A. 64.—On no occasion have complaints been made or proceedings taken before magistrates, either against me, my foreman, or overlookers, on the subject of any punishments alleged to have been inflicted in my establishment, either during the last three years or any former period.



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Wiltshire.

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J. Spiers.

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A. 65.—None of the persons employed live in my houses, and when they quit the factory are no longer under my control.

A. 66.—The skill of those taken in the factory at the age of from fourteen to fifteen years I think equal, after a period of four or five years, to that of those who have been trained to it from ten or eleven, and they are generally quite as tractable, with little or no difference as respects their moral character or conduct; but I must here remark, that having none but females in my employ, I am not perhaps so competent to give an opinion.

A. 67.—During the seven years that I have had the factory I have not perceived any material effect the employ has had on the health of the workpeople; many of them have been with me the whole time, whose health has always been and still is good; three have died, all of whom were of delicate health when they came to me, with strong tendency to consumption; one was with me but a short time, the other two married, had one child each, and had left some time prior to their decease. The confinement on these three persons I think might have had some injurious effect.

A. 68.—As regards the health of the workpeople, there is no necessity for changing their employment, every part being equally unobjectionable.

A. 69.—I consider my factory subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—There is a clothing-factory in my neighborhood, but whether it is conducted in strict conformity to the provisions of the Act I have no means of knowing.

A. 74.—Not to my knowledge, but should think they have not.

A. 75.—I never heard, but think not.

A. 76.—I should think none was ever wanted.

A. 77.—Have no doubt that in factories where a strict discipline is kept up fear of the consequences operates most powerfully against the obtaining evidence.

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# C. 1. North-eastern District.

(PART I.)

## LIST OF MANUFACTURERS WHO HAVE RETURNED ANSWERS TO THE QUERIES ISSUED BY THE CENTRAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

| No.              |                                        | Page | No. |                                       | Page  |
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| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. |                                        |      |     |                                       |       |
| 1.               | Edward Unwin, Ashfield                 | - 1  | 23. | W. H. Rawson, Halifax                 | - 31  |
| 2.               | H. & C. Hollins and Co., Cuckling      | - 2  | 24. | James Royston, Son, and Co.           | - 32  |
| 3.               | John Chambers, Mansfield               | - 3  | 25. | Walker and Edmondson, Halifax         | - 33  |
| 4.               | James Franks, Mansfield                | - 5  | 26. | Watts Wrigley, Halifax                | - 34  |
| 5.               | Leavers and Greenhalgh, Mansfield      | - 6  | 27. | James Greenwood, Halifax              | - 36  |
| 6.               | Richard Hardwick, Mansfield            | - 7  | 28. | Benyon and Co., Leeds                 | - 37  |
| 7.               | Francis Wakefield, Mansfield           | - 8  | 29. | James Brown and Co., Leeds            | - 40  |
| 8.               | Ann Morris                             | - 9  | 30. | Bruce and Dorrington, Leeds           | - 41  |
| 9.               | R. Foote and Co., New Rudford          | - 10 | 31. | Peter Fairbank, Leeds                 | - 43  |
| 10.              | J. F. Bottom, Swenton, near Nottingham | - 11 | 32. | Thomas George and Sons, Leeds         | - 44  |
| YORKSHIRE.       |                                        |      | 33. | James Holdforth, Leeds                | - 46  |
| 11.              | Jeremiah Horsfall, Addingham           | - 12 | 34. | John Horsfall, Leeds                  | - 47  |
| 12.              | G. Mason and Sons, Barnsley            | - 13 | 35. | John Howard, Leeds                    | - 49  |
| 13.              | Thomas Taylor, Barnsley                | - 14 | 36. | Maclea and March, Leeds               | - 51  |
| 14.              | Charles Tee, Barnsley                  | - 15 | 37. | John Sayner, Hunslet, near Leeds      | - 52  |
| 15.              | G. S. Wells, Barkisland                | - 16 | 38. | Hirst, Bramley, and Co., Leeds        | - ib. |
| 16.              | Greenwood and Whitaker, Burley         | - 17 | 39. | T. W. Stansfield, Burley Mills, Leeds | - 55  |
| 17.              | Thomas Cook, Dewsbury                  | - 20 | 40. | Wilkinson and Co., Leeds              | - 57  |
| 18.              | John Halliley, Dewsbury                | - 22 | 41. | O. Willans and Son, Leeds             | - 59  |
| 19.              | John Baldwin, Halifax                  | - 23 | 42. | William Ackroyd, Otley                | - 60  |
| 20.              | Robert Crossley, Halifax               | - 24 | 43. | John B. Sidgwick, Skipton             | - 61  |
| 21.              | R. & J. Ingham, Haugh, near Halifax    | - 26 | 44. | John Holdsworth and Co., Skircoat     | - 63  |
| 22.              | G. Naylor and Co., Halifax             | - 29 | 45. | J. & W. Priestley, Sowerby, Halifax   | - 64  |
|                  |                                        |      | 46. | Richard Ingham and Sons, Stansfield   | - 65  |
|                  |                                        |      | 47. | Wordsworth and Co., Holbech           | - 66  |

## ADDENDA.

| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.               |        | YORKSHIRE.                    |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 48. John Thackeray, Nottingham | - [69] | 50. John Jellicorse, Sowerby  | - [71] |
| 49. Fisher and Co., Radford    | - [70] | 51. Marshall and Co., Holbech | - [75] |



North-eastern District

(Part I)

LIST OF MERCHANTS WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR THE  
GRANTS ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

| NOTTINGHAM |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1          | Edward James, Esq. |
| 2          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 3          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 4          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 5          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 6          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 7          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 8          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 9          | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 10         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 11         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 12         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 13         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 14         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 15         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 16         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 17         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 18         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 19         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 20         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 21         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 22         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 23         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 24         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 25         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 26         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 27         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 28         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 29         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 30         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 31         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 32         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 33         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 34         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 35         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 36         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 37         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 38         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 39         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 40         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 41         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 42         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 43         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 44         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 45         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 46         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 47         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 48         | John & Co. Esq.    |
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| 50         | John & Co. Esq.    |
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| 68         | John & Co. Esq.    |
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| 86         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 87         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 88         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 89         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 90         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 91         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 92         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 93         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 94         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 95         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 96         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 97         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 98         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 99         | John & Co. Esq.    |
| 100        | John & Co. Esq.    |



# C. 1.

## North-eastern District.

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### ANSWERS.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS received to the QUERIES.

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#### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

##### ANSWERS of EDWARD UNWIN, Ashfield.

- A. 1.—Sutton in Ashfield, and county of Nottingham.
- A. 2.—Spinning of cotton, and weaving.
- A. 3.—The manufactory has been erected sixty or seventy years.
- A. 4.—At present steam only is used; formerly wind, water, and steam.
- A. 5.—No; nothing but windows.
- A. 6.—The hands open and shut the windows whenever it suits them.
- A. 8.—There is no access to the dangerous parts of the machinery, except by the engineer.
- A. 9.—None.
- A. 10.—Generally about twelve years old; and none of them are previously employed at other trades, to our knowledge.
- A. 11.—No; the few we have under twelve years old are brought by their parents.
- A. 12.—A less number of children.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—We employ no orphan children, and the parents of the others visit them whenever they please.
- A. 16.—The overlooker in each room has the superintendence of the children.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 18.—Twelve hours and a half for five days, and eleven and a half on Saturday.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 20.—So many stoppages occurred last year from machinery breaking, that it is impossible to answer this question accurately; and the same will apply to the question which follows.
- A. 22.—The works are all carried on together.
- A. 23.—As near as can be ascertained, it did not exceed eleven hours.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 26.—They are always avoidable, but at a considerable loss to ourselves, as we have always paid the full wages, although we have had frequent stoppages from the breaking of machinery, and have not made up the difference by working beyond the regular hours.
- A. 27.—We used to work a less number of hours than we do now.
- A. 29.—There can be no doubt that he will make a much greater profit if he pays no higher wages, and that of course would be his inducement to extend the hours of labour.
- A. 30.—The Commissioners will see that rent, taxes, the interest of capital, and all incidental expences (which in this neighbourhood are nearly equal to the wages) are always going on, and therefore a great limitation of the hours of labour must necessarily affect the cost of production.
- A. 31.—The wages required.
- A. 32.—We have had no necessity for working extra hours.
- A. 37.—It is very probable that if the hours of labour are reduced, the same quantity of work will be exacted, and paid for at the reduced ratio.
- A. 38 & 39.—We generally work at a temperature of 65 to 70 degrees, and that is about the average temperature of the mills.
- A. 41.—Never.
- A. 46.—None.
- A. 50.—Oil-lamps and candles, for the short time we work before day-light and after dark.
- A. 51.—The same as the day.
- A. 53.—Some of the mechanics and overlookers are allowed half an hour at breakfast, an hour at dinner, and half an hour at tea-time; the remainder, ten minutes at breakfast and twenty-minutes at dinner.

C. 1.

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Nottinghamshire.

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No. 1.

Edward Unwin.

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Nottinghamshire.

Edward Unwin.

A. 54 & 55. Some of them do go home; but the greater part of them remain, and they do so for their own convenience, the distance being too far for most of them, in the short time allowed.

A. 56.—In our case it would make little or no difference.

A. 57.—No particular means.

A. 58.—Very rarely, and only in very gross cases.

A. 59.—By the overlookers.

A. 63.—We give no instructions to the overlookers to correct the children, unless in cases of gross lying or thieving; and we find very few require punishment.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Some of them do, but the majority do not; their moral and social improvement is left in the hands of the parents, and to the various schools which are established in the town and its vicinity.

A. 66.—We have no doubt that they are quicker at their work.

A. 67.—The place has generally been very healthy, but has this year been partially subject to the epidemic which has so generally prevailed.

A. 68.—We have no particular processes.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

A. 73.—Not strictly; but they deviate in a very slight degree; so little, that it has never been thought necessary to enforce obedience.

A. 74.—No, not to our knowledge.

A. 77.—We have no reason for believing this; but it is natural to suppose that the workpeople are cautious not to offend those from whom they derive their subsistence.

A. 78.—There are certainly regulations which might be framed for the better observance of the present law; and the treatment of children might certainly be improved by diminishing the hours of labour, provided that limitation be grounded on fair and rational arguments, and not made to depend upon the morbid feelings of individuals who are only partially acquainted with the subject, or have some motive in magnifying those cases of abuse which may have fallen under their observation.

EDWARD UNWIN.

No. 2.

H. Hollins jun.

ANSWERS of HENRY HOLLINS jun., Partner of H. & C. Hollins and Co., Cuckling.

A. 1.—Cuckling, in the county of Nottingham.

A. 2.—Chiefly agricultural; only one manufactory in the place.

A. 3.—Erected altogether in the year 1783; employed for its present purpose nineteen years since.

A. 4.—Water-power entirely; very irregular; varies from ten to forty horse power.

A. 5.—Not any.

A. 6.—Upon the opening of windows alone.

A. 7.—Generally by the overlooker, and at the request of the workpeople, when the weather will permit.

A. 8.—Whenever it is possible.

A. 9.—The workpeople are at liberty to make any changes they like to their dress, either upon entering or leaving the mill; there is no particular accommodation for washing, further than a good supply of water.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; never have been employed at other trade.

A. 11.—Yes; their wages are lower. They can do some kinds of work quite as well as larger children; and they are preparing themselves to fill the situation to advantage.

A. 12.—A greater number.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have no children employed of this description.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours.

A. 18.—All the people work the same time.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and forty minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and forty-one hours twenty-three minutes.

A. 22.—All parts worked the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and thirty-six minutes.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and forty minutes.

A. 25.—A great part of the year, particularly October and November, making up time lost from shortness of water.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, because we could not afford to lose the time, nor the people their wages.

A. 27.—No, excepting last year.

A. 28.—Of course the cost of production is considerably enhanced by a diminution in the time of working.

A. 29.—To the manufacturer that he may produce more work from the same fixed capital, and by this means bring his article cheaper to the market; to the workpeople that they may obtain more wages than they could otherwise obtain: but it is impossible to continue the same set of hands through the night as well as the day.

A. 30.



A. 30.—Certainly, to a very considerable extent; almost all expences are increased in proportion, excepting wages.

A. 31.—Relays of hands could not be obtained in an agricultural district like this; but if the plan were practicable it would not suit, as the wages would be lower in proportion.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set.

A. 34.—To produce more work from the same fixed capital.

A. 36.—Increased cost of production were we working in the night.

A. 37.—Materially increase the cost of production. Many manufacturers would cease to work, as loss would be the inevitable consequence; wages would fall considerably more than in proportion to the time reduced, and the trade would be driven from the country, as it is only by excessive labour we can compete with foreigners; loaded so tremendously as we are with taxation direct and indirect, and by the very high price of food, occasioned by the almost entire exclusion of foreign corn.

A. 38.—About sixty-five degrees, in all situations.

A. 41.—Not any.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—With oil and candles.

A. 51.—Windows.

A. 52.—Cannot say; never saw it tried.

A. 53.—Half an hour for each class at dinner; breakfast and tea are taken whilst the wheel is working.

A. 54.—All who choose to do so, at dinner, who are by far the greatest number.

A. 55.—Entirely their own convenience.

A. 56.—To cause all of them to reach home late at night, and considerable inconvenience to the manufactory, from such frequent stoppings.

A. 57.—Sometimes fine, but chiefly threat to discharge.

A. 58.—Slightly, at times.

A. 59.—Overlookers.

A. 60.—Occasionally.

A. 61.—No.

A. 62.—We have scarcely ever found it necessary.

A. 63.—They have had no particular instructions, further than to have recourse to corporal punishment as seldom as possible.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—Many of them do; no particular superintendence is exercised.

A. 66.—Very considerable. Those who enter a mill earliest make the best hands; those are scarcely ever good for any thing who enter late. Cannot refer.

A. 67.—Cannot suppose there is much difference.

A. 68.—If any situation does not agree with hands, they are generally removed to another, or leave, as it never answers to retain them in it.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

A. 73.—No; nor has any notice ever been taken of the right to do so.

A. 74 & 75.—No.

A. 77.—Certainly not.

A. 78.—No further than making the law more in accordance with the interest of man and master, and doing away with the necessity of such long hours, by a reduction of taxation.

A. 79.—The present inquiry can only show how hard the people are compelled to work in order to obtain a scanty subsistence, and masters, in order to procure a small return for capital. It is utterly impossible the workpeople can be relieved by any of the legislative enactments in contemplation. The legislature may limit the hours of working, but cannot compel manufacturers to give the same wages. Less hours of working must lead to less wages; less wages to a decrease of comforts; and a decrease of comforts to more immorality. The only effectual way to afford them relief is to reduce taxation; take the duty off corn, and do away with all other restrictions upon trade.

HENRY HOLLINS jun.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN CHAMBERS, Mansfield.

No. 3.

John Chambers.

A. 1.—Little Matlock, in the parish of Mansfield, in the county of Nottingham.

A. 2.—Doubling lace yarns.

A. 3.—Erected in 1800, for spinning hosiery yarn; commenced doubling by the present occupier in 1822.

A. 4.—Water and steam; together fifteen horses power.

A. 5.—The windows open opposite each other.

A. 6.—The windows are opened and shut at the discretion of the hands.

A. 7.—By all or any of the hands as they please.

A. 8.—The machinery is made secure and free from danger.

A. 9.—The employment is clean and healthy; a change of clothing is unnecessary; they are allowed to wash themselves.

A. 10.—From ten years and upwards.

(APP.—C.1.)

A 2

A. 11.



Nottinghamshire.

John Chambers.

- A. 11.—Children ten years old are capable of attending to our department, it being very simple.
- A. 12.—Within the last eight years the alterations in machinery have made it necessary to employ a greater number of children under twelve years of age.
- A. 13.—Not any.
- A. 14.—No parish apprentices.
- A. 15.—The hands lodge with their parents and guardians generally.
- A. 16.—Each goes to his or her respective home on leaving the mill.
- A. 17.—All are employed alike; say twelve hours per day.
- A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a half in January 1832, to complete some orders.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days and six hours.
- A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty-six hours.
- A. 22.—One and the same time.
- A. 23.—Say eleven hours and fifty-six minutes and a half.
- A. 26.—If all were restricted to, say twelve hours per day, it would be most beneficial to trade generally.
- A. 27.—Occasionally only.
- A. 28.—It would have the effect of equalizing the cost of production.
- A. 29.—Profit is the prevailing inducement; and the longer the mill is worked by the same set of hands, the greater will be the profit to the principals; for the hands will work for less wages generally in proportion to the number of hours they are allowed to work over the ordinary time, considering the greatest amount of wages at the end of the week, without reference to number of hours.
- A. 30.—When the steam-engine is once got to work it can be kept going at very little cost, consequently there must be some little additional expence of production from the limitation of hours.
- A. 31.—Extra hours are not required but by persons eager to gain extra profit; neither children or adults ought to work during the night.
- A. 32.—I have never tried night-work, and hope to be protected by the legislature from being compelled to it. If others are to be allowed to do it I shall be compelled to it, or else forced out of the market. I abominate the system of night-work as unnatural, immoral, and in every respect bad. It ought to be stopped immediately.
- A. 36.—While there are persons allowed to work in the night I am obliged to sell my goods at a less profit than I should do; if night-work was prohibited my goods would be enhanced by it.
- A. 37.—It would be objectionable to reduce labour below twelve hours per day, inasmuch as wages would have to be reduced to the workpeople, which, owing to provisions being higher, rents and taxes also higher, than in other countries, it would induce foreign competition.
- A. 38 & 39.—65°, and sometimes 60°.
- A. 40.—Eighty.
- A. 47.—From six o'clock in the morning till six or seven at night.
- A. 48.—From ten years of age to thirty years, or may be more.
- A. 49.—I do not consider it necessary to work beyond the ordinary hours.
- A. 50.—Candles in winter.
- A. 52.—I have not tried it; but there can be no doubt of their health suffering by it; I have seen some night hands who looked sickly and spiritless; I never saw any look well.
- A. 53.—A quarter of an hour, during which time, excepting for dinner, the mill is at work; the hands have time to get their meals comfortably.
- A. 54.—None leave the mill to go home to their meals.
- A. 55.—More for the convenience of the hands than for the manufacturer.
- A. 56.—An unnecessary loss both to the hands and the manufacturer, particularly to those mills situate a distance from the towns; to compel children to go one or two miles or more would be a hardship.
- A. 57.—To send for their parents or guardians, occasional forfeits, and threatening to discharge the most refractory.
- A. 58.—Very seldom, and but very slightly.
- A. 60.—If an occasional tap on the back of the children may be construed into corporal punishment, they have occasionally received it, but not to hurt them.
- A. 62.—I do not allow corporal punishments, except as before stated.
- A. 63.—Instructions have been given to overlookers to bring the hands into the counting-house, when they are talked to, sent home to fetch their parents, or threatened to be discharged, as the case may require.
- A. 64.—Not any complaint.
- A. 65.—They do not, generally; there may by the overlookers and their families; but those persons are moral, attend a place of worship generally, and are fond of domestic cleanliness.
- A. 66.—A child working in a mill, if attention is paid to it at home and on the Sabbath, is not lessened in intellect any more, nor perhaps not so much, as those children are who are allowed to stay at home unemployed; their habits are not so vicious.
- A. 67.—My mill is in an open airy situation, and generally the hands are in good health; I have observed no difference for the last ten years.

A. 68.



A. 68.—Not any change; there is nothing injurious in the work.

A. 69.—I am not in possession of an abstract of any Act affecting mills. In the country we have gone on as we liked, never interfering or complaining. Nottinghamshire:

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

*John Chambers.*

A. 77.—While in regular work they would not do a thing that would be sure to cause their discharge.

A. 78.—I do think that a limitation of working-hours to twelve per day would be mutually advantageous to the master, workpeople, and to the trading interest generally; it would be the greatest good that could be conferred on them, and place the man of principle and feeling on a par with the unprincipled and unfeeling, who are ever taking advantage of the poor workpeople and the fair tradesman.

JOHN CHAMBERS.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES FRANKS, Overlooker, Mansfield.

No. 4,

*James Franks.*

A. 1.—Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

A. 2.—Bobbin-net manufactory.

A. 3.—August 1829.

A. 4.—Steam and water; water irregular; six horse power.

A. 5.—By fans placed in the windows.

A. 6.—A pane of glass taken out, and a ventilator or fan placed in.

A. 7.—The ventilator is always in action.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—No.

A. 10.—We have none under nine years.

A. 11.—I think not.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—No.

A. 15.—No orphans; the children live at home with their parents.

A. 17.—Twelve, alternate.

A. 18.—Twelve.

A. 19.—Night and day.

A. 23.—The former part, and till within these few months, fourteen hours; we now work night and day.

A. 24.—They work twelve, alternate.

A. 25.—One hand never works above twelve hours.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Bad trade. The hands change alternately. Power-frames generally work all hours.

A. 31.—They are relieved alternately.

A. 32.—Yes, it answers; twelve hours each, meals excepted.

A. 33.—From twelve till twelve.

A. 34.—One hand could not stand all hours.

A. 35.—Change weekly.

A. 38.—We require no heat only for the comfort of the hands.

A. 39.—We require none.

A. 41.—We have lately worked at night.

A. 42.—Eight or nine.

A. 43.—From twelve to twelve; meals taken out.

A. 44.—Eight or nine.

A. 45.—Twelve to twelve.

A. 50.—Candles and fat tallow.

A. 51.—The same as day.

A. 52.—Nothing particular, that I know.

A. 53.—Day hands two hours per day; lace-makers get theirs at work.

A. 54.—Lace hands get their meals at work; the children have two hours off.

A. 55.—Hands convenience.

A. 57.—Exhortation; we never use any punishments.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—We have no one that has been in the mill from childhood.

A. 68.—No occasion.

A. 69.—I suppose it is.

A. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, & 77.—No.

We have omitted to answer several questions, but they are such as have not affected or do not affect us: we cannot answer them.

JAMES FRANKS.



Nottinghamshire.

No. 5.

Ric. Greenhalgh.ANSWERS of RICHARD GREENHALGH of the Firm of Leavers and Greenhalgh,  
Mansfield.

- A. 1.—Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.
- A. 2.—The manufacture of lace yarn only.
- A. 3.—Erected at three different periods; the original part of the building was built in 1790, and enlarged in 1792, and again enlarged in 1820; was first used for its present purpose in September last, 1832.
- A. 4.—A regular water-power of twenty-four horses.
- A. 5.—None, excepting the opening of windows, which are sufficiently wide to admit of such a quantity of fresh air as may be at any time required.
- A. 6.—Only on the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—Overlookers.
- A. 8.—Fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have no arrangement of this kind; but hands regularly wash themselves and put on additional clothing when leaving the mill.
- A. 10.—They generally exceed ten; a few of them have been previously employed running lace.
- A. 11.—We find children a little under or about that age more useful for one of our processes than young women.
- A. 12.—There has been no recent alteration in that part of our machinery where we employ children.
- A. 13.—Not any.
- A. 17.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 18.—Day hands thirteen hours, and night hands eleven hours; no difference excepting in children.
- A. 19.—Fifteen hours.
- A. 20.—We worked both days and nights, consequently are unable to say.
- A. 21.—Not able to say.
- A. 22.—All our machinery worked nearly the same time throughout the day, excepting that part where children were employed, which stopped sooner.
- A. 23.—The greater part of our machinery worked through the night; the remaining part about thirteen hours each day.
- A. 24.—Fourteen hours; very rarely more than twelve.
- A. 25.—In one of our processes the working-hours were regulated according to the work; the remaining part remained the same.
- A. 26.—Avoidable; but part of the machinery would be obliged to stop; the regular hours are only exceeded in the case of one hand supplying the place of another who may be absent through sickness, &c.
- A. 27 & 28.—Yes.
- A. 29.—It can only be to supply his demand.
- A. 30.—No, as wages are reduced accordingly; the only difference would be laid out in machinery, and by so doing wages must be reduced still lower, or the manufacturer would be a great loser on his dead capital.
- A. 31.—None; this is the plan we adopt with hands under twenty-one years of age; extra hours are not required from children.
- A. 32.—We do not require extra hours in the working of children; sometimes as much as one hour, but not more.
- A. 33.—Yes; the day-set commence work at six o'clock in the morning and give over at seven o'clock in the evening; the night-hands supply the intermediate hours.
- A. 34.—Because a smaller quantity of machinery is required to make the same quantity of yarn as a larger quantity of machinery working days only.
- A. 35.—They continue to work nights regularly, in preference to a periodical change.
- A. 36.—We should be compelled to increase our machinery very considerably, or the quantity of our production would be very much reduced.
- A. 37.—A reduction of the workpeople's wages, as we could not afford to give the same wages for less working-time.
- A. 38.—The same temperature pervades the whole mill, or nearly so, with one exception, where the temperature is between 75° and 80°, and there it is not necessary, but unavoidable.
- A. 39.—65°.
- A. 40.—In that process where we cannot avoid maintaining the heat, as above, (A. 38), about six hands are usually employed.
- A. 41.—Regularly throughout the year, with the exception of Saturday evening and holidays.
- A. 42.—None under thirteen or fourteen years of age, and very few at that age.
- A. 43.—The length of hours vary to the time of the year.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—By coal gas.
- A. 51.—The opening of windows.
- A. 52.—Not any, that we are able to judge of.

A. 53.



A. 53.—All (excepting joiners and mechanics, who have a longer time allowed,) have a quarter of an hour allowed for each of the three meals.

A. 54.—Only about four or six.

A. 55.—For both.

A. 56.—Loss of time.

A. 57.—Very little is required; but when necessary, correction or trivial punishment is used.

A. 58.—Only on children sometimes.

A. 59.—Overlookers.

A. 60.—Not with any severity.

A. 61.—In some cases.

A. 62.—Never found it necessary to interfere with overlookers on this head.

A. 63.—We have found corporal punishments so generally unnecessary, that we have never given ourselves the trouble to enact rules or give instructions respecting them.

A. 64.—No, never.

A. 65.—Only two families; we exercise no control over them as to their moral or social improvement.

A. 66.—When employed from infancy they are generally more acquainted with the nature of their work, and are quicker than those who are learnt when older; but if they are naturally apt to learn, after a few months practice they are nearly equal to those employed from infancy.

A. 67.—We are not aware that working in a factory causes any deterioration or improvement in the health of workpeople; a many of those we employ have never been absent from their work through sickness since we first employed them.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—No.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We have never heard of any conviction.

A. 74.—No.

A. 77.—Not in the least.

A. 78.—We should not attempt it, as we do not conceive that there is any necessity for any restrictions or enactments of this kind.

RICHARD GREENHALGH.

## ANSWERS of RICHARD HARDWICK, Mansfield.

No. 6.

*Richard Hardwick.*

A. 1.—Parish of Mansfield, in the county of Nottingham.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and lace-thread doubling.

A. 3.—Cannot say at what time the mill was erected; but has been occupied by me three years last Lady-day.

A. 4.—Considered about eight horse power, by water, which varies a little in wet or dry seasons.

A. 5.—There are four tin ventilators, with covers, on one side the room, and three on the other, to admit air and take away any dust that may arise from the cotton in its process of carding and spinning.

A. 6.—The hands open the windows whenever they think it necessary to do so.

A. 7.—By all or any of them.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—My workpeople have the opportunity of changing their outer clothes on entering the mill and on leaving it, and washing as often as they think fit: this has been the practice since my commencement, which was three years Lady-day last.

A. 10.—I do not employ any under ten years of age.

A. 11.—I have work which children of ten years of age could manage very well, but do not like to take them so young; it has generally been the desire of the distressed parents which has induced me to take one at that age.

A. 12.—A less proportion, so far as I am concerned.

A. 13.—I do not.

A. 15.—I do not lodge nor maintain any.

A. 16.—Their parents.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours each day.

A. 19.—Three or four hands have occasionally been employed fourteen hours and a half in the doubling of lace-thread.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-five days and one quarter, from 1st January to 29th December 1832.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-three hours.

A. 22.—The lace-thread doubling has only commenced this year.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and thirty-five minutes; or in round numbers, eleven hours and a quarter each day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, to the best of my knowledge.

(APP.—C.1.)

A 4

A. 25.



Nottinghamshire.

Richard Hardwick.

A. 25.—The usual hours of work were only exceeded with three and sometimes four hands in doubling lace-thread, from the pressing demands of this article; and that only these last few weeks.

A. 26.—Allowing time to be made up for accidents, and being at times short of water, I think it avoidable.

A. 27.—In the latter end of the year 1830 and the beginning of 1831 have worked twelve and a half and twelve and three quarter hours per day.

A. 28.—Undoubtedly so.

A. 29.—I do not know of any such case, therefore cannot give an opinion upon it.

A. 30.—There is undoubtedly an increased cost of production from the limitation of the hours of work. For instance, suppose the rent of a mill, with rates, &c. be £300 per year, this would be about £1 for every working-day; then, instead of twelve hours, if you say ten only, there would be a loss sustained of £1 each week in rent, by shortening the time of working, and so on in proportion.

A. 31.—There is certainly an objection to this, for should they be wanted only for one hour they would require extravagant wages for attending that time.

A. 32.—I have not tried it, having so seldom occasion for it.

A. 33.—I never did employ a night-set of hands.

A. 34.—One set of hands quite sufficient for the time I wish them to work.

A. 35.—No night-work.

A. 36.—No ill effects at all.

A. 37.—My opinion on this point is decided, that if the hours of working are reduced I shall be compelled, from the small profit derived from my business, to lower my work-people's wages in such proportion as the time is reduced.

A. 38.—60° to 65° is quite sufficient for my spinning, at all times.

A. 39.—Have no artificial heat in summer, and not more in winter than is quite sufficient for the comfort of the hands.

A. 40.—About twenty in cotton-spinning, and four in doubling lace-thread.

A. 41.—Not any.

A. 53.—Quarter of an hour at breakfast, and a quarter of an hour at dinner.

A. 54.—They either go out to their meals or get them in the mill, as suits themselves, as the works are standing during that time.

A. 56.—I cannot say.

A. 57.—Admonition.

A. 58.—Strictly discharged.

A. 60 & 61.—Never.

A. 62.—Immediately.

A. 63.—Instructions have been given, but not in writing, as I am generally in the mill myself.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—Two small families; who have their houses clean and comfortable, so far as I can see of them.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from their youth are the most useful hands, being able to perform different kinds of work; whereas they who come in when grown up seldom can do more than one sort of work.

A. 67.—I have only had the mill three years last Lady-day, and my hands generally have enjoyed a good state of health.

A. 68.—The hands generally choose to be at such work as they have been most accustomed to, and seldom like to change.

A. 69.—I think it was not until within these last few weeks, having taken on more hands.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I cannot say, not knowing the nature and extent of the Act.

A. 74.—I do not know that they have.

A. 77.—I do not think mine are; cannot say for others.

A. 78.—I can suggest no other mode than that I act upon; viz. admonition; and if several times repeated, and no improvement, I discharge them my service; but have seldom occasion to resort to the latter.

RICHARD HARDWICK.

No. 7.

Francis Wakefield.

## ANSWERS of FRANCIS WAKEFIELD, Mansfield.

A. 1.—Mansfield, in Nottinghamshire.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton.

A. 3.—In the year 1789.

A. 4.—Water only; irregular; sometimes in summer cannot work more than seven hours in the twenty-four.

A. 5.—Not any.

A. 6.—Depends upon opening the windows.

A. 7.—By foremen and overlookers.

A. 8.—All are fenced off.

A. 9.



- A. 9.—Not any.  
 A. 10.—Ten years; most have been employed in seaming or lace-work.  
 A. 11.—Our works do not require it; but the parents do.  
 A. 12.—A less proportion.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours to twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—Eleven to twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eighty.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—To make up time lost by want of water.  
 A. 26.—Cannot be avoided where water is irregular.  
 A. 27.—Yes, we have.  
 A. 28.—Certainly.  
 A. 29.—To decrease the cost of production.  
 A. 30.—Cost of production would be increased thirty per cent. by reducing the hours to ten, and eight and a half on Saturday.  
 A. 31.—I consider it impossible.  
 A. 32.—I am not aware it has or could be tried.  
 A. 33.—Not any night-work.  
 A. 37.—A reduction of working-hours must diminish the wages of all persons employed.  
 A. 38.—60° to 70°.  
 A. 39.—70°.  
 A. 40.—Thirty to forty.  
 A. 42.—Not any.  
 A. 53.—Twenty minutes to one hour.  
 A. 54.—Very few.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of workpeople.  
 A. 56.—The distance would render it inconvenient.  
 A. 57.—Good advice.  
 A. 58.—Very seldom.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Very seldom.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—Our instructions are to complain to the masters when any of the children behave improperly.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—Some of the men do; many do not.  
 A. 66.—Those make the best workpeople that begin early. I never knew a good spinner that came to work after thirteen or fourteen years of age; and those do best that come at ten or eleven.  
 A. 67.—I have not noticed any alteration.  
 A. 68.—The employment is so varied it is quite needless.  
 A. 69.—As far as we can; but not in all particulars.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—They do not; not any.  
 A. 74 & 75.—I believe they have not.  
 A. 77.—I believe they have no fear of the masters; but they fear injuring themselves.  
 A. 78.—I am not aware of any means to enforce obedience to laws alike injurious to masters and servants.

FRANCIS WAKEFIELD.

Nottinghamshire.

Francis Wakefield.

## ANSWERS of ANN MORRIS, Nottingham.

No. 8.

Ann Morris.

- A. 1.—Parish of St. Peter, in the town of Nottingham. It is not a mill or manufactory; merely two large rooms used for the purpose of getting-up or dressing lace.  
 A. 2.—Getting-up of lace.  
 A. 3.—All erected about four years ago, and employed for the same purpose ever since.  
 A. 5.—Yes; by means of the windows on each side and at the ends, which are numerous, and all open; three casements in each window.  
 A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—It depends entirely upon the state of the weather and of the work whether or not the windows are opened; in damp and wet weather they are generally kept shut.  
 A. 8.—There is no dangerous machinery.  
 A. 9.—There are places for putting on and off additional clothing, and for washing themselves, to which all have access; and has been so during all the time the getting-up rooms have been employed.  
 A. 10.—Twelve is the lowest age. Some few of them may have been previously employed in working lace.  
 (APP.—C. 1.)

B

A. 11.



Nottinghamshire.

Ann Morris.

- A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—Don't employ any under twelve.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Do not lodge and maintain any of them; they all go to their respective homes to their meals and to sleep.  
 A. 16.—Yes; one forewoman.  
 A. 17.—Nine hours per day.  
 A. 18.—Nine hours per day; no difference with respect to age.  
 A. 19.—Twelve.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four.  
 A. 21.—Did not average more than ten hours per day; suppose about three thousand.  
 A. 22.—Always the same.  
 A. 23.—About ten; certainly not more.  
 A. 24.—Not more than twelve.  
 A. 25.—When trade is brisk.  
 A. 26.—I consider it is not avoidable, as I should not have sufficient employment for another set of hands.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Never work through the nights.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 31.—I have not work sufficient for two sets of hands, and sometimes not for one set.  
 A. 32.—I have heard that some one tried it, but it did not answer; the getting-up of lace is rather nice work, and requires care and attention, and is best done by day-light.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—I think it would make no difference in my business, for they are paid certain wages to work nine hours per day; if they work more they are allowed so much per hour for over-work; if they work less than nine hours per day, the same sum per hour is deducted.  
 A. 38.—About 65°; and might be done at about 55° or 60°.  
 A. 39.—Eighty degrees; but that is very seldom, and never more than one hour at a time.  
 A. 40.—All the hands are employed in the same process.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 42.—None.  
 A. 50.—In summer no lights are used; in winter, candles.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, and half an hour at tea.  
 A. 54.—All leave at meal-times.  
 A. 57.—Merely speaking to them; and if they will not do their duty they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—Never.  
 A. 60, 61, 62, 63, & 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—No; live at their own respective dwellings.  
 A. 66.—I consider those who have come to me in their infancy, and remained with me ever since, as better hands than those who came to me later in life; for instance, Ann Grace, in the annexed list.  
 A. 67.—They have always been healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—No, I suppose not; never knew that it was.

ANN MORRIS.

No. 9.

John Hall.

ANSWERS of JOHN HALL, Acting Agent for the Firm of R. Foote and Co., New Rudford.

- A. 1.—New Rudford, county of Nottingham.  
 A. 2.—Bobbin net.  
 A. 3.—Built in the year 1830 and 1831.  
 A. 4.—Hand labour; neither steam or water power.  
 A. 5.—Ventilators in windows and roof.  
 A. 6.—No; upon tin ventilators placed in the windows.  
 A. 7.—At the control of the workmen.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous machinery employed.  
 A. 9.—No such arrangements are necessary, the work being clean, and the temperature of the rooms only such as the men would require in their own houses.  
 A. 10.—At eight years of age; cannot say if previously employed.  
 A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—We employ two sets of hands; hours as follows; in winter the factory is open from five in the morning to one at night, and the men are expected to work from six to twelve; the shifts are as follows:
- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1st set from 6 to 9 | 2d set from 9 to 1 |
| do. 1 to 6          | do. 6 to 12        |
- The sets change each week; and in summer the hours are from five to eleven instead of from six to twelve.

A. 18.



A. 18.—The boys are divided into two sets also; first set from six to eight at night; second set from eight to ten at night; half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, half an hour for tea.

A. 19.—We never require the men to work extra hours; sometimes before holidays they beg for the factory to remain open an extra hour.

A. 20.—Cannot tell; the works stood six or seven weeks last spring, as the men turned out for an advance of wages.

A. 23.—From seventeen to eighteen hours per day for the two sets, or from eight and a half to nine hours each set.

A. 24.—Not more than twelve hours, regular hours; do not average more than from ten to eleven.

A. 25.—The machines occasionally come off six or eight together, in which case the children are kept an extra hour to put in the bobbins for them; but in this case (as there would be nothing to do previous to the machines coming off) the children are sent out to play (frequently as much as two or three hours together) on the green in front of the factory.

A. 26.—Cannot at all times be avoided, as if the children were not (when a number of machines are off together about nine o'clock at night) kept an extra hour, the machines would have to stand till next morning, and the men would lose several hours, which as they are paid per piece would cause great dissatisfaction; and it should be observed most of the children belong to the workmen.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—None.

A. 30.—Cannot tell.

A. 31.—None.

A. 32.—No; it has not been tried; we do not find the present hands make any complaint as regards hours; many of our hands would wish the factory to be open more hours if we would allow it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Because our machinery is very costly, many machines being worth from 500*l.* to 600*l.* each, and the rate of profit so small that unless we worked them the hours we do they would not pay interest for outlay of capital.

A. 36 & 37.—An incompetency to compete with the machine-holder in France and Germany, where lace-machines are increasing to such an extent that in a few years they will get the whole of our present foreign trade.

A. 38 & 39.—The temperature does not affect our manufacture or machinery, and the men regulate it to suit their own feelings.

A. 41.—Never all night.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 52.—Cannot say.

A. 53.—The men being off and on four to five hours each shift take what time they please; children, smiths, and overlookers, half an hour breakfast, an hour dinner, half an hour tea.

A. 54.—Yes, unless they prefer bringing their meals with them.

A. 57.—Dismissing them if not attentive.

A. 58.—No, except in cases of theft, or the like, in which case the parents are sent for, and it is then left to their option either to take them away or punish them as an example to the rest; in which case they either inflict the punishment themselves, or it is done in their presence, and is never severe.

A. 62.—Yes; no child is punished except as above, and the overlooker would be dismissed if he took the power into his own hands.

A. 63.—Yes; they are instructed to report to the principals if any boy is refractory, and the parents are then sent for.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—The lace-machines being very complex and delicate, we find men who are taken into the trade late in life never manage so well as those brought to it younger.

A. 67.—Cannot say.

A. 68.—No; have no unhealthy work whatever.

A. 69 & 70.—No.

A. 73 & 74.—Cannot say.

A. 77, 78, & 79.—No.

JOHN HALL.

#### ANSWERS of J. F. BOTTOM, Swenton, near Nottingham.

A. 1.—Swenton, near Nottingham.

A. 2.—Dressing silk and cotton lace.

A. 3.—The building at present occupied from September 1832.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening windows.

(APP.—C. 1.)

B 2

A. 7.

No. 10.  
J. F. Bottom.



Nottinghamshire,

*J. F. Bottom.*

- A. 7.—Regulated by master.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous machinery used.  
 A. 9.—We have water laid into each room; two rooms are the girls, to change their clothes, and take their tea, &c.; introduced with the erection of the present building.  
 A. 10.—From twelve to fourteen years, all of whom have been employed in other branches of the lace-trade, such as running, &c.  
 A. 12.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen, including two hours for meals.  
 A. 19.—Sixteen.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-two.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and ninety-six.  
 A. 23.—Thirteen.  
 A. 24.—Sixteen.  
 A. 25.—Depends exclusively on the state of trade.  
 A. 26.—Unavoidable, because our business depends on punctuality in executing orders within a given time.  
 A. 37.—If restricted to hours we could not execute orders with sufficient dispatch, as we dress lace for various manufacturers, whose business depends on our punctuality to a certain extent.  
 A. 38.—From seventy to eighty degrees,  
 A. 39.—Eighty to ninety degrees.  
 A. 40.—Twenty.  
 A. 41.—Never all night,  
 A. 42.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas,  
 A. 51.—Windows,  
 A. 53.—One hour for dinner, half an hour for breakfast and tea each,  
 A. 54.—At their own option.  
 A. 57.—If disobedient they are discharged.  
 A. 58, 65, 70, 78, 79.—No.

J. F. BOTTOM.

Yorkshire,

No. 11.

*Jeremiah Horsfall.*

## YORKSHIRE,

## ANSWERS of JEREMIAH HORSFALL, Addingham.

- A. 1.—In the parish of Addingham and county of York.  
 A. 2.—Mule-spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—The old mill was built about thirty years, and the new mill nine years ago.  
 A. 4.—The machinery is turned by two water-wheels equal to the power of forty horses.  
 A. 5.—Eight of the windows in each room are made to open, and the people employed are allowed to admit air whenever they please; besides there are at least forty holes in the floors through which the straps run, forming excellent ventilators; and the doors are frequently set open in hot weather.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are guarded.  
 A. 9.—The hands, to my knowledge, never make a practice of changing their clothes on entering or leaving the mills; but they have at all times free access to abundance of clear water.  
 A. 10.—No children are employed under nine years of age; but some of the children are set to bind weft at home for the hand-loom weaver before they attain the age of nine years.  
 A. 11.—As piecers I should prefer children from ten to twelve years of age; they are quite as expert and better to manage than older children.  
 A. 13.—I do not employ any apprentices.  
 A. 17.—The hands generally, be their ages what they may, work twelve hours each day five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday, beginning at six o'clock in the morning and ceasing at half past seven in the evening, allowing half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner.  
 A. 19.—An additional hour has occasionally been worked to make up lost time by an excess or scanty supply of water.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and nineteen hours and a half.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours a day for five days, and nine hours on Saturday,  
 A. 24.—I have only one set of hands, and many of those have been with me ever since I commenced business in 1824.  
 A. 25.—The works have been stopped two entire days by excess of water, and an additional hour has been worked each day to reduce the time so lost.  
 A. 26.—In water situations I conceive it will be necessary to work half an hour extra occasionally, to redeem time lost by too much or too little water.

A. 27.



A. 27.—At no time.

A. 29.—I believe the manufacturer who runs his mill an unreasonable length of time does so that he may have an advantage in the market.

A. 37.—I am fully convinced that no spinner or manufacturer can pay more in wages than he now does for a given quantity of work; and if the time of labour be reduced, a proportionate reduction must be made in wages.

A. 38.—The average temperature in the rooms is from 60° to 64°.

A. 39.—I never require the temperature more than 64°, as I never spin finer numbers than forty hanks in the pound.

A. 41.—Never during the night.

A. 42.—None.

A. 50.—Lighted by gas morning and evening during the winter season.

A. 53.—Half an hour is allowed for breakfast and one hour for dinner; the spinners, piecers, and mechanics have also half an hour for tea, but the card-room hands, the dressers and weavers, work during tea. All the people leave the mill for breakfast and dinner; the spinners, piecers, and mechanics at tea-time, being four o'clock, and resume at half past four o'clock.

A. 57.—When a child is inattentive or idle at work the parent is informed of his or her conduct.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments are not allowed.

A. 60.—Never with my knowledge or sanction.

A. 62.—I have always forbidden corporal punishments.

A. 63.—The instructions given by me to the overlookers are always to send a child home if it will not attend to its duty, but never to strike it.

A. 64.—Not one instance that I am aware of, either against myself or any of the overlookers.

A. 65.—About one fourth of the workpeople live in cottages near the mill, the rest in the village. A school was erected by me some years ago, in which the small children are taught daily, those that work to read every Sunday, and as many as will attend every evening after the mill stops.

A. 66.—The hands that are introduced early are much more expert and active than those introduced at a later period, and will always have a preference.

A. 67.—I believe the general health of workpeople is better than it was before the mill began to work, and in this opinion I am confirmed by the report of the surgeon, who accounts for it by the wages being better and the food more generous.

A. 68.—I have never found this necessary.

A. 69.—It is, and always has been.

A. 70.—Never in any instance.

A. 73.—I do not know.

A. 79.—I only regret in my case that the Commissioners could not come and inspect the mill, and interrogate the workpeople; I believe they would have found, on inquiry, no wish for any further reduction in the hours of labour.

JEREMIAH HORSFALL.

Yorkshire.

Jeremiah Horsfall.

#### ANSWERS of WM. T. MASON, on behalf of G. Mason and Sons, Barnsley.

No. 12.

W. T. Mason.

A. 1.—Barnsley, Silkstone parish, county of York.

A. 2.—Linens, and mixtures of linen and cotton, woven by hand-loom weavers at their own homes.

A. 3.—Our warehouse built, we believe, in 1828.

A. 4.—No power used in the warehouse; we hire about three or four horse power in a separate building, for the purpose of winding warp-yarns from the hanks upon bobbins; the engine is chiefly employed in a dye-house, and is, we believe, about twenty horse power.

A. 5.—The windows, which are numerous, opened at the discretion of the workmen; no interference on our parts at all: no artificial heat in our works.

A. 8.—No dangerous machinery in our winding-room; in the warehouse have no machinery at all.

A. 9.—There is no necessity for us to interfere with our workmen on this score, as they have at their own option plenty of ventilation, and have two hours allowed out of every twelve for three separate meals.

A. 10.—None employed in the warehouse under fourteen years of age; we have none employed by us that have been in any previous trade; we have two girls under fourteen employed in our winding-room.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Our regular hours at both the warehouse and the winding-room are from seven to seven, allowing two hours for meals. When we are very busy in the warehouse the men work over-hours; never more than two or three hours, for which they are paid over-work; the winding girls never exceed from seven to seven.

A. 18.—No difference made with respect to age.

(APP.—C. 1.)

B 3

A. 19.



Yorkshire.

W. T. Mason.

A. 19.—Having no necessity for a time account in our business, we cannot precisely state to half an hour; but we believe never longer than fifteen hours (the two meal-hours included), and that very rarely, only when very busy, at two seasons in the year.

A. 24.—Twelve, including the two hours for meals.

A. 26.—Were this excess required in the winding-chamber, it could easily be remedied by one or two additional winding-frames: with regard to the men employed in the warehouse, they prefer a few hours per week over-work to having an extra hand taken on temporarily.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Generally speaking, we conceive that avaricious and unfair competition is the cause of extra labour among the mill-owners.

A. 30.—No difference, as our trade is conducted.

A. 37.—Creation of more machinery, furnishing employment to more workmen; and, as hands become more scarce, most probably a wholesome and salutary advance of the labour-market.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 50.—Warehouse with gas in the winter.

A. 51.—None required.

A. 53.—Two hours to all.

A. 54.—All, except a few winding-girls out of the country, who in bad weather, for their own convenience and at their own choice, take their meals in the winding-room.

A. 56.—None, as far as we are concerned.

A. 57.—Remonstrances only, accompanied with reasoning with them on the folly of disobedience; if admonitions fail, they are discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Always.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions to the foremen or overlookers not to punish children, but in case of disobedience or neglect to lodge a complaint to us.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Our workmen all live apart from the warehouse, and we have no control over them beyond their actual hours of work in the warehouse.

A. 66.—Generally speaking, in the linen trade, little or no difference.

A. 67.—No difference.

A. 68.—Make use of no injurious processes.

A. 69.—Are not mill owners or occupiers.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We have one small flax-mill in the neighbourhood; know nothing respecting its regulations.

A. 74.—Never heard they were.

A. 77.—Should think so, if they have good situations; but as we know nothing of the factory system, except by report, don't feel competent to give a precise opinion.

A. 78.—Heavy penalties, a certain proportion to the informer, to be levied upon those masters whose cupidity tempts them to encroach upon the labour of children.

W. T. MASON.

No. 13.

Thomas Taylor.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS TAYLOR, Barnsley.

A. 1.—Barnsley, in the parish of Silkstone, county of York.

A. 2.—Manufacturing linens by hand-loom at their own homes; the warps prepared at my warehouse.

A. 3.—My warehouse was built about fifty years since, and always employed for its present purpose.

A. 4.—One horse employed is the power for winding yarns upon bobbins from the hanks, in a large chamber over the warehouse.

A. 5.—No heat required; there are windows on each side, which are opened when found necessary.

A. 7.—Overlooker.

A. 8.—The machinery employed for this purpose not considered dangerous.

A. 9.—The work being clean, and the girls going home to their meals, I find no necessity for such provision.

A. 10.—Twelve years of age and upwards, and have generally been previously employed in hand-winding.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—No alteration made.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15 & 16.—I have no control after business hours.

A. 17.—My regular hours at the warehouse are twelve, half past six to half past six, allowing two hours for meals; at the winding-frames, from nine until five o'clock, allowing one hour for dinner.

A. 18.—No difference made.

A. 19.



A. 19.—The warehousemen are occasionally at work from half past six until nine o'clock. I keep no time-book.

A. 24.—Eight hours.

A. 25.—In case the men are wanted to pack goods, or prepare them for the press.

A. 26.—By occasional servants in the warehouse, and fitting up additional frames for the girls.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To make the capital invested more productive; an intermediate change of hands would have the same effect, if they worked by the piece, and at the same rate of wages.

A. 30.—None.

A. 31.—I should conceive none; but this question has no reference to my business.

A. 37.—If working-hours are reduced, it would have the effect of advancing wages to the extent of the reduction of time.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—My warehouse lighted in the winter months with candles, and the winding-room with gas.

A. 51.—No working in the night.

A. 52.—No night-work.

A. 53.—Two hours per day.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—They take their meals out of the warehouse.

A. 57.—To discharge them.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—Always.

A. 63 & 64.—None.

A. 65.—I have no control over them after business hours.

A. 67.—I know of no difference.

A. 68.—No injurious process carried on.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—This depends upon the situation they hold, and the nature of their employment.

A. 78.—Heavy penalties on the proprietors; one half to the informer giving evidence.

A. 79.—I conceive the inquiry to be altogether unnecessary; that labour, like many other commodities, will find its own level, and requires no legislative enactments.

THOS. TAYLOR.

Yorkshire.  
Thomas Taylor.

#### ANSWERS of CHARLES TEE, Barnsley.

No. 14.  
Charles Tee.

A. 1.—Barnsley, in the parish of Silkstone, county of York.

A. 2.—Manufacturing linens by hand-loom weavers, at their own homes; the warps prepared at my warehouse.

A. 3.—My warehouse was built and first employed in 1825.

A. 4.—No power is employed in the warehouse. The only power I employ is hired for the purpose of winding yarns upon bobbins from the hank; it is a large chamber over a calender house; regular steam-power; I use about three horse; the remainder used in calendering and drawing water from a coal-mine.

A. 5.—No extra heat being required in any operation in my business, I make no specific provision for ventilation.

A. 6 & 7.—Only by opening windows, which is controlled by the overlooker.

A. 8.—I have worked the same frames sixteen years; have never had any accident, and do not consider the machinery employed for this purpose dangerous.

A. 9.—The work being clean, and the girls employed going home to their meals three times a day, I find no necessity for such provision.

A. 10.—Neither apprentices in the warehouse, nor girls at the winding-frames, under fourteen years of age. They have been generally employed before they come to me in hand-winding, at their own homes, under the inspection of their parents or friends.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—No alteration made.

A. 13.—Yes, at the warehouse, who receive a weekly wage, commencing at 8s. for the first year, and advancing 1s. per week each year for five or seven years, as we agree. They eat and sleep with their friends, and are clothed by them, and only under my control during warehouse hours.

A. 14.—I have never had any apprenticed by the parish.

A. 15.—I only employ, and have no control out of business hours.

A. 17.—My regular hours at the warehouse are twelve, from seven to seven, allowing two hours for meals; at the winding-frames, from six till seven, allowing the same time, viz. one hour for dinner, and half an hour each for breakfast and tea.

A. 18.—No difference made in the hours of employment to persons under twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—My business does not require that I should keep a time-book, and I cannot possibly answer this question from memory.

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B 4

A. 25.



Yorkshire.

Charles Tee.

A. 25.—The regular hours are seldom exceeded, except in the warehouse for the purpose of packing goods prepared in the course of the day, which may be in urgent demand.

A. 26.—Very easily, by employing at the warehouse a few occasional servants when there is a press of business, and at the winding-room by fitting up an additional frame or two.

A. 27 & 28.—No.

A. 29.—Generally the desire to make the capital invested in machinery as productive as time and toil can make it. Sometimes working extra hours has been commenced by individual manufacturers or spinners, for the purpose of under-selling their competitors, who, in self-defence, are compelled to have recourse to the same system.

A. 30.—With me it can make no difference; the warehousemen receive four-pence per hour for over-work, and the piece-workers have what they earn.

A. 37.—The first effect, after an additional creation of machinery, would be to furnish employment to a greater number of hands, probably at the same rate of wages per hour. If hands became scarce, an advance of wages would then ensue.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—My warehouse and winding-room are lighted with gas in the winter months.

A. 51 & 52.—Not working during the night; none required.

A. 53.—Two hours per day to all.

A. 54.—All of them.

A. 57.—Pointing out to them the impropriety of disobedience, as contrary to their own interest; and if not improved by gentle means, discharged.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—Always.

A. 63.—My foreman has been always instructed not to strike, or permit any person under my superintendence to be struck or beaten.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—I have no control over my workpeople or tenants out of the warehouse or winding-room.

A. 66.—I can give no satisfactory data in reply to this question, so much depending on the capacity of the individual, whether young or old.

A. 67.—I know of no difference.

A. 68.—I have no injurious process.

A. 69.—I have no mill.

A. 73.—There is only one mill in the immediate neighbourhood, which has seldom been fully employed; it is a flax-mill, and not under the provisions of the Act.

A. 77.—If they have good situations or employment, or at times when work is very scarce, certainly.

A. 78.—Heavy penalties on the proprietors; and one half the penalty to the informer giving evidence.

CHARLES TEE.

No. 15.

G. S. Wells.

## ANSWERS of G. S. WELLS, Barkisland.

A. 1.—Barkisland, parish of Halifax, county of York.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and twisting.

A. 3.—Erected forty years ago; first employed for the present purpose in 1830.

A. 4.—Water, and irregular; in some seasons very deficient, so as not to be able to work more than six hours per day.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6 & 7.—On the opening of windows; at the discretion of all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Those parts of the machinery which from their nature would be dangerous are, from their situation, rendered perfectly harmless.

A. 9.—Although I have made no arrangements expressly for this purpose, nevertheless many of the workpeople are in the habit of changing part of their dress on coming to and leaving the mill.

A. 10.—Of course the last Act of Parliament is my limit as to the lowest age at which I employ any child.

A. 11.—The nature of my work is not such as to require the employment of children under twelve years of age, if a sufficient number at that age could be obtained.

A. 12.—I am not aware that any alterations in machinery recently has altered the requisition for children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half.

A. 22.—All my works are carried on simultaneously.

A. 23.—About eleven hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen and a half.

A. 25.—I do not consider I have ever exceeded the regular hours of work.

A. 26.



A. 26.—In mills where power is obtained from water it is desirable that the loss of time arising from a deficiency of water should be made up when there is plenty, or the work-people themselves would be great sufferers.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—I am not aware that such is the practice, nor do I see any inducement for it.

A. 30.—The cost of production would undoubtedly be increased by the limitation of the hours of work to ten instead of twelve, particularly where a large proportion of weekly hands are employed; and as the same capital would be required in the erection of buildings and necessary machinery, the cost of the produce of piece-work would also be increased, though not in the same degree.

A. 36.—I conceive the prohibition of night-work would be beneficial to the trade.

A. 37.—The effects likely to be produced by a further reduction of the hours of labour would be injurious to the labourers themselves, inasmuch as their wages would be reduced in proportion to the reduction of time; and to the employer, inasmuch as the cost of production would be increased considerably, without any probable improvement in price.

A. 38 & 39.—The usual temperature is about sixty degrees, below which I consider it desirable not to go; nor is it necessary it should ever be much higher.

A. 40.—The whole.

A. 53.—One hour and a half.

A. 54.—Most of them do.

A. 55.—Those who do not remain for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Inconvenience, certainly, to those who find it convenient to take them in the manufactory.

A. 57.—Such as parents generally take to secure obedience; sometimes by threatening, sometimes by encouragement.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—I have had no need.

A. 63.—No.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Some in cottages of mine, others in those of other people; but all enjoy the privilege of controlling themselves in their domestic arrangements.

A. 66.—I have had no further reason to notice a difference, except that those who have been longest employed in any one process are generally most expert in it.

A. 67.—I have not observed any alteration.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I have never interfered in my neighbour's business.

A. 74.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—I do not feel myself called upon to propose penalties to enforce my own obedience to what I conceive to be injurious; but I have no hesitation in stating, that if Mr. Sadler's Bill passes into a law as it has been printed, the wisest course for mill-owners will be at once to lock up their mills, and abandon the trade.

G. S. WELLS.

#### ANSWERS of J. WHITAKER for Messrs. Greenwood and Whitaker, Burley.

No. 16.

J. Whitaker.

A. 1.—Burley, in the parish of Otley, and county of York.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving of cotton.

A. 3.—One mill erected in 1792, for spinning; and in December 1825 one hundred and eight cotton power-looms were added; and the mill called the New Mill begun to work in February 1811; spinning only.

A. 4.—Water only, and well supplied; but sometimes impeded with too much water, and sometimes stopped with floods: the river is called the Wharf.

A. 5.—None necessary, the windows sufficient, and mostly regulated by the hands; no artificial heat required, except in winter; the rooms are heated by steam only; in the dressing-rooms additional heat is required, where four adults and one young man of eighteen are employed.

A. 7.—Generally regulated by the persons employed.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts have been fenced off upwards of twenty-five years.

A. 9.—All the rooms are supplied with water, and many of the hands change their clothes and wash themselves before leaving the mill.

A. 10.—None under nine years; not in any trade before coming into the mill.

A. 11, 12, 13, & 14.—No.

A. 15.—We have only three, and one is lodged with a respectable family, and the other two with their sisters, who are of age.

A. 16.—(See the Petition appended to this, with regard to morality). Their masters and those with whom they live.

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C

A. 17.



Yorkshire.

J. Whitaker.

A. 17.—Twenty-one years and upwards mostly work by piece, and never work more in the average than thirteen hours each day.

A. 18.—From eighteen to twenty-one years, as above, A.17; under eighteen years, agreeably to Act of Parliament.

A. 19.—Never more than allowed by Act of Parliament for children under eighteen; and the hands above that age will average less than thirteen hours per day. See A. 22.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days. We avoid as much as we can the interruptions from feasts, having experienced its bad effects on the workpeople. (See the Petition, which justifies us in this.)

A. 21.—Four thousand and forty-three hours, in which adults and young people of eighteen years and upwards only employed; those under never exceed sixty-nine hours per week, except boys employed as mechanics, joiners, and filers, who, from necessity, have been employed in repairing the water-wheels and machinery in the night, and not often; and a few weavers occasionally.

A. 22.—Spinners and weavers 18 years and above, by the piece, average 13 hours.

|                     |                     |   |   |       |   |       |     |   |
|---------------------|---------------------|---|---|-------|---|-------|-----|---|
| Ditto               | under 18            | - | - | ditto | - | ditto | 11½ | — |
| Some of the weavers | under 18            | - | - | -     | - | ditto | 12  | — |
| Carders and drawers | 18 years and above, | - | - | -     | - | ditto | 11½ | — |
|                     | under 18            | - | - | -     | - | ditto | 10½ | — |
| Reelers             | 18 and above,       | - | - | ditto | - | ditto | 11  | — |
|                     | under 18            | - | - | -     | - | ditto | 11  | — |
| Cotton-cleaners     | 18 and above        | - | - | -     | - | ditto | 11  | — |
|                     | under 18            | - | - | -     | - | ditto | 10  | — |

A. 24.—Only one set; children under eighteen never exceed twelve hours, except mechanics and a few weavers; see A. 21; or in making up lost time, as allowed by Act of Parliament.

A. 25.—Never, except to make up lost time from floods, and in that case only as allowed by Act of Parliament; but last year was the best we ever remember for not having too much or too little water.

A. 26.—We never exceed the regular hours, except to make up lost time occasioned by floods or accidents, and then only as allowed by Acts of Parliament.

A. 27.—None, except upwards of twenty years ago, when we worked day and night by two sets of hands.

A. 28.—Certainly; interest of money invested in the mills, machinery, and other permanent charges not being reduced by a less produce.

A. 29.—We cannot answer this from our own experience, but have heard that the manufacturers in woollen and worsted mills take orders to execute in a given time, which obliges them to work longer than the usual hours; unfortunately for us, the depôt in Manchester is always sufficient to supply every demand instantly.

A. 30.—If we should be subjected to the Ten Hours Bill we should suffer at least 1,000*l.* a year, and our workpeople 1,500*l.*, besides the consequent increase of the poor-rates.

A. 31.—The great objection, where a sufficient supply of hands can be obtained, would be from the parents, who would receive only as much for two children as they do now for one; but in this village two sets could not be had. In weaving and spinning it would be difficult to find which set had been guilty of bad work, and this would be a most serious evil.

A. 32.—Not here.

A. 33.—Not for the last twenty-two years.

A. 34.—One better than two. See A. 31.

A. 35.—No night-work here, but occasionally by mechanics in repairing machinery, and by four adults in cleaning machinery, and two night-watches.

A. 36.—None to us, except we should be obliged to discharge a number of young mechanics, and take adults, a most serious injury to many promising boys; most of those who have been so employed here have become good joiners, filers, smiths, machine-makers, foundry-men, and have obtained great wages.

A. 38.—No artificial heat required in any of our rooms, only steam for the comfort of the hands in winter, except in the dressing-rooms for sizing warps; and in these rooms there are only four adults and one young man of eighteen.

A. 39.—Never tried.

A. 40.—Five. See A. 38.

A. 41.—None.

A. 42.—None but mechanics.

A. 43.—Mechanics four or five times from seven to eleven o'clock, and twice all night.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas, mornings and evenings.

A. 51.—None; we consider the windows sufficient.

A. 52.—When we worked night and day no apparent difference.

A. 53 & 54.—The Act of Parliament allows one hour and a half; and all under eighteen have half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner; the adults take their breakfasts while the mills are running, but the speed is mostly reduced, which enables them to sit down to their meals, and this they prefer to leaving their work: always stop an hour for dinner.



A. 55.—All the adults working by the piece prefer having their breakfasts brought into the rooms where they work; also their drinkings.

A. 56.—It would be difficult to get the parents to be punctual in having their meals ready at the same time; many have to go a considerable distance for milk; at present the breakfasts are brought into the mills from seven to nine o'clock; and the children complain, particularly in winter, that they cannot have their meals same as the adults.

A. 57, 58, & 59.—Upwards of twenty years since orders were given to the overlookers not to inflict corporal punishments, but to send refractory children to their parents to be punished; and the consequence is, that now the parents reprove their children, instead of hardening them against their overlookers. For bad work fines are sometimes imposed. About eleven years ago one overlooker struck a boy, for which he paid 10s. 6d. to the marriage fund.

A. 60.—Never with our permission.

A. 63.—Yes, but not in writing.

A. 64.—No, nor the last thirty-seven years. (See Petition.)

A. 65.—Mostly in houses belonging to this establishment; for morals, see the Petition; cleanliness is particularly attended to; and the houses and mills frequently whitewashed, lime being found by the proprietors, and frequently applied hot.

A. 66.—From ten to twelve years are the best ages for making good weavers and spinners.

A. 67.—No apparent difference, except fever has prevailed more in Burley, particularly amongst families, since March 1831, when Charles Hindle, a man, was brought from York in a dangerous state, and died soon after; and also last month (May) more sickness, from the influenza, than ever was known in Burley; but only two deaths.

A. 68.—Sometimes, but not frequently.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—We really cannot tell; masters are mostly satisfied with their servants, and we have great reason to believe the servants are with their masters.

A. 78.—As applies to this establishment, we conceive none necessary; Sir John Hobs-knight's Bill quite sufficient; but the penal parts of which we object to, as a dissatisfied servant might, for the sake of a fine, give a great deal of trouble to proprietors, without any blame attaching to them.

A. 79.—We believe the contemplated Ten Hours Bill would be exceedingly injurious to the cotton-trade; the legislature no doubt wish to encourage health and morals, but if this Bill becomes a law the effects would be to destroy many water-mills entirely in rural situations in the country, and drive the trade into large populous towns, where the proprietors have little or no control over their hands, and where health cannot be so well promoted as in rural scenes. Steam-power is mostly in large towns, and can be set to work at any moment; water-mills are subject to many interruptions for want of water, and frequently impeded and totally stopped by floods. Our opinion on this subject may be taken as impartial, because we have a regular supply; but we know that if the hours were confined to from half past five o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening, as stated in the Ten Hours Bill, that many mills in summer could not run more than from six to eight hours a day, as it frequently happens that the water from the highest mill cannot reach the lowest till about noon, and if the proprietors were to apply steam to obviate this inconvenience they would be subjected to a great expence of coal, water-mills being mostly at a considerable distance from collieries. The great expence of carriage we now feel to be a most serious charge, being forty-four miles from Manchester, the great cotton-mart, and all the way land carriage; and from Liverpool we have to pay freight and carriage for one hundred and twelve miles. In addition to this, the cotton-spinners have a most alarming competition in Germany, France, Belgium, and even America, where (except America) wages are less than half price; and in the latter country they have cotton cheaper, by the commissions, freight, and duty which we have to pay, and which enables them to send cotton-twist to the East Indies on much easier terms than we can from this country.

J. WHITAKER.

COPY of a PETITION presented to the House of Commons in June 1832, by Lord Morpeth.

To the Honourable the House of Commons in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the working people employed in the cotton-factories belonging to Messrs. Greenwood and Whitaker at Burley, in the West Riding of the county of York;  
Sheweth,

That your petitioners humbly represent to your Honourable House, that there are three hundred and seventy-six persons employed in the cotton-factories above mentioned, which are worked by water only, and that they work only such hours as are laid down in the Acts of Parliament.

That your petitioners have hitherto lived in comfort, have always been employed, and had regular wages, whether trade was good or bad; are fully satisfied with the hours of working

(APP.—C. 1.)

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as

Yorkshire.

J. Whitaker.



Yorkshire.

*J. Whitaker.*

as now established; and that the general state of health of your petitioners is as good as any other class of persons who have to earn their daily bread by labour.

That by way of experiment your petitioners have been employed one week ten hours a day; and should the legislature in future compel us to work those hours only, a great many of your petitioners must have aid from the poor-rates and be degraded by pauperism, to which unhappy resource not one of your petitioners is at present subjected; being well assured that our masters cannot afford to give us even a proportionate rate of wages to what we are now receiving.

That your petitioners have always been treated with kindness and humanity, which kind treatment has been duly appreciated by your petitioners, and, by attending to the good advice given us, have been preserved from committing those immoralities, crimes, and misdemeanors which too many of our fellow-creatures are guilty of.

That it can be satisfactorily proved to your Honourable House, that not one of your petitioners, or those who have been employed before them in these factories, have ever been charged with any felony, poaching, or any crime or misdemeanor whatever, nor one person ever absent from work on account of intoxication.

That out of three hundred and seventy-six persons employed in these factories a great number have been employed from fifteen to forty years, whose savings have been considerable; and that out of this number only three deaths took place in the year 1831; and during the same year, out of one hundred and sixty-six marriageable young women, only two were delivered of illegitimate children.

That your petitioners, in corroboration that the hours employed by them in working in these factories are not injurious to their health, subjoin a statement of a number of your petitioners who have been employed in these factories a great number of years, and the hours and days they were absent on account of illness, which statement they are fully prepared to prove; whereby your Honourable House will perceive that their health has been so good as to require no further legislation for restricting the hours of labour employed in these factories.

Your petitioners therefore most earnestly, but respectfully, entreat and implore that your Honourable House will not pass any measure which will restrict their present hours of labour, and thereby deprive your petitioners from living in that comfort they have hitherto enjoyed, and subjecting many of them to the miserable and degrading alternative of becoming paupers.

No. 17.

*Thomas Cook.*

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS COOK, Dewsbury.

A. 1.—Dewsbury Mills, parish of Dewsbury.

A. 2.—Blankets and coarse woollens manufactured, good broad and narrow cloths dressed, fulling cloths for hire, and dye-woods ground.

A. 3.—Some part of the mills, those for fulling cloth, was erected many centuries ago; those parts of the works in which children are employed were, some of them, erected about forty years ago, but a good deal within the last twenty years.

A. 4.—Entirely water-power; stream powerful. The whole power, in times of a full, and not too much water, one hundred and sixty to two hundred horses power may be used; but the works are subject to stoppages by flood-waters to the extent of from fifteen to twenty days a year, in that part in which children are employed; and in dry seasons a tithe of time will be lost by deficiency of speed, occasioned by want of water. At the fulling and dying-wood mills one-sixth of the year is lost by flood and want of water.

A. 5.—Ventilation left entirely with the workmen, each of whom having windows near to him, can admit what air he may choose; no heat being required but enough to warm the children's fingers in winter.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows and doors; the former the men regulate entirely.

A. 8.—All the heavy gear is; and there is not any danger where proper care is exercised. Accidents, however, have occurred; but they may generally be traced to carelessness and want of attention, and not to lassitude produced by over-exertion.

A. 9.—None; but occasional gratuities of small sums of money to the children, at the great holidays, for cleanliness, is apportioned to their deserts.

A. 10.—Parents bring their children so early as eight years old to be taught to piece cardings; this, however, is not common, but it has occurred in our works. The work is not severe, but it demands attention, and the child is mostly on its legs. The children have no employment till they come to the mill.

A. 11.—It does not; but children under twelve, and from nine to that age, would be more active than above twelve, and some branches of work would also be done with greater ease to the child.

A. 12.—Not to any extent, to reduce the labour of children. A little reduction has taken place with us, from using a new machine of questionable utility, by which a few more



hands are saved. But there are machines at work in the United States which no doubt will be ultimately adopted here, and by which one stout child will do the work of four, as the same work is prepared here. We have seen a similar machine at work in England, and have no doubt of its being adopted, in time, in England.

A. 15.—All children employed by us live with their parents, or natural guardians; some years ago we had two or three from the town's poor-house; none at present.

A. 17.—From six A.M. to seven P.M.; half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for refreshment in the afternoon, are allowed out of those hours. Sometimes we work till eight o'clock P.M., which is paid for at the rate of half a day each week to all hands other than those working by the piece.

A. 18.—The same as those above twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—Our fulling-mills have worked night and day, but men only work in them, and all at piece-work; but six A.M. to seven P.M. has been the common time of labour, and it has not been exceeded in many instances; in some few, arising from particular circumstances, it may have occurred.

A. 20.—We cannot answer this accurately. If from fourteen to sixteen days be deducted for holidays at Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, the feasts, &c., and from twelve to twenty for stoppages by flood-water, perhaps our manufactory would be at work, on the average, about eleven hours each day for the rest of the working-days of the year.

A. 25.—Flood-water, prospective holidays, or press of business.

A. 26.—There does not appear to be an absolute necessity for working more than regular hours, and we are friendly to their being fixed at fifty-eight hours the week; men and master being empowered to make stoppages up to fifty-eight hours the week: for water-mills this appears nothing but justice to both. Water-power is variable, and stoppages frequent, and not to be controlled; and if some provision be not made to obviate the hindrances occasioned to water-mills by flood and scarce times of water, gross injustice will be inflicted upon the owners of such property, as well as upon the workmen employed in the mills driven by water-power.

A. 27.—Occasionally. Some years ago, in the summer and busy months, we did, so long as from five o'clock A.M. to nine P.M., for short periods.

A. 28.—No; long hours do not answer the mill-owners purpose, in our trade, nor cover the extra wages in the same relative proportion. When the hands are at short time, making but four days the week, the earnings of the mill are the largest for the same number of hours.

A. 29.—There is no inducement for extra hours of work, because experience has told us that there is not an equivalence of profit in them. A momentary press of business may render a few weeks of longer hours apparently advantageous; and the time has been when it was necessary to work, for a short time, longer hours.

A. 31.—Relays of children are not called for at Dewsbury; there are more mills than there is employment for; one with the other they have not worked eight, we are sure not more than nine, hours a day on the average for the last fifteen years. Night-working, as a system, is not known here, and ought not to be allowed where children are employed.

A. 32.—We never tried it but for eight weeks some years ago; we were at that time building a new water-wheel; two-thirds of our works were stopped by the interruption this occasioned; this was done to please the men, and to divide the wages among them. They divided themselves into three sets for the twenty-four hours; by which plan all had eight hours work a day, abating, of course, time for taking their meals.

A. 37.—We now work eleven hours a day; we neither think eleven hours tyrannical, nor do we consider the time inhuman. We, however, think ten hours enough; and these being the number of hours many workmen advocate, we cordially fall into the ten hours scheme; and if trade can be found to give all hands ten hours employment a day, all would have the means of living well who are employed in the blanket trade.

A. 38.—Excepting in winter and very cold weather, the temperature of the atmosphere. Our mill is heated by steam; the hands turn the steam on and off as they like.

A. 39.—The temperature of the atmosphere; excepting drying-houses, where for a few minutes at each time, thrice in the twenty-four hours, men are employed in tentering goods, or spreading wool to be dried by artificial heat.

A. 40.—At six tenters, two men to each tenter, and fifteen minutes twice or thrice a day.

A. 41.—None, excepting fulling-mills; men only employed, and paid by the piece.

A. 50.—Well lighted by gas; heated by steam.

A. 54 & 55.—All; excepting when we are busy, the children at the scribbling-machines remain at the machines, or relieve each other, during part of the meal-times. We are short of scribblers, and the hands might be stopped in some work if this were not done. Directions have, however, been given for putting a stop to this, by the removal of one billey from the mill, and by the replacing of the carding-engine of that billey by a scribbling-machine, which will prevent the necessity. If the Commissioners will look at the situation in which the children are, they will see that there is no want of opportunity for reposing themselves. The children are paid for this work over and above their wages.



Yorkshire.  
 Thomas Cook.

A. 56.—They ought to be taken at home; and stopping one man's work, as named in A. 54, would enable every hand in our place, that wished to do so, to go home to dinner; breakfast and drinking they could not.

A. 57.—They work under their parents, or other men, who exact such obedience from them as the work requires.

A. 58.—Never, with our knowledge; but both parents beat their own children, and those men who do not employ their own children beat them the same; it is not often cruelly done. We disapprove of beating children at all, and have discharged hands when it has been grossly done.

A. 63.—Our foreman has had, for many years, instructions to discharge any workman who may beat a child improperly, even if that child should be the workman's own.

A. 64.—We have, in more instances than one, pressed the parents of children who have been beaten by workmen to take the offenders before a magistrate. Cannot say that this has occurred during the last three years.

A. 65.—Not many; but in houses promiscuously rented.

A. 66.—The best hands are those brought up to the trade; ours are nearly all such; one spinner was not; he was brought up a miner, and might have been fully as good a workman if he had been brought up to the trade he is now employed at.

A. 67.—We look at the health of our children as good, and that it has always been such, neither much better nor much worse than formerly; perhaps the balance is rather in favour of the former, inasmuch as for the last dozen years the loads of grease with which the floors were covered have been removed, and the floors kept as clean as is compatible with the nature of the work.

A. 68.—We have no process in our works injurious to health, unless the men's tenting in the drying-house be such; but as the lads get up to manhood we remove them to other jobs, at which higher wages can be obtained.

A. 69.—No; nor any in the town, nor immediate neighbourhood.

A. 78.—We hope not, and we do not think they are; ours cannot, or ought not to be, because we are for the Ten-hour Bill, subject to a reservation for making good stoppages by flood-water, on some reasonable plan of half an hour, not exceeding an hour a day, till the lost time be redeemed; and at the same time agreeing that all children and men at day-work shall be paid for all stoppages by flood-water at the same rate as if they were at work, which would be meeting the matter equitably.

In addition, I wish to add that I trust any thing so monstrously unjust as that would be, which would not allow of time lost at water-mills by flood and deficiency of water to be redeemed in a reasonable manner and under proper limitation, will not be allowed to become law. The children ought to be paid for stoppages by flood, water, &c., and be allowed to redeem the time, not exceeding one hour a day. It would be troublesome to the Committee, or I think it can be proved there is fully as little of crime, bastardy, &c. at Dewsbury, and less, than in many farming districts.

THOS. COOK.

No. 18.  
 John Halliley.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN HALLILEY, Dewsbury.

A. 1.—In the town of Dewsbury, county of York.

A. 2.—Manufacturing of blankets and other coarse woollens.

A. 3.—The first mill was erected in 1790, which is now used as a warehouse, the present mill was built in 1803 and 1804.

A. 4.—Steam-power; steam-engine fifty horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—Ventilation by numerous windows and doors; heated in cold weather by steam. The workmen regulate the heat and ventilation as they find agreeable to themselves, the work requiring no heat, but as a matter of comfort to the workmen. The mill is three stories or floors high, one hundred and eighty feet long, thirty-nine feet wide, from floor to ceiling twelve to fourteen feet each in height. Thirty-two persons employed over eighteen years of age, and seventy-six under.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off as much as possible; there is no more danger than in the wheels of road carriages, and accidents can only happen to the wilful and careless.

A. 9.—We have no room solely appropriated for the purpose of washing and dressing, nor is any required.

A. 10 & 11.—Very rarely less than nine years of age; forty-eight, employed as carding pieceners, are from nine to thirteen; bigger children could not perform the work; such would have to stoop or bend, the work being from two to three feet only above the floor they stand and move upon.

A. 12.—No alterations that have required any change since the commencement of the works.

A. 13.—No apprentices are employed.

A. 17 & 18.—All persons are employed the same number of hours; adults cannot work without the aid of children. The regular working-hours are eleven each day, half an hour allowed for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for afternoon, exclusive of the eleven hours required for actual work.

A. 19.



A. 19.—In order to make up for lost time arising from casualties in machinery, cleansing of boilers and flues, holidays, and not unfrequently want of employment (of late years), the workpeople are permitted to work over-time, to make seven days a week, or thirteen hours each day, but more frequently only twelve hours; but this is only done when the employers have plenty of orders.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—The want of employment, the casualties already referred to in A. 19, will reduce the working-days to about two hundred and thirty days of eleven hours each; which deficiency is permitted to be made up as explained in A. 19.

A. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35.—Our experience is, that when we work thirteen hours per day the workmen who follow the machinery earn less per day by three-pence to sixpence than when they work four, five, or six days of eleven hours each. We have never tried or required relays of any fresh sets of any description of workpeople. There is not a sufficient demand of goods in our line to induce masters to try the plan of working day and night; and if there were, generally, hands could not be got in our trade, or in the district, for such a purpose.

A. 37.—To reduce the hours of work below eleven per day, or to restrict labour to ten or eleven hours per day only, each and every day, would inflict a most arbitrary injustice on the workpeople, as explained in answers to queries 19 to 22; such restriction would deprive the workmen of one eleventh part of their wages, and of course reduce their expenditure in the same proportion.

A. 50.—Lighted by gas, brilliantly, and in every part.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—A great majority live near the mill, and go home to meals; those who live at a distance have their meals brought to them at the regular periods.

A. 57.—As masters, we use no means for enforcing obedience but suitable reprimands, threatening to discharge them, and sometimes doing so.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments are not inflicted, they are expressly forbidden. Parents who have children working with them are not interfered with in this respect; generally there is little need of any punishment in our factory, all obey with alacrity, and apparently are cheerful, content, and happy.

A. 64.—No such case has ever occurred.

A. 65.—Very few, or none.

A. 66.—The boys brought up in our factories from infancy make the best workmen.

A. 67.—No alteration has taken place in the health of the people within the last ten years; the general health has been always good.

JOHN HALLILEY.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN BALDWIN, Halifax.

A. 1.—Southowram, in the parish of Halifax, county of York.

A. 2.—Manufacturing of stocking-worsted and yarn.

A. 3.—Erected in 1820; employed same year.

A. 4.—All steam; twelve horse power.

A. 5.—By windows made to open in each room, and which gives a ventilation through the rooms.

A. 6.—By opening of windows.

A. 7.—By overlooker.

A. 8.—All made secure by being fenced off with wood and iron.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Eight years. The children we have at present have not been employed at any employment before.

A. 11.—It does, for expedition and low wages.

A. 12.—Much the same as before.

A. 13.—None in our mill.

A. 17.—In the mill eleven hours and three quarters per day; in the warehouse ten hours.

A. 18.—In the mill eleven hours and three quarters per day; in the warehouse ten hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and three quarters.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighty-seven hours and a quarter.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and three quarters.

A. 25.—For repairs of steam-engine and for working shorter hours on a Saturday.

A. 26.—We think it is not avoidable, from engine getting out of working order from various causes.

A. 27.—We have worked a quarter of an hour per day more.

A. 28.—The reduction of time being so little that we do not find much difference.

A. 29.—Profit.

A. 31.—The extra hours we work are so few that we cannot afford to employ two sets of hands.

A. 33.—We have not employed any hands at night.

A. 37.—If the reduction of hours be too great it will so increase the value of production as too greatly to increase foreign competition, and also to reduce the amount of labour for the adult comber and weaver.

(APP.—C. 1.)

C 4

A. 38.

Yorkshire.

John Halliley.

No. 19.

John Baldwin.



Yorkshire.

*John Baldwin.*

A. 38 & 39.—About 65° is required for airing the rooms and making them warm in winter. We do not want any heat in the summer for the process of manufacturing, except for two combing-machines, for which about 75° is required; but they being on a ground-floor, and the room well aired, the body of the room is about 65°.

A. 40.—One only.

A. 41.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—For nine months in the year one hour and a quarter, and for three months in the year, during the winter season, one hour.

A. 54.—The greater part leave the works; a small part remain for their own convenience.

A. 55.—For the convenience of both, the time allowed for breakfast being only fifteen minutes.

A. 56.—Many of the persons live at so great a distance that it would stop the machinery too long.

A. 57.—Reproof, and dismissal from our service.

A. 58.—Not any.

A. 63.—We have repeatedly given instructions never to use any corporal punishments to the children.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Our workpeople live in houses rented from others, and not ourselves.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy have greater skill, and more obedient and industrious.

A. 67.—Much the same.

A. 68.—We have no particular processes.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 78.—We cannot.

A. 79.—None.

JOHN BALDWIN.

No. 20.

*Robert Crossley.*

## ANSWERS of ROBERT CROSSLEY, Halifax.

A. 1.—Northowram, parish of Halifax, county of York.

A. 2.—The carding and spinning of woollen yarns for the manufacture of carpets and low cloths, &c.; and also worsted machinery for the manufacture of carpet-warps and stuff-goods; also stocks for milling and scouring yarns.

A. 3.—The mill was built about 1794; it was employed for its present purpose about the year 1808.

A. 4.—The mill is worked both by steam and water, the water-wheel being of sixteen horses power when well supplied with water, and a small steam-engine, erected about four years ago, of three and a half horses power. The stream of water is irregular, being in some parts of the year so scarce that it would not turn the machinery more than four hours per day.

A. 5 & 6.—The only provision for the ventilation of my factory is lifting up the sash-windows, and when the state of the weather is such as to permit of their being thrown up they are generally done so. The children employed in my factory enjoy the fresh air a many times each day during the hours of work, having to go out for their convenience, there being no such accommodations for them in the mill as in most newly-built factories, a plan which I disapprove.

A. 7.—The opening of the windows is at the discretion of all.

A. 8.—There is, I believe, no parts in the gear of my mill which may be said to be at all dangerous; but in the worsted machinery there are wheels working at the end of each frame which could not, I believe, be fenced off; I do not think such a thing could be attempted. Some children working in a mill for a period of fourteen years have not, perhaps, the least accident.

A. 9.—I have no convenience for my workpeople mentioned in this query, save an opportunity for washing themselves, which they have enjoyed since I took the mill.

A. 10.—The lowest age is nine years; some few may have previously been employed in other branches, but the number is very limited.

A. 11.—The nature of my work requires children under twelve years of age, for this reason, that those from nine to twelve learn quicker than those above, and are equally as useful; perhaps the manufacturers in this neighbourhood would not be able to get a sufficient number of hands were those under twelve to be excluded.

A. 12.—The alteration in machinery and in goods now in request require a greater number of children than formerly.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—It depends upon the supply of water, but when the water is plentiful the time they are employed is from six in the morning to eight at night.

A. 18.—All work alike; but when they are playing one half of their time in the mill-yard or at their homes, no abatement is made; it is understood that when the water is plentiful they shall work over-hours.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours per day, out of which three quarters of an hour for dinner, making thirteen hours and a quarter work.

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

Robert Crossley.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Uncertain.

A. 22.—The works have been carried on altogether, excepting in times of drought, when a part of the men and children employed in the woollen branch have worked with the steam-engine during the night.

A. 23.—Uncertain.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a quarter.

A. 25.—When regularly supplied with water, thirteen hours and a quarter are, I believe, the extent.

A. 26.—I think a regular quantum of hours the best, if it is possible, and might be avoided were the masters to consider their ability of supply previous to taking their orders for goods.

A. 27.—Ten years ago (but not since) my mill was worked from six in the morning to nine at night, to make up for the scarcity of water.

A. 28.—The cost of production is doubtless enhanced.

A. 29.—His inducement is to do the most business with the least capital, though I believe where cases of over-working are practised the wages are paid according to the number of hours, taking twelve hours the maximum of a day's labour.

A. 30.—I find the cost of production increased in every branch to the extent of the reduction, having the same rent to pay, the same capital in machinery, as when I work the longest hours.

A. 31.—The system of relays of children could not possibly be carried into effect, as, suppose I wanted to do more business than I could obtain by one set of hands, I would engage to say that if it was for a limited period of a few months, or even otherwise, I should be at more expence in obtaining hands, and having the work mixed and spoiled, than I could make profit by the whole concern, as a many of them would be to learn.

A. 32.—I never knew the system of relays to be tried; and I believe every practical man is too much aware of the loss that would attend even to make the experiment.

A. 33.—I have employed a night-set of hands. The way I arrange the work is as follows; the woollen concern which I have can be divided into two, each requiring the same number of hands; the half of the machinery is worked by the steam-engine night and day; those hands working at night attend eleven hours, those in the day thirteen hours each, stopping three quarters of an hour for dinner. This is only done when short of water.

A. 34.—I never found night-work profitable, as burning gas, also two sets of hands coming to the same machinery, do their work in different ways, that I have great loss from it.

A. 35.—They invariably change weekly.

A. 36.—Partly in consequence of the Bill now before the House of Commons, and the inconvenience of night-work, I am at present erecting a larger steam-engine to propel the concern, without stoppages for water, or having to work in the night. I want no night-work.

A. 37.—To reduce and restrict the hours of labour is to raise the price of goods in a material degree, and would no doubt in course of time prove injurious to the manufacturers, and consequently to the labouring population of this country. It must be recollected that immense quantities of our long wool is exported to France at a duty of, I believe, only five shillings per cwt., and also that workmen are going from this country to establish new concerns there; therefore, to reduce the hours of labour as proposed is to grant a premium of magnitude to the manufacturers and labourers of other countries, while at present the stuff trade is a business naturally our own.

A. 38.—No degree of heat is required, only for the comfort of those employed.

A. 41.—Perhaps four or five times.

A. 42.—Five children about ten or twelve, and about four eighteen or twenty years of age.

A. 43.—Ten hours and a quarter.

A. 44 & 45.—About nine; from seven at night to six next morning, allowing three quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—There are air panes in the windows, also a door communicating with the water-wheel.

A. 52.—They are superintended by the billy-spinners, and I believe the habits are unquestionable, for any thing I know.

A. 53.—Three-quarters of an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—A large majority leave them at meal-times; but a few, who are perhaps a mile from home, bring their dinners with them.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—The mill must stand until they return.

A. 57.—If they are refractory or idle they are punished or discharged.

A. 58.—Yes.

A. 59.—By overlookers and foremen.

A. 60 & 61.—I was aware that corporal punishments were inflicted; but never gave any orders that they should or should not be inflicted,

(App.—C. 1.)

D

A. 62.



Yorkshire.

Robert Crossley.

A. 62.—The good management of a mill is not better secured, as we all know, by greatly punishing a child, as those who do it have children of their own. I have reprimanded the overlooker when I have heard or seen punishments; if they will not do their duty without so much trouble we discharge them.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given by me, pro or con.

A. 64.—There never was a proceeding taken against me or my men, to my knowledge, ever since I commenced business.

A. 65.—In some cases the workpeople live in the houses of their employers, but no control exercised over them in any way.

A. 66.—Those persons who have been employed from their childhood are invariably better hands than those who have commenced working in factories at a later period; they are generally more industrious.

A. 68.—No.

A. 73.—The mills in this neighbourhood are chiefly employed in the stuff branch or the woollen department, and consequently not subject to the present Act of Parliament.

A. 74 & 75.—I am not aware of one instance.

A. 76.—If evidence was wanted to establish a fact of hardship against any individual, it would be obtained, as they would soon get employment if discharged for any thing of that kind.

A. 78.—If we are to have a restriction of the hours of labour, I would suggest that there shall be some permanent provision made that the measure shall be to us all alike, both in town and country; without this it would be a great grievance, the treatment of children in my factory is such that I believe no legislative enactment can improve it.

A. 79.—I would say let the restriction be for sixty-six hours per week, and no less; as, if you restrict the children you restrict at the same time the men also.

ROBERT CROSSLEY.

No. 21.

R. & J. Ingham.

#### ANSWERS of RICHARD and JOSEPH INGHAM, Haugh, near Halifax.

A. 1.—Township of Erringden, parish of Halifax, county of York.

A. 2.—Cotton yarn from No. 14<sup>s</sup> to No. 40<sup>s</sup>.

A. 3.—They were erected all at one time, in the year 1826.

A. 4.—Water-power; the regularity of working varies according to the seasons being more or less dry; in a considerable portion of all the summer seasons we work short time, say eight hours and a half a day.

A. 5.—By slide-panes; in this way no injury is done by currents of air.

A. 7.—Any person in the mill is allowed to open or close a pane.

A. 8.—Such parts as are in dangerous situations are cased off.

A. 9.—The principal number of the hands resides within the distance of one hundred yards of the mill, and have dry shoes in the manufactory.

A. 10.—At nine years old; but we had rather not have them so young, and would have none so young if we did not feel obliged to take them in consequence of having the older in the family; their parents, rather than employ them at hand-loom weaving, almost force them upon us; they expect us to employ young and old in one family.

A. 11.—We had rather have none under twelve years old; we should be inclined to believe, so far as relates to cotton-mills respectably conducted, the parents of children want to get them in as early as possible.

A. 12.—We do not think that any recent alterations render it more needful to employ children under twelve years; but in most cases where they are employed they are employed by operative spinners, and are generally their own children, therefore are always under the sole control of parents.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—Such as are in lodgings, and work for us, are from eighteen years old and upwards.

A. 16.—The operative spinner is master or overlooker over such children as are employed at his mules.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half when making up for short water.

A. 20.—About three hundred days.

A. 21.—We cannot tell, having lost time by short water at a deal of different times, which has not been made up.

A. 22.—This has not been the case, as one part depends on another in the process.

A. 23.—We cannot say, as we have not been over particular in making up lost time.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When making up for short water.

A. 26.—Water-mills are liable to loss of time by drought and by back water of floods; this is unavoidable and certain to occur; it has also hitherto been thought reasonable, and we may say a matter of right, that at least a part of the time so lost should be regained; this right of regaining (in a limited and reasonable way), in our opinion, constitutes a part of



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R. & J. Ingham.

of the proper worth of the property, and ought not to be taken away; if this hitherto acknowledged right of regaining is taken away, the result will be that such property will in part be unduly and improperly sacrificed. Now, in regard to the loss of time by the breaking-down of the machinery and of the moving-power, and the loss of time thereby,—to accidents of this sort water-power and steam-power are reciprocally liable, and the same law, so far as this goes, may justly apply to both; but loss of time by short water, and back water by floods, occurs to water-mills only, and ought not to be confounded with accidents to machinery.

A. 27.—We were not spinners previous to the passing of the Bills, and we have complied with them as far as possible.

A. 28.—The cost price of the yarn will be greater; even if the wages fall as much as the time reduced there is the capital invested to sustain to the same extent as before.

A. 29.—The love of money is the inducement; there can be no other; the supply of goods to the markets is so ample that the evil cannot be justified on the ground of fitting-up orders; it is true a man may wish to do all the business, and use all time, and leave his neighbour without business and orders.

A. 30.—We think that too great a diminution of the hours of labour will cause many spinners to increase the speed of their machinery, which would distress the hands and be fatiguing to them. Even with a considerable increase of speed of the machinery less work will be done than heretofore, and if no diminution takes place in the wages, the yarn will cost more by the same wages on a less quantity, and also by a less quantity having the same amount of capital to sustain.

A. 31.—In our opinion relays of hands would cause the laws to be evaded by one set of hands going in twice, or mixed with others; and therefore, so far as any enactment goes, impracticable.

A. 32.—It would be a cumbrous method of conducting business, and would not be resorted to unless for evasion.

A. 33.—We think there ought to be no night-working whatever under any circumstances, except in case of repairs by mechanics.

A. 34.—It would be useless, in our opinion, to attempt to legislate for the employment of two sets of hands, as it would lead to endless evasion.

A. 35.—We don't spin in the night.

A. 36.—We consider night-work unnatural, and a thing which ought on no occasion to be allowed to any manufactory; and we consider its effect on trade is to glut the market, and that evil and cruelty attend it in all ways.

A. 37.—Wages will ultimately be lower in the same proportion as you lessen the hours of labour; surely no man will dispute this, unless he conceives that the value of labour can be regulated by an Act of Parliament. The value of labour in this country must assimilate itself with the value of labour in foreign countries. The money returns for labour in this country, and the money returns for it in other countries, are always tending to a par; in no other way could they do business with us, without ruin to themselves; therefore, admitting this, we cannot make ten hours labour of ours of as much value as twelve hours has previously been.

A. 38.—The temperature at which we work varies from 60° to 70°.

A. 39.—70°.

A. 40.—Temperature all alike.

A. 41.—None.

A. 50.—Lighted morning and evening by candles in winter; we have no work through the night.

A. 52.—The effects are immorality and ill-health.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at noon.

A. 54.—They have their choice; we require no work from them at those times.

A. 55.—If they remain, it is for their convenience, as shelter in bad weather.

A. 56.—It would in some cases be a hardship on the hands to drive them away.

A. 57.—We have discharged them, or told them we would do if they did not amend.

A. 58.—We on no occasion suffer corporal punishments; and if an overlooker was guilty of it we would discharge him. No one can prove punishment of this sort in respect to almost any of the mills in this neighbourhood.

A. 64.—None at any time, neither by the parents or guardians of children.

A. 65.—In some cases they live in our houses; we exercise no superintendence; the children attend a Sunday-school; our observation leads us to conclude that in general they are cleanly in proportion as they are well off.

A. 66.—In respect to those occupations where young persons are employed it makes little or no difference.

A. 67.—It is our deliberate and dispassionate opinion, that the children employed in the cotton-factories in this neighbourhood look better, are more healthy, are better used, and live better than the poor sallow-looking children of the hand-loom weavers; there is really no even prejudiced person could resist conviction on this subject; let the grocer and butcher be asked, who are their best customers? they will say, the factory-people. If humanity did not take fancies, one would have expected the hand-loom weaver would have been most lamented over; but it would be difficult to legislate for them; they are cut up by the power-loom,



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loom, which is a glorious invention; perhaps their usefulness consists in glutting markets, and increasing something of which there was too much before.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Yes, once, by an informer who informed against all the mills in the neighbourhood; a man of low character; he did not succeed in any instance.

A. 73.—We know not, at least nothing to the contrary.

A. 74.—Yes, some of them have.

A. 75.—The magistrates are twelve miles from here, therefore it is a chance to hear what passes; we know no instance here.

A. 76.—We cannot speak to any case.

A. 77.—We do not think there is more in this than is found in any instance of life where persons have to do with one another.

A. 78.—We think the last Act of Parliament on this subject the best in these respects that can be made: it would be a great hardship if the regulations are made so severe as almost to put the masters of factories out of the pale of society. The penalties and regulations in Lord Ashley's Bill, from their severe character, seem to point at a class of persons who have forfeited all claim to beneficent government.

A. 79.—In the observations we make on the factory question, none apply to such establishments as are not included in the Act now in force. We condemn the masters of some of those factories not under the Bill as guilty of the most tyrannical conduct; and we have seen no pretence made, to account for the woollen and silk mills being left out of the Act. Some of those factory masters have taken orders they could not execute without working almost day and night; they have done this rather than divide the orders with others; and it deserves to be called nothing but unrestrained grasping cupidity.

Allow us to ask, what is the test by which the Ten Hour Bill is to be judged? The labourers in factories are either better or worse off than the labourers in other employments: if they are better off in the quantity of labour and remuneration, then there is no need of other than the present Bill; if worse, let us have shorter time. It is the duty, therefore, of the Commission to compare the comforts of the working-classes one with another, in the various forms of employment (say working in cottages, &c.); if then it is found that the present law does not bring the factory-labourer up to the average standard of health and comfort, there is need of an alteration.

Now, we may, with some degree of assurance, say, that the country is speaking, and does speak, for itself; we employ hand-loom weavers, and they are continually asking, Can you make room in your factory for us? we cannot do as we are. The cottages in the neighbourhood of factories, not belonging to the owners of the factories, will let for twenty-five per cent. more rent than others at a distance from them, and the rents are also better paid. It would be improper to set up a standard to determine what is humane and what is otherwise, and apply it to factories alone; this would be setting experience at nought, and judging on abstract principles. If legislation is necessary to restrict the hours of labour in any particular employment, such restriction should be governed by what, on a summing-up from actual observation of the hours of labour in various employments, is found to be a fair average, always having reference to the ages of the workers and the fatigue in each particular occupation; an average so obtained would make an enactment safe. Humanity must be exercised with discretion; and we wish we could say that misery and want do not exist to a great degree among the labouring classes: still, persons undertaking to make laws should not apply an impracticable quantity of humanity, or increase an evil by professing to mend it.

The evidence given before the Committee as to the beating of children in the cotton-factories (at least so far as we know) is most unfounded; and the inference drawn from that evidence cannot apply to any of the factories here; and it is so at variance with the experience of persons here, that it looks like a hobby dressed in high colours by an indulged fancy, or of agitation in fashionable attire.

The Ten Hour Bill would lower the rate of wages in factories, first, by drawing more strongly the competition of the hand-loom weavers against the factory workers, in the desire of the former to leave the looms and get into the factories. The factory labour at ten hours and the present wages would be enviable, and there would be a constant competition to obtain that sort of employment: the inevitable result of the competition would be a lowering of the mill wages, and they would be brought down in the scale of comforts by that fatal thing, competition; and you would only still have the same number of factory hands employed, but reduced in circumstances, and no other class benefited. It would be an outrage on reason to say that an Act of Parliament can make ten hours labour worth as much as twelve hours; this will be taken for granted. Third, as regards the price of labour generally, our opinion is, that, in a time of peace, the value of the labour of countries trading together has a tendency to approach to an equality in remuneration; we can only have returns from other countries of what they can spare to us, and the quantity will be regulated by the condition of the labourers; and the quantity so wanted, being more or less, will operate on wages here, to increase or diminish them in amount; but it must be remarked, that, for some years, slight causes have lowered wages, and it must be a permanent and pressing demand that can raise them. Other arguments might be adduced to prove that



that wages will ultimately fall in the same proportion as the time is shortened, and that competition would do its fatal work on the factory worker; its operations would begin both at home and abroad. We cannot raise ourselves up at the expence of foreigners; they would soon, if we attempted it, show us that they also could spin, and would, rather than buy our dear yarn; then, being once enabled to supply themselves, we should show the first symptom of a decline in greatness. It is a most dangerous thing "to tamper" with the commerce of this country; if we once suffer a radical shake from foreign competition, the matter will be settled, and we shall have to go to war to destroy their commerce and communications.

The Corn Bill has a baneful effect on the labouring classes; whilst they have to compete with the price of labour in foreign countries, and to eat Corn Bill bread, can we expect any thing else than misery and want? The labourer has a choice of evils set before him—he must either work an undue quantity of work to buy his bread, or else, doing a reasonable quantity of work, have too little bread: some choose to be short of bread, or commit crime; and others, to do too much work; and in both cases there is misery, and an inroad made on the feelings of persons of humanity. Can those persons having the power to alter or repeal the Corn Laws charge the factory system with inhumanity, or do they consider the situation of the hand-loom weavers under the Corn Bill?

Enactors of the Corn Bill have thrown the first stone at the comforts and independence of the labouring classes, and now it is presumed to remedy the evil by an Act of Parliament on effects, instead of causes of evil. The labourer is beset on every hand,—one abridges labour, and thinks it great merit, even though the labourer is standing idle for scarcity of the very work that is to be cut down and lowered in value; and another sells him produce governed in price by legislative restrictions. The Ten Hour Bill would at first raise the price of yarn, by a less quantity going into market; the advance would only be temporary, and it would scarcely operate any on the piece-market, because the merchants, both home and foreign, would immediately lessen their purchases of goods: experience would dictate to them, that before they could obtain sale for the dear goods cheap ones would be poured into the market. The above effects, when the markets have advanced, and when the merchants have bought goods at higher prices, have so often resulted, that they will no longer take the risk. These are the effects of an overwhelming production. Admitting, then, that goods will scarcely improve in prices, that yarns will for a time advance,—admitting also that the hand-loom weaver is in a state of destitution, and that the hand-loom manufacturer is gaining nothing (who can dispute this?), and that the power-loom manufacturer is in these circumstances gaining a handsome profit, what then? an advance of yarn takes place, the power-loom manufacturer can still go on by yielding a little of his profit; but there being no profit on hand-loom manufacturing, and surely no room to reduce the wages, the weavers will at once, two thirds of them, be thrown out of employment. We fear we have more than complied with your 79th question, and given you more observations than you will like to read.

R. & J. INGHAM.

Yorkshire.

R. & J. Ingham.

#### ANSWERS of GEORGE NAYLOR and Co., Halifax.

No. 22.

G. Naylor & Co.

A. 1.—Jail Lane in the borough of Halifax, in the west riding of the county of York.

A. 2.—Cotton, wool, and silk card making; wire-drawing; currying and dressing of leather.

A. 3.—The premises have been erected a many years, and have been employed for the present purposes since we occupied them.

A. 4.—Three horse power steam-engine, worked generally from half past six in the morning to half past seven at night.

A. 5.—No particular provision for ventilation; the rooms are lofty, and besides have six sash windows into each story of the building, which the workmen open at their pleasure.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the windows principally.

A. 7.—Any of the persons employed regulate it at their own discretion.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced.

A. 9.—Having a plentiful supply of good water the workmen have free access to it for washing, either hot or cold, as may be preferred.

A. 10.—We have none under fourteen upon the premises, but children are employed by our workmen at their own houses in setting cards, as soon as they can be got to labour.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require the employment of children, but the earnings are so small that persons above twelve years of age could not be maintained by it, consequently it is principally done by children.

A. 12.—No alteration in that respect.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any; they reside with their parents.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours, allowing two hours off for meals; say from half past six o'clock to half past seven.

A. 18.—The same as those above twenty-one years; only two persons on the premises under twenty-one years.

(APP.—C. 1.)

D 3

A. 19.



Yorkshire.

G. Naylor & Co.

A. 19.—Eleven (working-hours for all that labour by the day), and occasionally twelve hours for wire-drawing, being piece-work.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days (exclusive of eight days given as holidays).

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and fifty-five, or eleven per day, for those who work by the day, and unable exactly to state the time of those who work by the piece in wire, occasionally being eleven and a half to twelve per day.

A. 22.—The works are in general employ regularly during the entire working-hours.

A. 23.—Eleven hours for time actually worked, having eight days given as holidays.

A. 24.—We have no children in our own direct employ; the children are employed by our workmen at their own homes, partly at work by the piece, and partly at daily wages; those by the day generally work nine hours and a half on the average of the week.

A. 25.—During the middle of the days in the hot weather, in summer months, when the nature of the trade will not allow of their working, owing to the wire becoming rusty by the perspiration of the children's hands.

A. 26.—Except as stated in A. 25, may be avoided.

A. 27.—We have not.

A. 28.—Our hours are the same as heretofore.

A. 29.—We have no inducement to continue work through the night, or either irregular or extra hours, except as stated in A. 25.

A. 30.—Our hours being as usual, the cost of production is the same.

A. 31.—We do not work extra hours; all we require is as stated in A. 25, when the time requires to be varied by working the early part and cool of the morning (resting during the heat of the day), and making up the time in the evening of the days.

A. 32.—We believe it has never been resorted to in the card trade; considerable part being piece-work, at their own homes, relays are not practicable.

A. 33 & 34.—We have not; one set, working regular hours, being equal to the work, it would be an injury both to employer and employed to have two sets to perform the same quantity of work.

A. 37.—Our opinion is, that so long as our workmen are satisfied with the hours, knowing that if government interfere to reduce the working-hours, consequently there will be a reduction in wages also, which may excite unpleasant feelings; on those grounds we are decidedly opposed to any alteration, or the making the card trade subject to any Factory Bill regulations.

A. 38.—We are not particular as to the temperature of any parts of our premises, except for the drying of leather, which is in a building distinct from the rest; in that the temperature is varied according to the weather, and is used as a drying chamber, not as a working chamber.

A. 39.—Cannot state, never having noticed what heat the drying of leather may require.

A. 40.—Two occasionally.

A. 41.—None.

A. 47.—May be discontinued at pleasure.

A. 48.—From fourteen years of age upwards.

A. 50.—Not lighted.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner (oftener an hour and a quarter), half an hour in the afternoon.

A. 54.—All the persons leave except three.

A. 55.—The three workmen who take their meals in the manufactory reside two miles from the town, and request to be allowed to do so, being more convenient to them than going to an inn.

A. 56.—Would make no difference to us; the injury would be sustained by the workmen if compelled to go away.

A. 57.—The youngest person on the works is fourteen years old; we enforce obedience on the part of any one in our employ by acting on this principle, "that if they will not conduct themselves in a steady, sober, and consistent manner they will be dismissed."

A. 58.—Never.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—We have none that have been employed from infancy.

A. 67.—The workmen are generally in the enjoyment of good health; we had not one case of fever when so prevalent last year; and although five of the workmen have had the influenza this month, only two of them were absent from their piece-work one day each.

A. 68.—We make no change; each person has his own department; we are not aware of any injurious processes connected with our trades.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 73.—Cannot say.

A. 77.—We have no reason to suppose they are.

A. 78.—We are not prepared to suggest any.

GEORGE NAYLOR & Co.



## ANSWERS of W. H. RAWSON, Halifax.

Yorkshire.

No. 23.

W. H. Rawson.

A. 1.—Sowerby, parish of Halifax.

A. 2.—Woollen-manufactory; carding, spinning, fulling, finishing, and dyeing.

A. 3.—About one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, with small additions at various periods.

A. 4.—Water only; suppose about thirty to forty horse power. The supply irregular, occasionally from frost in winter, but more frequently from drought in summer, during which the wheels are sometimes not able to work more than four hours out of twenty-four, but this extreme only in very dry summers.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—Well ventilated by large windows, doors, &amp;c.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed, merely with regard to their own comfort.

A. 8.—Every care is used to make the machinery as safe as possible.

A. 9.—No particular arrangements, and none such are required. The children have free admission to a washing-place when they wish it, but this is more frequently attended to by their parents at home. There is a room with a fire for the purpose of drying wet clothes if required; and the factory is regularly whitewashed.

A. 10.—None under seven, and very few under eight. These young children are almost exclusively under the care of their own parents, for whom they work; scarcely ever previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—Yes; the best and most expert pieceners or assistants to the spinners are from eight to ten years of age; at twelve and upwards they become less adapted for this operation, nor could higher wages be afforded for increased age.

A. 12.—No; the difference very immaterial.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—No; nor do I lodge or maintain any of any sort.

A. 17.—The usual time in summer, and with a supply sufficient of water, is from 6 A.M. to 8 P.M., allowing one hour at dinner, and half an hour at breakfast and drinking. As the winter approaches the hours are less, as the workmen don't commence till daylight and leave at dark, except during about four months in winter, when the work is continued till 8 P.M. The children work the same time. On Saturdays the mill is stopped about four o'clock.

A. 19, 20, 21, 22, &amp; 23.—I keep no time-book, that I cannot answer these questions except generally. The manufacture is carried on regularly every week-day, as above (A.17.), excepting in case of repairs, and a few of the principal holidays.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—During last year I believe there was no excess, but occasionally, when manufactures are required in great haste, and when there has been a considerable stoppage of the works from an insufficient supply of water, some extension of time is required when the rains have produced a sufficient supply, but seldom more than one or two hours per day.

A. 26.—I consider that in water-mills, depending on an uncertain supply of water, this is unavoidable, and that in such cases the hours cannot be regular. In a great scarcity of water the dams or reservoirs at the heads of the streams or rivulets collect the water during the night, and, beginning to use it at six in the morning, the water does not reach the mills situate at the lower ends of the stream till late in the day; and if both mills were obliged to stop at the same hour, one half the water would be lost to the lower.

A. 27.—Not as a general rule. Under particular circumstances, when manufactures were much required, it may have been the case for short periods.

A. 28.—Certainly it would be.

A. 29.—Profit, I presume.

A. 30.—The wages paid to the workmen bear but a small proportion to the general cost of production; and as rent, taxes, interest on capital expended in machinery are continually going on, the more work done by any manufactory the less the cost of production for any given quantity.

A. 31.—If the extra hours were excessive, or for night-work, then relays would be desirable, but for one or two hours per day occasionally, it would, I think, be inapplicable, and exceedingly difficult of arrangement.

A. 32.—No, and not tried, as in any extra work in my manufactory it appears to me quite unnecessary.

A. 36.—None to my manufacture, as far as children were concerned. A general prohibition would be of serious loss to me occasionally. I have one machine which is indispensable, and which, during a great part of the year, requires all the power I have; this I am obliged to work frequently in the night, or all the other machinery would be stopped; it is worked by one adult and two young men of fifteen to eighteen years of age. After working in the night they have any rest they require in the day.

A. 37.—A further considerable reduction of working-hours would be felt severely by the workmen and the parents of the children, and would be a source of great dissatisfaction and complaint, because the wages would be unquestionably reduced in proportion. I have spinners in my employ who would lose six shillings or eight shillings per week for themselves and their own children by a reduction of two hours per day.

(APP.—C. 1.)

D 4

A. 38,



Yorkshire.

W. H. Rawson.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—Nothing beyond the usual temperature is required in my manufacture. The buildings are warmed by fires or steam-pipes in cold weather, but only for the purpose of promoting the comfort of the workmen.

A. 41.—None, except as A. 36.

A. 42.—None, except as A. 36.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50 & 51.—No night-work (except as explained in A. 36). Oil and Argand lamps, where light is required.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner, from half past twelve to half past one, and half an hour for breakfast and drinkings; the time for the latter left mostly to the discretion of the workmen.

A. 54.—All at dinner; but their other meals are generally brought or sent to them from home.

A. 55.—Entirely as suits the convenience of the workpeople, and that only.

A. 56.—For breakfast and drinking the time would be wholly consumed in going home and returning.

A. 57.—None; sure dismissal in case of continued disobedience, and this would be punishment enough.

A. 58.—No, not to my knowledge or belief.

A. 64.—Never, either during the last three years or at any former time, as far as my knowledge goes.

A. 65.—A portion of them occupy cottages belonging to me. Quick-lime is always gratuitously offered and strongly recommended for whitewashing the cottages of any of my workmen; I cannot enforce cleanliness beyond the recommendation and an offer of giving what will make the houses clean. I should dismiss from my employ any person notoriously uncleanly, or guilty of habitual drunkenness or other immorality, which operates in most cases as a sufficient check.

A. 66.—A great part of my workmen have lived with me nearly all their lives.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference, nor can there be much, being convinced that the general health and soundness of constitution of my workpeople is quite equal to that of an equal number taken promiscuously from any part of the kingdom or from any employment.

A. 68.—No selection required, as the general health of all the adults as well as children proves that there are no injurious effects from any process.

A. 69.—I do not know to what Act this refers, but I presume the Act relating to cotton-factories; my mill is therefore not subject to that Act.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—In mills driven by water only, and where the supply is very precarious and irregular, as in my own, I am of opinion that no legislative interference could be adopted as to the particular hours of working, without producing great depreciation of property, and a great inconvenience and loss as well to the occupier as to those employed under him. I may add, that I have read many portions of the evidence given before the Committees of the Honourable House of Commons, and of the speeches made at public meetings by the advocates of the measures now contemplated, and that the statements therein made are totally inapplicable to this mill, or any mill in this neighbourhood with which I am acquainted, and are most gross exaggerations as far as any case which has come under my own personal knowledge.

W. H. RAWSON.

No. 24.

J. Royston, Son, & Co.

## ANSWERS of JAMES ROYSTON, SON, &amp; Co.

A. 1.—Borough of Halifax, westriding of the county of York.

A. 2.—Wire-drawing, wire-covering, and card-making.

A. 3.—Principal part erected about the year 1804, and an addition in 1814, since which periods employed as above.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—None particular.

A. 6.—Depends entirely on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the overlooker in each room.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—Not any.

A. 10.—Eleven years and a half.

A. 11.—Does not.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 14.—None from parishes.

A. 15.—None.

A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours per day for five days, and nine hours on the Saturdays.

A. 19.—Eleven hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and thirty-five hours.

A. 23.—Ten hours and a half.

A. 24.—Eleven hours.

A. 27.—Very seldom, and then only adults employed the extra hours.

A. 29.



A. 29.—We can assign no other reason than the manufacturer wishing to produce as large a quantity of goods as possible, to meet the great competition in trade.

A. 30.—Of course the less produced by the machinery the greater the cost, is the only answer we can give to this question.

A. 37.—We think that a further reduction in the hours would also cause a reduction of wages, and increase the price of goods, to pay for the capital invested in machinery, and thereby the labouring classes would be the sufferers.

A. 38 & 39.—No artificial heat required in the process of manufacturing. In winter some of the rooms are simply warmed by steam for the comfort of the workpeople, and others by common fires.

A. 41.—None.

A. 53.—All allowed half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, half an hour for drinking.

A. 54.—All leave at meal-times, except those who bring them for their own convenience.

A. 57.—Principal part work by the piece, and therefore it is their interest to be industrious, and if not, they are dismissed.

A. 58.—None allowed.

A. 65.—Some few, but control or interference not found necessary.

A. 67.—State of health generally good.

A. 68.—Not any change found requisite.

A. 69.—Not subject.

A. 73.—Have never interfered with any factory; do not know any factory subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 78.—Cannot suggest any, as the subject does not affect us, nor have we even thought necessary to consider the matter.

JAMES ROYSTON, SON, & Co.

Yorkshire.

J. Royston,  
Son, & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. WALKER and EDMONDSON, Halifax.

No. 25.

Messrs. Walker  
and  
Edmondson.

A. 1.—Our mill is situated in the township of Wadsworth, parish of Halifax, and county of York.

A. 2.—Preparing and spinning worsted.

A. 3.—The mill was erected about the year 1792, since which time it has been carried on in the above branch.

A. 4.—We have about thirty horse power of water, and forty-six horse power of steam; the water is very irregular, being soon dried up in summer, and in winter we are very much troubled with excess; when the water is regular we only require about half the steam-power.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Doors at each end of the mill, and opening of the windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the manufacturers, foreman, and overlookers.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—We have no specific arrangements.

A. 10.—About seven years old; we are of opinion that they have not been employed at any other kind of work.

A. 11.—It does require them under twelve years of age, and we think they are better adapted for spinners than those above that age.

A. 12.—A less proportion of children under twelve years of age is required.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Fourteen hours per day, including the time for meals, which is generally about two hours.

A. 18.—Fourteen hours, including the time for meals, which is one hour at noon.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and eighty-eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and forty-four hours.

A. 22.—All carried on together.

A. 23.—Twelve hours the average for each day, including meals.

A. 25.—Never exceeded during the last year.

A. 26.—We think any excess above our statement ought to be avoided.

A. 27.—We have not.

A. 32.—They have never been tried.

A. 33.—We had about thirty-two hands employed twelve weeks during the last year in the night, which commenced at seven o'clock in the evening and left off at six o'clock in the morning, when the day-spinners commenced.

A. 34.—We do not conceive that much good is derived from night-spinning; but sometimes we have an excess of hands in one department, which, rather than discharge, we prefer employing them in the night-time until they are wanted in their original employment.

A. 35.—The night and day spinners don't exchange.

A. 36.—None worth noticing.

(APP.—C. 1.)

E

A. 37.



Yorkshire.

Messrs. Walker  
and  
Edmondson.

A. 37.—We are of opinion that if the hours of labour for children, &c. in factories are reduced too low it will operate against their wages, particularly in a slack time. If thirteen hours per day were fixed upon, say eleven for working, half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking, the children would get both fresh air and a little recreation, as well as a little time for reading, &c. for such as might be disposed.

A. 38.—About sixty degrees.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as in the day-time.

A. 52.—We have not observed any difference of those employed by night or by day.

A. 54.—All the mill-people leave at noon.

A. 57.—For fifteen or twenty years back our express orders to foreman and overlookers have invariably been, that if any children under their care were unruly or disobedient, not to beat or misuse them improperly, but to send them home, which we have always found to answer our expectations, as it had the effect of deterring others.

A. 65.—The principal part of our mill-people live in our own houses, and are in general clean; if any case comes to our knowledge to the contrary, we remonstrate with them.

A. 66.—Those who have been brought up in factories from their infancy generally make better spinners and overlookers.

A. 67.—We cannot say that any alteration in the health of the children has taken place in any given time, and as they have not been troubled with much sickness, of course we never gave it a consideration.

A. 68.—None.

WALKER and EDMONDSON.

No. 26.

Watts Wrigley.

#### ANSWERS of WATTS WRIGLEY, Halifax.

A. 1.—In the township of Ovenden, parish of Halifax, county of York.

A. 2.—Dressing, boiling, carding, spinning, and twisting waste silk.

A. 3.—The whole of the works are just completing, though some of the particulars given in these returns have reference to the details of other mills just left.

A. 4.—Have employed steam-power regularly.

A. 5.—The ventilation is provided by swing sash windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation has hitherto been at the regulation of the hands themselves, so as to suit their own comfort.

A. 8.—The dangerous part of the machinery has been in the old mills, and will all be in this mill fenced off.

A. 9.—No arrangements have hitherto been made to this effect, though the hands have the boiling-house to go to, if wet, and soap found there for washing.

A. 10.—See list and description of workpeople. Messrs. W. and Sons would rather not take any children under twelve years of age, but occasionally admit them at a less age, to accommodate parents who work for them.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—In silk-spinning the tendency, from the improvement of machinery, is to render a less number of young hands necessary.

A. 13.—In the dressing department only.

A. 14.—Have no parish apprentices.

A. 15.—Lodge no children; they receive a weekly wage, and live with their friends or parents.

A. 17.—Twelve hours per diem.

A. 18.—Twelve hours per diem, no difference being made, the adults not being able to work without children, in most cases.

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Every day, with the exception of Sundays and the usual holydays.

A. 21.—Make seventy-two hours a week, with the exception of holydays.

A. 22.—Every department has been carried on at the same time.

A. 23 & 24.—Twelve hours per diem.

A. 25.—None.

A. 27.—Previously to having a set of night-hands, have occasionally, on pressing demands, worked longer than twelve hours.

A. 28.—Undoubtedly so.

A. 29.—Have no knowledge of work being continued through the night without change of hands; and the inducement to working longer hours is generally to make up pressing orders rather than lose them.

A. 30.—The silk trade not coming under the operation of any Act of Parliament, cannot answer this question from practical knowledge.

A. 31.—For children of twelve years of age there could be no objection to having relays; but for older hands it would not be practicable, on account of it not being worth their while to work for that proportion of wages.

A. 32.—See Answer 30. Do not know that it has been tried.

A. 33.—Have employed a day and a night set of hands; the former make twelve hours per diem, the latter ten hours.

A. 34.



Yorkshire.

Watts Wrigley.

A. 34.—There is no interest in working during the night; have been obliged to do so on account of limited premises.

A. 35.—The dressing and carding departments have worked alternate weeks by night.

A. 36.—Having built a new mill on a much larger scale, shall in future discontinue any night-work.

A. 37.—A further reduction of the hours of labour will be followed by a proportionate reduction in wages; and in the waste silk manufacture prohibiting the labour of the young hands will cause inconvenience, as the adults cannot continue the process without their assistance.

A. 38.—The usual temperature by artificial heat is about 65° Fah.

A. 39.—No higher degree of temperature than about 65° Fah. is required in any process.

A. 41.—Regularly, by a night-set of hands.

A. 43.—Ten hours.

A. 45.—From half past seven P.M. to six A.M., with forty minutes rest.

A. 46.—None.

A. 47.—Twelve hours.

A. 50.—By the improved Liverpool lamp in the card-room, and by mould candles in the other departments.

A. 52.—Have not noticed any particular change.

A. 53.—Twenty minutes breakfast, sixty minutes dinner, twenty minutes afternoon drinking.

A. 54.—The hands generally arrange to live near their work, and consequently go home to meals.

A. 55.—Not adopted for any convenience to the manufactory.

A. 56.—Make no difference to the master.

A. 57.—Admonition or dismissal.

A. 58.—No, except by parents.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—The general orders are not to beat any one, but dismiss them from the works.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Do not interfere in the domestic arrangements of the workpeople, some of whom live in houses of their employers.

A. 66.—As regards the skill of the operative it is undoubtedly much greater in those who have been employed from early age; it is next to impossible to make a first-rate spinner unless he had been brought up as a piecer.

A. 67.—See succeeding answer.

A. 68.—There is no necessity to make any change on account of any injurious effects upon the health of the operative, the whole process being healthy. See the list.

A. 69.—No.

A. 73.—To the best of our knowledge.

A. 77.—Have no reason to believe it.

A. 78.—We view any legislative enactment between master and operative respecting hours of labour or wages injurious to both.

A. 79.—In answer to question 79, Messrs. Wrigley and Sons take the liberty of appending to these returns, for the notice of the Commissioners, a copy of a petition to Parliament, which was presented by Lord Althorp during the agitation of the factory question in the last session, and signed by the whole of their operatives, as containing their opinions on that subject, the eliciting of which it is presumed was the object of the 79th question:

“ To the Honourable the House of Commons, in Parliament assembled :

“ The humble Petition of Watts Wrigley and Sons, and the whole of the operatives employed by them in the dressing and spinning waste silk ;

“ Showeth,

“ That your petitioners are deeply impressed with the conviction that any legislative interference, restricting the hours of labour in factories is subversive of the best interests of trade, seeing that such a measure will decrease the productive powers, and hence the general wealth and happiness of the community : That the principle of legislating betwixt the master and operative, if once allowed, will render mercantile investments uncertain and precarious, will infringe upon the labourers rights, and finally destroy that reciprocity of interest which, as essential to prosperity, should exist betwixt the master and operative.

“ That your petitioners, and others engaged in the same trade, have, by an enormous outlay of capital and much skill and industry, perfected the manufacture of spun silk, so that a valuable article of commerce is obtained from materials formerly useless, being the refuse of the process of throwing silk : That from the cheapness of the raw material, the low price of labour, the facilities afforded for the manufacture, and the ready market on the Continent, any restriction in the hours of labour at home will operate as a premium for the removal of this business to foreign countries : Moreover, from the extreme uncertain and fluctuating nature of the demand for this article in the home market, the manufacturer will be unable to meet a sudden demand, without the danger and inconvenience of keeping a large amount of capital inactive in stock.

“ That this business employs nearly two hundred operatives, of whom many are between the ages of twelve and twenty-one years ; and the unavoidable consequence of the passing of



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of the ten hours labour restriction bill will be, the reduction of the wages of the operative at least one sixth, and also rendering unproductive one sixth of the capital invested; That for certain processes of this complex manufacture each adult operative requires a complement of young hands, and if the hours of labour of the latter be shortened, the former also must be reduced to the same period; that is, the whole establishment must, from the very dependent nature of the processes, be placed on the same footing, or a double set of hands must be kept at a great increase of expence, to realize the same profit.

"That the learning of the processes of dressing and spinning waste silk requires a regular apprenticeship, which, to make skilful workmen, must commence at an early age; and any restrictions in the hours of labour will cause great embarrassment, on account of the indentures and contracts entered into for a certain amount of labour.

"That the dressing and spinning of waste silk is not at all detrimental to the health of the operative; the temperature of the mills is regular and low, admitting of free ventilation of air; the labour light and cleanly, and the machinery of delicate and therefore harmless structure; and in general the children are employed under their parents in the piecing department, which requires little labour.

"That your petitioners will hail with the greatest satisfaction any legislative measures which will effectually ameliorate the condition of the working-classes, reduce the price of corn, and thus remove the necessity (on the part of parents) for children being employed at all in factories; but they view with great apprehension and alarm any measures which will restrict the hours of labour, consequently reduce the amount of wages, without at the same time reducing the price of corn.

"That your petitioners will ever pray," &c. &c. &c.

Halifax, Yorkshire, 3d May 1832.

Signed by near two hundred operatives, giving the ages along with the signatures.

WATTS WRIGLEY.

No. 27.

J. Greenwood.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES GREENWOOD, Halifax.

- A. 1.—Township of Langfield, parish of Halifax, and west riding of the county of York.
- A. 2.—Carding, preparing, and spinning of cotton-weft.
- A. 3.—Erected in 1811, and has been employed for the same purpose ever since.
- A. 4.—Water-power, not regular; say about four horse power.
- A. 5.—In the card-rooms by opening of windows.
- A. 6.—In the spinning-rooms not any particular means of ventilating, except that of opening doors, and in the scutch-room by fans.
- A. 7.—All or any of the persons employed.
- A. 8.—Not any unfenced.
- A. 9.—Not any arrangements of our making; but the females do in general make some change in their dress previous to going out.
- A. 10.—Eleven years. We believe that the working spinners sometimes employ their own children to put rovings in when under nine years of age, say for two or three hours per day, because they cannot afford to pay wages.
- A. 12.—A greater proportion.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children, or have any orphans in our employ; children's parents seldom visit them, excepting those who work at the mill.
- A. 16.—The principal part of the children are employed by the spinners, and are superintended by them.
- A. 17.—Persons of all ages work the same time.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half, in order to make up the deficiency (as far as the law allows) of the previous loss, for the want of water.
- A. 20.—Having to stop sometimes for partial repairs, we cannot say as to the number of whole days that we have worked.
- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and twenty-four hours thirty-seven minutes; this is for twelve months previous to 12th May 1833.
- A. 22.—The whole of the works have in general been carried on at the same time, excepting that sometimes the spinners, or part of them, have been stopped a short time for the want of rovings.
- A. 23.—In consequence of the loss for the want of water, and other casualties, the weekly average is rather less than eleven hours per day.
- A. 24.—We employ but one set of children, and we work twelve hours and a half per day for five days a week, and nine on the Saturday, when we have the means, in order to make up the loss of time for the want of water.
- A. 26.—If the hours of work were restricted to twelve hours per day, and not allowed to work in the night, it would have the effect of distressing the workpeople for a time, or till more factories could be built.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—Have not had the means of ascertaining experimentally; but theory tells us the cost of production will be enhanced by reducing the hours for working.
- A. 29.—A continuance of more than twelve hours per day, the master spinner's inducement



ment is his own emolument, and to the injury of those who only work twelve hours per day; but working day and night without a change of hands we imagine has not been attempted.

A. 30.—We cannot answer any part of this question, as we have always worked an average of twelve hours per day, so far as we have had water for so doing.

A. 31.—No objection, were it practicable; but factory workers are not so numerous as to have a double set to each factory.

A. 33.—We do not employ any night-hands.

A. 34.—We employ only one set of hands, which we think suits our and their purpose the best.

A. 36.—It would lessen the production of yarns, and benefit the persons who work in the day only.

A. 37.—We think that if the ten-hours bill pass, the landlord should be compelled to return the tenant £8 6s. 8d. per cent. on the payment of his half year's rent, or the tenant should be authorized to retain that sum, as we believe there are many persons who cannot pay the twelve hours rent with ten hours working.

A. 38.—Ours being the spinning of 40<sup>s</sup> weft, we have not found it necessary to have a thermometer for that purpose, and therefore cannot answer this question; but in the winter time we keep the rooms comfortably warm by steam.

A. 40.—Twenty-eight persons.

A. 41.—None.

A. 47.—Twelve hours.

A. 50.—In the evenings, by oil.

A. 51.—Not any but that of opening the doors.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—We should recommend people to have their meals in their own houses, if not too far from the factory.

A. 57.—To endeavour to get the work done by kind treatment.

A. 58.—Very seldom.

A. 59.—The little that has been done has generally been done by the parents.

A. 60.—No.

A. 61.—With our subsequent sanction; yes.

A. 62.—Had we sufficient reason for forbidding, we should have done so.

A. 63.—We have not given any instructions.

A. 64.—No complaint the last three years, or ever before.

A. 65.—Some of our workpeople live in our houses, others do not. We do not interfere with their domestic concerns.

A. 66.—There is a difference of intellectual powers, of course; as to general character, we are not aware that we employ one person of bad character. Those whom we employ have entered at different times, and have in general worked in factories ever since they commenced working.

A. 67.—We have not kept any account on this point, but believe that the workpeople's has not deteriorated.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—The mills in our immediate neighbourhood (we believe) do conform to the Act.

A. 74.—No.

A. 77.—Has not been tried in this neighbourhood, but if tried it is probable the workpeople would be backward in giving evidence.

A. 78.—This would, perhaps, be done the best by appointing a factory warden or inspector in each district where factories are worked.

JAMES GREENWOOD.

#### ANSWERS of BENYON and Co., Leeds.

No. 28.

Benyon & Co.

A. 1.—Holbeck, in the parish of Leeds, in the county of York.

A. 2.—Spinning of flax-yarns and manufacture of linens, including also the dressing of flax required for the purpose.

A. 3.—The fire-proof buildings, in which the hackling and spinning departments are carried on, were erected at one and the same time, and were finished so as to allow the works to begin on or about the 1st July 1803. Since that period a range of weaving-shops has been added, erected in or about the year 1804 to 1805. A small addition has also been made to the length of the mill, in or about the year 1817. A building for holding the apparatus necessary to supply the premises with gas was erected in or about the year 1815.

A. 4.—The mill is worked altogether by steam. We have two engines, one of sixty horse power and one of thirty; the power is regular.

A. 5.—We have not.

A. 6.—We ventilate the factory by opening the windows and allowing a current of air to pass through; and in the colder parts of the year a fresh current of heated air continually passes into the rooms for the purpose of warming them.

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A. 7.



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A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the foreman of the room and his assistants, be in still subject to the superintendence of the general foreman of the mill.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off. Every precaution considered necessary in this respect has long been taken, in order to avoid accidents.

A. 9.—We have no particular arrangements of the nature here adverted to. The work-people, in bad weather, secure themselves by outer clothing, umbrellas, &c.; and they dry their clothes in the drying-house whenever they feel it necessary, for which purpose permission is always freely given.

A. 10.—We do not employ any child under nine years of age, if we know it, and instruct our overlooker to give preference to those who are ten or eleven years old. We find that the greater part of our hands have not been previously employed before they commenced with us, except two girls, aged thirteen years, who were employed at eleven years old in a woollen-mill, and ten boys, aged from ten to thirteen years, six of whom were employed previously in a cloth-mill, one in a coal-pit, two in a ropery, and one as a bobbin-winder for weavers.

A. 11.—It does not necessarily.

A. 12.—As before stated, our business does not require the employment of any child under twelve years of age.

A. 13, 14, 15, & 16.—We do not employ apprentices, and therefore are not applicable.

A. 17.—Our usual hours of labour are, for the first five days in the week, from six o'clock in the morning till five minutes past seven o'clock in the evening, and on Saturday, from the same time in the morning till five minutes past five o'clock in the evening, with the allowance for meals as stated in A. 53. Time of real labour sixty-nine hours and forty minutes, independent of meals. This is the standard week; and we pay at this rate whether we work more or less time. Adults and younger persons, at weekly wages, employed alike in time.

A. 19.—The greatest number of hours that our works were kept on in one day during the last year, 1832, is twelve hours and fifty minutes.

A. 20 & 21.—Three hundred and three days, or three thousand four hundred and twenty-three hours and twenty minutes.

A. 22.—All work or stop together with the engines.

A. 23.—The average number of hours we worked each day during the last year, 1832, is eleven hours eighteen minutes.

A. 25.—The regular hours of labour were exceeded during the last year in the months of May, June, July, October, November, and December, seventy-six days in all, from five to twenty-five minutes per day, except seven days, when the time exceeded was fifty-five minutes per day. The time was exceeded in consequence of having lost it previously by holidays and necessary repairs of steam-engines, &c.

A. 26.—We consider the time lost in the repairs of engines, &c. unavoidable; some part of it might have been saved if we had allowed it to be done on Sunday, but this we have for some years strictly forbid. The time lost by holidays might be avoided, if agreeable to the workpeople to abandon them; but we do not generally stop on these occasions unless we consider that it is their wish, as the time is deducted from their wages.

A. 27.—We have worked our present number of hours about one year and a half. For some years previous our working week was seventy-two hours, as we did not stop the spinning-rooms for the morning and evening meal. During the last war the hours were often longer than that.

A. 28.—It is obvious that a reduction in the hours of working, where machinery is chiefly employed, must enhance the cost of production, unless the effect can be counteracted by other circumstances; and if we compare former times with the present it is probable that the great improvements made in machinery have more than made up the loss consequent on reduced hours, by the increased power given to production.

A. 29.—We have no protracted night-work, and cannot speak to the motives which may influence those who have.

A. 30.—As a general rule there must be an increase in the cost of production by limitation of hours, unless corrected by circumstances stated in A. 28, to which we refer.

A. 31.—We do not ourselves require any relays or fresh set of hands, not requiring many over-hours. We cannot speak to the objections which others may have on this point.

A. 32.—It has not been tried by us. From the hours we are in the habit of working, it has not occurred to us that a necessity existed for it.

A. 33 & 34.—We have not.

A. 35.—We do not work our mill at night.

A. 37.—It is our opinion that a further reduction in the hours of labour will end ultimately in a reduction in the price of labour itself, for increased cost is the inseparable attendant of decreased production, all other circumstances remaining the same; and if to an extent that cannot be counterbalanced by reduction in wages and increased speed of machinery, increased cost, and consequently diminished consumption, will ensue, and our power of competition with other countries be reduced.

A. 38.—Our manufacture, with the exception of one part of it, the fine spinning, of recent introduction, does not require any warmth beyond what is necessary for the comfort of the hands. In the rooms in which the fine spinning is carried on, the temperature is from five to ten degrees higher than the others, according to the weather, &c. The general temperature



temperature of the mill is from fifty-five to sixty-five degrees, and in the fine spinning rooms from sixty to seventy degrees. The increased heat proceeds from the introduction of steam, but the process does not require any additional heat in the room itself, and we are in hopes shortly to mitigate the evil considerably.

A. 40.—Number of persons, eighty-eight.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—By gas light.

A. 53.—On the first five days in the week the mill-hands are allowed fifteen minutes for breakfast, forty-five minutes for dinner, and ten minutes for afternoon meal (called drinking), with the same allowance on Saturday, except the ten minutes for the afternoon meal, which is not allowed, the works stopping at five minutes past five o'clock. The mechanics, and others not engaged in superintending machinery, are allowed half an hour for breakfast, three quarters of an hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking each day in the week, except Saturday, on which day no allowance is made for drinking. Hands working by piece-work (such as reelers, weavers, hacklers, &c.) take their own time.

A. 54.—At present we find one hundred and nineteen persons take their dinner in the mill, chiefly in consequence of living at too great a distance to go home. All the rest go home to dinner. All engaged in superintending machinery are not allowed to leave the mill at the morning and afternoon meal, on account of the time allowed being too short. Those engaged in other employments leave the premises if they please at these times.

A. 56.—It matters not to us as employers whether the workpeople take their meals in or out of the premises, so that they are not absent above the time allowed. If the time allowed for every meal was sufficiently long to allow them all to go home to partake of them it would probably add, in many cases, to their comfort; but if the time to be worked remained the same as at present, it would cause the mill to be kept open to a very late hour, which would be particularly objectionable in winter, when we are obliged to work several hours by gas light, and would cause many to reach home very late who reside some distance from the mill.

A. 57.—Small fines are occasionally deducted from their wages, but our greatest dependence is placed upon the vigilance of the overlookers, and in the power we have of dismissing refractory or disobedient hands.

A. 58.—We have made diligent inquiry into this point. In our directions to our overlookers we have always forbid corporal punishment or any other harsh treatment to be used, and this direction seems to have been generally well observed, though we do not mean to say that in some instances children have not been corrected by slight blows; but we have reason to believe that this very rarely happens, and to no improper extent, as during the last three years we can only hear of one complaint being made to the head overlooker, and that was by a girl of fourteen years of age, in consequence of being struck by one of the under overlookers; but it never reached our ears before the present inquiry.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 60 & 61.—Corporal punishment beyond the extent named in A. 58. has not been inflicted with our knowledge or prior or subsequent sanction.

A. 64.—Not one within the last three years, nor against ourselves personally at any time since we have been in business. We only remember, in a period of thirty years, one instance of any of our foremen being summoned by the magistrates to answer a complaint of this description, and that is very long ago.

A. 65.—We do not lodge or board any person in our employment. A few of our workpeople live in houses belonging to us, for which they pay us rent, in the same manner they would do to any other landlord. We see that these houses are kept in proper repair, but our control does not extend further.

A. 66.—As a general rule the most expert hands always commence at a very early age; and in the spinning-department, which requires most activity and quickness, we do not find that we have any hands that commenced at a late period. In the preparing rooms, where older and stronger hands are more used, we find our best hands generally commenced early, though we must observe that in two instances, Elizabeth Secker and Susannah Bannister did not commence till seventeen years of age, and are among our best hands. We have not observed any difference as to general character. See list No. 5.

A. 67.—Not having kept any account of the health of the people, we feel a difficulty in answering this question. We consider that many improvements have been made to render the work both less unpleasant and less laborious, but we cannot give any opinion further.

A. 68.—We are not able to make much change in the employment of our hands, as good ones do not like to be moved from their particular work, and generally refuse to be changed to others less agreeable. When an occupation does not seem to agree with the health of a person, we sometimes allow them to change to another.

A. 78.—Not having seen any restrictive regulations on the hours of labour in operation, we cannot say any thing on this point. We consider the excessive labour to which young children can be subjected may be very properly restrained within moderate bounds by legislative enactment, if found to be frequently practised.

BENYON & Co.



Yorkshire.

No. 29.

J. Brown & Co.

## ANSWERS of JAMES BROWN and Co., Leeds.

- A. 1.—Bagby mill, in the township and parish of Leeds, county of York.
- A. 2.—Finishing woollen cloths.
- A. 3.—The original workshops for finishing by hand were erected prior to our knowledge of them. The mill, dryhouse, and press-shop were built in 1825 and 1826, when the finishing by machinery first took place.
- A. 4.—Steam engine of thirty horse power.
- A. 5.—The greater part of the windows are made to open, to allow the rooms to be ventilated to any degree the workpeople may require.
- A. 6.—By the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—The ventilation in each room is regulated by the workmen themselves, in such manner as they find most for their own convenience and comfort.
- A. 8.—The machinery, as far as practicable, and all the dangerous parts in particular, are boxed off, to the best of our knowledge.
- A. 9.—We have no particular department wholly appropriated to the purposes specified, but we consider all necessary conveniences and comfort for the work-people are supplied, and have been since the mill commenced working. We have had no complaints from the workpeople, and we consider them comfortable and satisfied.
- A. 10.—We have occasionally taken a child at nine years of age, as stated in A. 11. We generally take them between ten and twelve from our workmen, but not always.
- A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age are not necessarily required in the finishing department; but to oblige some of our workmen who have large families, or when one of them dies, leaving a widow and a family of children, we sometimes take them earlier, for carping teazles and pruning, neither of which is laborious.
- A. 12.—We employ more children in finishing cloth by machinery than we did previously, when we finished by hand.
- A. 13.—We do not employ any apprentices at present.
- A. 15.—We neither lodge nor maintain any of our children or workpeople; the young persons generally live with their parents, who have the care of them.
- A. 16.—The masters or overlookers have no superintendence over the children, only during working hours.
- A. 17.—Our regular hours of work are from six in the morning to seven in the evening, allowing two hours for refreshment; but in a press of business we sometimes extend the time, with the concurrence of the workpeople.
- A. 18.—The boys who work with the men work the same number of hours; the younger boys seldom exceed the regular hours.
- A. 19.—Twenty working hours, with two sets of workpeople, and that only in the steaming department.
- A. 20.—Four hundred and forty-four days eight hours and a half (calculating eleven hours a day) in the steaming department, including both day and night work; three hundred and twelve days at the gigs; two hundred and ninety-five days ten hours at the machines; two hundred and ninety-five days three hours at the shears.
- A. 21.—Four thousand eight hundred and ninety-two hours and a half in the steaming department; three thousand four hundred and thirty-two hours with the gigs; three thousand two hundred and fifty-five hours and a half with the machines; and three thousand two hundred and forty-eight hours with the shears.
- A. 23.—Thirteen hours and a half for two managers in the steaming department; ten hours and three quarters in the gig room; ten hours and a quarter in the machine room; and ten hours and a quarter in the shear room.
- A. 24.—The children in the steaming department work ten hours each set; in the machine department they average ten hours and a quarter each. We have not the exact time they work each day, occasionally they may have worked from eleven to twelve hours.
- A. 25.—Under a press of business, when goods have been required for foreign markets at specific periods, and the time limited, we have been under the necessity of exceeding the regular hours, or decline to execute the orders.
- A. 26.—Not without increasing our mills and machinery to an extent that would not always be required.
- A. 27.—We have sometimes worked longer hours than we did last year, when business required it.
- A. 28.—As we have not uniformly worked very long hours, we have made no calculation on this question; our opinion is short hours will increase the expence.
- A. 29.—Our inducement in working extra hours is to accommodate our customers, by having their orders executed in sufficient time for the markets they are intended for. We seldom work through the nights, except in the steam department, when we have two sets of children.
- A. 30.—We have made no particular calculation on this question, and cannot state in what branch or to what extent short hours would increase the cost of production.
- A. 31.—Whenever excessive long hours are required we have not nor ever had any objection to a second set of children.

A. 32.



A. 32.—In the steaming-department, where we employ two sets of children, we find it to answer.

A. 33.—Where we employ two sets of children the day-set is at work from six o'clock in the morning till six in the evening; and the night-set from six in the evening till six in the morning; each set has two hours allowed for refreshment and rest.

A. 34.—Our business not being regular, sometimes we are pressed to execute orders within a given time, and sometimes we prepare goods in anticipation, to keep our workpeople employed, which are the causes of extending or reducing our working-hours.

A. 35.—In working two sets of hands they change weekly, the day-set one week is the night-set the next week.

A. 36.—The effects of having no night-work would be to compel us to reduce our business to what could be accomplished within the time allowed, or to extend our works.

A. 37.—We suppose the reduction of the hours of labour would decrease business generally, and the comforts of the workpeople too.

A. 38.—There is no particular temperature necessary to carry on our business. In the winter season the mill is aired with steam for the comfort of those employed.

A. 39.—The dryhouse, where the cloth is dried, averages from ninety to ninety-five; the workmen can open the windows and reduce the heat at pleasure; it is filled morning and evening with wet cloth, and the workmen are employed about eight hours a day in that department.

A. 40.—About twenty.

A. 41.—Seventy-three times throughout the night, and that only in the steaming-department.

A. 42.—Twenty boys.

A. 43.—Ten hours for a full night; but the average of our night-work in steaming last year is five hours and a half.

A. 44.—Twenty.

A. 45.—From six at night to six in the morning.

A. 46.—We have no processes in our business indispensably continuous.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—The same as in the day, by the windows opening at the pleasure and convenience of the workmen.

A. 52.—We have not noticed any unfavourable appearance in the workpeople who have occasionally worked through the night.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, about eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; and half an hour for drinking, about five o'clock.

A. 54.—The workmen take their meals at the mill or elsewhere, to suit their own convenience; there are no inquiries made where or how they have been engaged, provided they are ready to commence work when the time allowed expires.

A. 55.—The distance some of the workmen reside from the mill precludes them from taking their meals at their own homes within the time allowed.

A. 56.—Many of our workpeople would be obliged to leave our employ, and to endeavour to provide themselves with work nearer their dwellings.

A. 57.—Discharging them if they do not conduct themselves properly.

A. 58.—Not by our orders nor with our knowledge.

A. 62.—We have had no complaints from parents, children, or overlookers, consequently we have given no instructions.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Only eight occupy houses belonging to their employers, and they are principally overlookers.

A. 66.—We generally prefer those who have been brought up with us from infancy, although we have a few who came strangers to us that are good workmen.

A. 67.—During the last eight years, namely, since the mill commenced, our workmen, we believe, have enjoyed as good health as at any former period.

A. 68.—We are not aware that any department in our works is particularly injurious to health, consequently we do not frequently make changes in the employment of our workmen.

A. 69.—Our mill being employed in the finishing of woollen-cloth, we suppose it is not subject to the provisions of the Act referred to.

A. 70.—No, never.

A. 77.—We suppose the workpeople can have no fear that their masters would be displeased by their giving true and correct evidence.

20th May 1833.

JAMES BROWN & Co.

Yorkshire.

J. Brown & Co.

#### ANSWERS of BRUCE and DORRINGTON, Leeds.

No. 30.

Bruce & Dorrington.

A. 1.—Leeds, in the county of York.

A. 2.—Manufacturing and finishing of woollen-cloth.

A. 3.—Built in the years 1825 and 1826.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of forty horse power and upwards.

(APP.—C. 1.)

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A. 5.



Yorkshire.

Bruce & Dorrington.

- A. 5.—No distinct provision.
- A. 6.—The ventilation depends upon the opening of doors or windows.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of any of the workpeople.
- A. 8.—All the gearing and upright shafts are fenced off, as well as every other part of the machinery that is considered dangerous.
- A. 9.—No particular arrangement, except for the tenterers on coming out of the dry-house. The workpeople have the privilege of washing themselves before leaving the mill, of which many avail themselves.
- A. 10.—Only one at eight years and a half, one at nine years, twelve at ten years; the others are eleven years and upwards.
- A. 11.—Children from ten to twelve years of age are the most suitable for pieceners.
- A. 12.—No difference.
- A. 13.—Yes.
- A. 14.—We have no parish apprentices.
- A. 15.—All the children are lodged and maintained by their parents or guardians.
- A. 17.—Eleven hours, and occasionally twelve; nine hours on the Saturday.
- A. 19.—The regular hours for working the engine are from six in the morning 'till eight in the evening, and occasionally longer for fulling and dressing.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and five days and seven nights.
- A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and forty-nine hours.
- A. 22.—The average time for scribbling and slubbing is ten hours and a half a day; for fulling and dressing twelve hours and a quarter a day.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 25.—After the engine has been standing for repairs.
- A. 26.—It is sometimes necessary that the dressing-machinery should work longer for the execution of orders where only a very limited time is allowed by the purchaser.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—If less time than eleven hours is worked, profit is diminished, and the cost of production increased in proportion.
- A. 29.—The unavoidable expences of a mill are nearly the same for six hours as for working twelve hours a day, such as rent, interest on machinery, taxes, insurance, overlookers salaries, wear and tear of gear, and numerous other expences.
- A. 31.—We have not any objection.
- A. 32.—We have not tried it.
- A. 33.—Yes. The day-set of hands have worked from six in the morning until seven in the evening; and the night-set from seven in the evening 'till six in the morning.
- A. 34.—When the works are continued day and night for a length of time a relay of hands is unavoidable.
- A. 35.—The night-hands change periodically with the day-set.
- A. 36.—If we could not occasionally work all night in the dressing of woollen-cloth, we should frequently have to decline orders which could not be executed in the time required.
- A. 37.—If the working-hours were reduced from eleven to ten per day, the manufacturer would require ten per cent. less wool to employ his machinery, and a corresponding reduction of his hands must follow, such as spinners, weavers, burlers, &c., for whom there would be no employment until an increase of engine-power and machinery took place; and owing to the consequent reduction in the value of mill-property there would be little inducement for a greater outlay of capital, particularly in the woollen-department.
- A. 38.—The temperature varies from 60 to 65 degrees.
- A. 39.—The dry-house is heated to 90 degrees.
- A. 40.—Four.
- A. 41.—Seven.
- A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No children.
- A. 46.—The process of fulling is best effected when it goes on without intermission.
- A. 47.—Twelve to fourteen hours for common milled cloths; double-milled cloths frequently require three or four successive days and nights.
- A. 48.—Strong able-bodied men.
- A. 49.—When the process of fulling is interrupted, the cloth cools, and the process is retarded until it has regained the necessary warmth by working.
- A. 50.—Gas.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour in the afternoon.
- A. 54, 55, & 56.—All, except two or three millers and nine scribbler-feeders; the machines require their attention one minute in three: all the others take their meals where it suits them.
- A. 57.—None.
- A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—Not to our knowledge.
- A. 62.—We do not think corporal punishments necessary.
- A. 66.—None brought up from infancy.
- A. 67.—The health of the workpeople is generally very good, as will be seen from the report. We are of opinion that the oil used in preparing the wool is conducive to the health of the children.
- A. 68.—No regulation.

A. 69.



A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—We are of opinion that legislative enactments and restrictions are unnecessary, and that they will prove alike injurious to masters and workmen.

Scribbling-machinery, in the borough of Leeds, will require eight millions five hundred thousand pounds of foreign wool to keep it employed eleven hours per day; value, upwards of one million sterling. One thousand children, twelve years of age and under, will perform the above. One thousand three hundred and fifty children would perform the same work in eight hours per day.

8th June 1833.

BRUCE & DORRINGTON.

Yorkshire.

Bruce & Dorrington.

#### ANSWERS of PETER FAIRBANK, Leeds.

No. 31.

Peter Fairbank.

A. 1.—In the parish of Leeds in the west riding of the county of York.

A. 2.—Brass and iron founding, and the manufacture of flax and tow machinery.

A. 3.—The foundry, I believe, was erected in 1824 or 1825, but not being the proprietor at that time I cannot speak accurately. The present machine-shop was erected in 1829, and occupied since in the manufacturing of the above-mentioned machinery.

A. 4.—A six horse power engine. There are no irregularities, excepting any time which may have been lost arising from a breakage of the steam-engine, which rarely occurs if it be carefully looked after.

A. 5.—Almost every window has a sliding casement; there are also ventilations in the roof.

A. 6.—Besides the constant ventilation in the roof the casements may be opened.

A. 7.—Each individual is left at liberty to open the casement in the window opposite to him, should he feel so disposed.

A. 8.—Where there are any parts of the machinery deemed dangerous, and about which the persons employed are likely to come in contact, they are always boxed or fenced off.

A. 9.—There are no arrangements for the purpose mentioned.

A. 10.—The lowest age at which I employ is from thirteen to fourteen. Sometimes they have been at other trades, but in many instances they have not.

A. 11.—In the manufacture of machinery none but males are employed, and in all instances they are preferred above fourteen years of age to any other.

A. 12.—In the manufactory of machinery, though more machinery has been introduced, which has greatly improved the accuracy and finish of the work, yet I am of opinion the demand for workpeople in this line is at least equal now to what it has been at any former period.

A. 13.—I do not indenture any young men; men that I take to teach.

A. 17.—Ten hours per day commonly is their day's work; but being fully employed we generally work twelve hours.

A. 18.—The same as those above twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—Not more than fourteen hours, and I do not think that has occurred half a dozen times during the last year.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and seventy-seven.

A. 22.—They generally go together, one being dependent upon the other. I do not remember at one period during the last year.

A. 23.—After deducting for holidays, lost time, &c. I should think that the average number of hours of work each a day would not be more than eleven hours.

A. 24.—Having no people in my employ coming under the denomination of children this question does not apply to me.

A. 25.—This question I deem answered by the foregoing.

A. 27.—I have never at any former period worked longer hours on the average than I do at present.

A. 29.—I believe the object in working many hours to be to make the best of the capital invested.

A. 30.—I find the cost of production to be increased when my men work above twelve hours, and that I sustain a loss if they work below, or less than ten hours.

A. 33.—I have never more than one set of hands, and they have always worked during the day and not at night.

A. 36.—With me it would produce no effect at all.

A. 37.—My opinion on this head may be seen by my answer to Q. 30.

A. 38.—The temperature best suited to the manufactory of machinery is not required higher than from 54° to 60°, which I consider to be a fair average of the different rooms in my works throughout the year.

A. 39.—Not higher than the temperature stated in answer to Q. 38.

A. 40.—I deem this question to be comprehended in the answer to the last.

A. 41.—I never had the works working all night through during the last year.

A. 46.—No process in my manufactory requires to be continuous.

(APP.—C.1.)

F 2

A 50.



Yorkshire.  
 Peter Fairbank.

- A. 50.—By candles and oil.  
 A. 51.—No more provision is made or supposed requisite than that already mentioned.  
 A. 52.—I do not know, but should consider the effects on the habits and constitutions of the people to be very bad.  
 A. 53.—From eight in the morning to half past eight, from twelve at noon to one, and from four in the afternoon to half past four o'clock.  
 A. 54.—About nine tenths of them go to their meals.  
 A. 55.—It is owing to their living at a distance from the works.  
 A. 56.—I would prefer their going, and they are perfectly at liberty to do so, if inclined.  
 A. 57.—Not having any children in my works I do not require to use any coercive measures.  
 A. 58.—I conceive corporal punishment oppressive and degrading, and never inflicted any.  
 A. 62.—I have always done so, and have taken every precautionary measure I knew of to prevent its infliction.  
 A. 63.—I have never given any written instructions, as I have never had any occasion during the last four years to do so.  
 A. 64.—Not in any one instance.  
 A. 65.—None of my workpeople live in any house belonging to me.  
 A. 66.—All persons employed in my manufactory have, in the majority of instances, gone to the business within a year or two of the same age, viz. fourteen years; I cannot adduce any particular instances among my workpeople.  
 A. 67.—In my manufactory I do not know any perceptible difference in the health of those employed.  
 A. 68.—Having no process of work coming within the comprehension of this query, no selection or change of employment is required.  
 A. 69.—I consider my mill as not coming under the provisions of the present Act.  
 A. 73.—I am not aware whether they do so, nor have I ever heard that the Act for regulating the hours of labour had been in force in this district.  
 A. 76.—By no proceedings having been instituted in this district under the Act, no evidence could be required.  
 A. 77.—There may be instances, but I think that they are of rare occurrence.  
 A. 78.—Not being in a district where a law of this kind has been in operation, I feel myself unable to suggest any remedies for evils which may exist in the districts where such an Act has been in force.

PETER FAIRBANK.

No. 32.  
 T. W. George.

#### ANSWERS of T. W. GEORGE, for Thomas George and Sons, Leeds.

- A. 1.—Leeds, Yorkshire.  
 A. 2.—Dyeing and finishing of worsted stuff goods.  
 A. 3.—Counting-house, engine, cleaning, crabb, singeing, grease, ware, making-up, drying, rolling, scalding, quirking rooms, black and copperas dye-houses, in 1825; press-shop and pattern dye-house in 1829; additional grease-room and stables in 1833.  
 A. 4.—One twelve horse power engine.  
 A. 5.—The stock and crabb houses are ventilated by wood tunnels being placed directly over the machines from which the steam proceeds; the dye-houses have ventilators in the centre of the roof, and in some cases immediately over the dyeing-vessels, which take away all the steam in clear weather, but not sufficiently so when the atmosphere is cloudy.  
 A. 6.—The opening of windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—Left to the general discretion.  
 A. 8.—All carefully fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople have always a supply of hot and cold water at command for that purpose, an oven to cook their dinner, and three fires during eight months in the year, round which they sit when at their meals.  
 A. 10.—Seldom under twelve, and generally have been employed at other trades.  
 A. 15.—Do not lodge or maintain any children.  
 A. 17.—Ten hours; all above are paid for as extra time.  
 A. 18.—The children usually work the same time as the men.  
 A. 19.—On one occasion from six o'clock in the morning to half past twelve the next morning, allowing two hours and a half for meals.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.  
 A. 21.—Four thousand one hundred and sixty-seven hours and forty minutes.  
 A. 22.—Those parts dependent on machinery are generally longer employed; they all commence at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Thirteen hours and forty minutes; there are seldom more than two or three men occupied to this extent; it arises from the roll-scalding department being continued necessarily later than any other.  
 A. 24.—Sixteen hours in a few cases; the youngest of these fourteen years of age.  
 A. 25.—Generally from July to October and January to April inclusive, from an increased demand; in those months we have during the last busy season worked later in our cleaning-department



department than in any others, from the circumstance of our millwright having failed to complete a machine used for that purpose at the time agreed upon. We frequently work later to complete shipping orders; and even those for the home trade are sometimes wanted at so short a notice as to require our utmost exertions to accomplish them.

A. 26.—It can only be avoided by a large extension of our works; we should then have great difficulty in obtaining workpeople during the busy season, and if we succeeded they would be thrown out of employ immediately on the demand decreasing.

A. 27.—Not more than we have during the last year since 1824; at present we do not exceed ten hours.

A. 28.—Where machinery is employed the cost is reduced by enhancing the hours of working; when manual labour only, the cost is not materially changed.

A. 29.—From a desire to meet the demand at a particular season, and from the difficulty of obtaining workpeople to work changes during the busy season.

A. 30.—If the amount of wages is regulated by the hours of labour, the only increase of cost arises from paying the same rent, poor's rate, and taxes on a decreased production.

A. 31.—It is probable a sufficient number of children could not be obtained to work double sets where adults only worked single, and if that were accomplished, much difficulty would arise in finding employment for them as they became adults.

A. 32.—We have not employed relays of children except when adults were so employed.

A. 33.—We have not employed two sets since 1824; the day-set then worked from six o'clock in the morning to six o'clock in the evening, the night-set the intermediate hours; on the Saturday the night-set stopped at midnight, and commenced at one o'clock on Monday morning.

A. 34.—We do not conceive it to be our interest, except in times of extraordinary demand; if we had a regular increase of business, should prefer enlarging our premises.

A. 35.—It is usual to change them periodically; we adopted that plan.

A. 36.—We have occupied since 1824 premises so large as to render two sets unnecessary.

A. 37.—An attempt on the part of the manufacturers to reduce wages in proportion to the decreased time of working, which would be resisted by the workpeople, and a general strike ensue; and unless the masters were to unite, the workmen would certainly succeed; consequently increase the cost of manufactured articles, and thereby endanger our foreign trade. If, on the other hand, the manufacturer succeeded, wages would be reduced, and the situation of the workpeople materially injured. The manufacturer would then extend his factory in order to keep up the supply; this in busy seasons would attract an additional number of workmen to the manufacturing district, and they, as soon as the demand decreased, would be thrown out of employment.

A. 38.—Our processes are not much affected by the temperature of the atmosphere, except in cases of severe frost.

A. 39.—Drying is the only process which requires the room to be heated, and that seldom exceeds 150° Fah.

A. 40.—One man.

A. 41.—Not once.

A. 50.—By lamps.

A. 51.—The same as during the day.

A. 52.—We have not had opportunity sufficient of observation to form an opinion.

A. 53.—All our workmen, except those who work in the black dye-house, thirty minutes at breakfast, one hour at dinner, and thirty minutes at drinking; those in the black dye-house, twenty minutes at breakfast, forty minutes at dinner, twenty minutes at drinking; they, however, leave work forty minutes earlier in consequence, or are paid for the time; they have likewise about twenty minutes leisure time each in the course of the day.

A. 54.—Fifty-six stay; the remainder leave.

A. 55.—It is entirely optional with the workpeople, and they of course suit their own convenience.

A. 56.—None.

A. 57.—If they persevere in disobedience after remonstrance we turn them off.

A. 58.—Not as a system.

A. 59.—No person has such instructions.

A. 60.—Not at the time.

A. 61.—We have on one or two occasions had complaints of men chastising the boys, but have always disapproved of it.

A. 62.—Have reprimanded the men; it has occurred so seldom as not to require any particular steps to prevent it.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given, except generally to avoid it.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—One year is amply sufficient for a man of ordinary capacity to become fully acquainted with any one of our processes. We do not observe any difference between those who have been with us from children and those who have at more advanced age become dyers.

A. 67.—We have not observed any material change; the workpeople are generally healthy.



Yorkshire.

T. W. George.

A. 68.—We have had a few instances of a particular employment not agreeing with some of our men, and have then found them work in other processes.

A. 69.—Suppose not.

A. 73.—We are not aware which Act is alluded to; have not heard of any infringement.

A. 77.—Certainly not.

A. 78.—We are persuaded very few penalties will be required to enforce any law the legislature may enact, if its provisions are calculated to deal fairly with both manufacturer and workmen; we believe, on the contrary, that no rate of penalties would ensure strict obedience to a law limiting the hours of labour to ten.

A. 79.—We consider there is much danger in fixing a maximum rate of daily labour in a business, the extent of which varies, as in our concern, at different seasons of the year as one to two; and a great part of which being dependent on foreign markets, the utmost possible exertion is requisite to complete our orders in the time allowed us, even with our present facilities in extending the usual time of working; we believe if that time were limited to ten hours, the consequence would be ruinous both to ourselves and to our workpeople.

17th May 1833.

T. W. GEORGE.

No. 33.

Thomas Turner.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS TURNER, for James Holdforth, Leeds.

A. 1.—Borough of Leeds, east division, Mill Street, Banklow Mills.

A. 2.—Cotton throstle-spinning and silk waste-spinning.

A. 3.—Cotton-mill built 1790; silk-mill built 1822.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, regularly worked.

A. 5.—The upper part of the window opens; and the windows, which are large, each twenty-two square feet, are opposite each other, so that the rarified air is carried off.

A. 6.—On opening the windows.

A. 7.—Orders are given to each overlooker to open the windows, and the workpeople are requested to open them whenever they please, as no artificial warmth is required, except in winter, and for the comfort of the workpeople.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off and safe.

A. 9.—The hands usually change some part of their dress when they come to work, and put on working aprons, &c.; they are provided with warm water, soap, and towels to wash twice a day if they wish it; and if they come with dirty hands or face, they are reprimanded and sent to wash themselves: on going out of the mill they are requested to guard themselves against cold.

A. 10.—Ten years; but some mule-spinners have employed their own children at eight or nine, at which I have expressed my disapprobation, but I could not control it.

A. 11.—I don't think the nature of the work requires it, but the parents are anxious to have their children taken on younger than twelve; I presume the reason is, they earn some money and are out of the way.

A. 12.—Not necessary; but younger children can be advantageously employed.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—The regular hours of working are from six to seven, allowing forty-minutes at dinner, half an hour breakfast, half an hour afternoon, for all hands, except silk card-room and cotton throstle-room; Saturday from six to five.

A. 18.—All ages work the same time.

A. 19.—The silk-mill last year was worked day and night, with two sets of hands.

A. 21.—1832, January to 31st December, 3,273 hours.

1831, - do. - 2,956 —

A. 22.—All alike.

A. 23.—Five days ten hours and fifty minutes; Saturday, nine hours.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours; six or eight doublers were employed seven or eight weeks.

A. 25.—About two months, in consequence of an extra demand for double-spun silk at that period; and during that time I put up additional machinery to render such extra work unnecessary.

A. 26.—It was unavoidable, as the article is suddenly required at times in large quantities; at other times but little is wanted.

A. 27.—I have in some years past, when the price of cotton-twist was higher, and the demand brisk, permitted the hands to work an extra hour each day (Saturday excepted) during part of the summer season; they solicit this to be continued, and regret it is not allowed.

A. 29.—In such trades where the demand is irregular, large orders may be received to be executed in a limited time, which the manufacturer must either decline or employ his workpeople extra hours.

A. 30.—The cost of production will be much increased in my concern from a limitation of hours of work. Suppose I work ten instead of twelve, the fixed expences, such as rent, interest on capital, taxes, permanent salaries, will be the same on ten as twelve; hence the extra cost of production will be about twenty per cent.



Yorkshire.

*Thomas Turner.*

A. 31.—Two sets of hands may be engaged to work sixteen hours, that is, eight each; but in brisk times or in places where hands are not plentiful, they could not be got to work eight hours and be paid in the proportion of eight to twelve, for at this rate they could not obtain the necessary comforts, and discontent would soon exist unless they could be paid twelve hours wage for eight hours work; and I presume there are not many trades profitable enough to do so.

A. 32.—I tried it last year from August to December, but abandoned it from reasons above.

A. 33.—I have employed a night-set of hands as well as day for two years; the day-hands come at six A.M. and leave at seven P.M.; night come at seven P.M. and leave at six A.M.; on Saturday night leave at eleven o'clock, and come on Monday morning at one; stopping forty minutes at midnight for supper.

A. 35.—At one period I worked with two distinct sets of hands, but latterly the day and night hands changed alternately week for week; some preferring day, others night, they were permitted to change as a mutual accommodation.

A. 36.—The cost of production will be increased, but the quality improved. On the 6th of April I gave up night-work.

A. 37.—If wages are not reduced in proportion to the reduction of the hours worked, the cost of production will be so much increased that if ten hours are to be paid for with twelve, the wages and incidental expences will annihilate some trades, and particularly low numbers of cotton-spinning.

A. 38.—Average  $66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  from October to April; seldom so high as  $70^{\circ}$ ; in summer no artificial heat; my manufacture, particularly silk, does not require warmth, and I only produce it for the comfort of the workpeople.

A. 42.—Ninety to a hundred.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—Same as day. (See A. 5.)

A. 52.—They are equally moral and regular, with the advantage of attending to domestic duties; but if from any cause they don't get their regular sleep, they complain of weariness and headache.

A. 54.—All leave for dinner, both in cotton and silk; in the silk-mill all leave for breakfast, &c., drinking, afternoon, except about thirty in card-room; in the cotton-mill, all, except card-room and spinners.

A. 55.—Those hands who live at a distance from the mills bring their meals, and prefer to take them in the mill, where they have them warmed if they wish, and find comfort and convenience in doing so.

A. 56.—Explained in last query.

A. 57.—Reprimanded first, by the overlooker of the department; secondly by the manager, who will represent to the parents; or if persevered in, complaint is made to me; I then expel or threaten to do so, which they fear more than any thing.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—No instructions to punish otherwise than by complaint and turning off. (See A. 57.)

A. 64.—For thirty years or more no proceedings have been taken against me or my overlookers.

A. 65.—Many of the workpeople live in my houses adjoining the mill, and I take every opportunity to make them sensible of the advantage of cleanliness and order. They are furnished with lime to whitewash, and are supplied with hot suds to wash and clean at a halfpenny a pail; they have also pure soft water given out to them three times a week.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are not only more skilful but more orderly; this remark applies generally.

A. 67.—I am not sensible of any difference.

A. 68.—I do not make any change, as I am not aware that any department is injurious.

A. 69.—Cotton-mill is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—I think they are independent enough to do as they please.

A. 78.—If a master has been taught his duty to God and to man, he requires no legislative enactment; but if not, penalties will not enforce obedience.

THOMAS TURNER.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HORSFALL, Leeds.

No. 34.

*John Horsfall.*

A. 1.—Leeds, in the county of York.

A. 2.—Dyeing and finishing worsted stuffs.

A. 3.—The whole have been erected since the beginning of 1824, and the principal part during that year.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—Such of the rooms as require it are ventilated by openings in the roof, covered with frames of open trellis-work, or bent revolving cylinders open at the ends.

A. 6.—All the rooms may likewise be ventilated by the windows at the pleasure of the workmen.

(APP.—C. 1.)

F 4

A. 7.



Yorkshire.

John Horsfall.

A. 7.—Such modes of ventilation as admit of discretionary regulation are under the control of the workmen at large.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are effectually fenced off.

A. 9.—There are no specific arrangements, but all the workmen have ample conveniences for the purposes mentioned in the question.

A. 10.—I have no particular regulation; the foreman of the department where boys are employed engages such as from size and strength appear likely for the work, without reference to age.

A. 11.—Not necessarily; the youngest boy I have now in my employment is upwards of fourteen years old.

A. 12.—No difference in this respect.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any.

A. 17 & 18.—No difference is made on account of age; the regular stated time for work is from six o'clock in the morning to six in the evening, including two hours allowed for meals. In winter the time seldom averages more than ten hours, including meals; but no deduction from wages is made on this account. From spring to autumn the trade is usually more brisk, and the hours will average from fourteen to fifteen, including meals; for this extra time additional wages are paid.

A. 19.—During the last twelve months one particular department (the black dye-house) has been at work fourteen nights in addition to the day-work; these fourteen nights work extended over eight consecutive weeks, and engaged fifteen men and five boys, who had each sixpence per night allowed for drinkings; the same time for meals was allowed during the night as in the day.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.

A. 21, 22, & 23.—These questions I cannot answer exactly, for the following reasons; first, the work, excepting some portion of the piece-work, is almost independent of the machinery, and from the nature of the employments in the day-work there are scarcely two persons who work the same number of hours in the same day; second, when the works are going less than the regular time, which is generally the case in winter, and sometimes at other periods of the year, no account is kept of the workmen's time, because no deduction is made from the stated wages for a regular week's work. The following particulars may be considered as very close approximations, being obtained by taking the average day's work during three months of winter at eight hours (exclusive of meals), and for the rest of the year, dividing the actual ascertained time of the whole of the workmen by the number of persons employed; that is, whole number of hours in the last twelve months, three thousand four hundred and seven; average duration of actual work per day, eleven hours. The greatest average number of hours worked in any one week occurred in the week ending 8th June, and was short of fourteen hours per day.

A. 24.—Twenty hours, which occurred in the cases mentioned in answer to query 19 with respect to five boys, three of whom were thirteen and two fourteen years of age.

A. 25.—The times are usually during the latter part of spring, through summer and autumn; there are frequently, however, intervals of several weeks when the regular hours are not exceeded; for causes see answer below.

A. 26.—I consider an excess beyond the regular hours unavoidable, because every dyer has his particular customers (the merchants), whom of course he is anxious to keep, which he would not be able to do if he could not do their work at times when trade was most brisk; in that case the merchants would send their work elsewhere both at those times and others.

A. 27.—The time of working, as stated in answers to previous questions, is very variable, but the average time has been much the same for some years, excepting for the last twelve months, in which it has exceeded any former year to a small extent.

A. 28.—I have always found the cost of turning out a certain quantity of work to be greater in proportion as less was done in the same time, and for very obvious reasons.

A. 29.—As I can only speak with respect to my own business, I would observe, that I know of no law, regulation, or mutual understanding which at all affects the hours of working, excepting as to those for a regular day's work; and I have always found the workpeople anxious to make as much over-time as they could be allowed. As to inducement for not changing hands when working extra hours, it is sufficiently obvious that hands could not be engaged for two or three hours per day, neither would it otherwise be convenient.

A. 30.—I am not subjected to any limitation; but, as stated in answer to query 28, the cost of production must necessarily be increased in proportion as the quantity in the same time is diminished, because there are many expences, such as interest of capital sunk in land, building, machinery, utensils, &c. &c., likewise taxes, cost and keep of horses, wages of clerks, foremen, and others, which must be incurred whether little business is done or much; as to the precise proportion, I cannot form any probable estimate.

A. 31.—I know of no objection where night-work is customary; but where, as with me, the extra hours seldom average more than three or four, it would not be easy to procure fresh sets of hands, neither would it from the nature of the processes be convenient.

A. 32.—Has not been tried for reasons given in answer to query 31.

A. 33.—No.

A 34.



A. 34.—If I were accustomed to employ workmen during the nights, I should certainly have two sets of hands, because it is impossible in my business that so much work should be done in the same time, or done so well, by hands who have been at work during the day also: for these reasons, and because there are additional expences incurred in night work I always avoid it where I possibly can. These reasons do not apply where the hours of actual work extend to only twelve or thirteen.

A. 36.—It would occasionally produce some inconvenience, but on the whole would not have much effect, as my night work last year exceeded all the night work previously.

A. 37.—If this refers to adults, and I were prohibited from employing them more than twelve hours (including meals) in any one day, it would oblige me to increase my work, at least one third, to do the same amount of business, for reasons stated in answer to query 26., otherwise the whole quantity of work done during the year would be reduced in proportion. In either case it is obvious that the profits must be considerably reduced, if not annihilated. Besides, the principal processes being necessarily continuous for from one to four hours, many hands would in that case be unemployed for some time before the fixed hour for leaving off work; and I should, therefore, either have to pay them for doing nothing, or deduct from their wages. So far as the boys are concerned, any restrictions would oblige me on occasions where over-time was required, to put men to work, which can be quite as well performed by the boys.

A. 38.—Except the dry-house, press-shop, and singeing-house, the usual temperature is that of the atmosphere. In the last two, the extra heat arises from the necessary use of hot iron plates, and varies greatly in the same day; the dry-house is the only room where the air is purposely heated.

A. 39.—The dry-house, which is the only room in which the temperature of the air is of any importance, is heated from 90° to 130°.

A. 40.—Five.

A. 41.—The department called the black dye-house has been at work fourteen nights during the last twelve months, as stated in answer to query 19.

A. 42.—Five.

A. 43.—Ten.

A. 44.—Five.

A. 45.—From six in the evening to six in the morning, with allowance of two hours for meals.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas made from rosin.

A. 51.—The same as mentioned in answer to query 5.

A. 52.—I have not tried it to an extent that would justify me in giving an opinion on the subject.

A. 53.—All are allowed the same, viz. half an hour for breakfast, the same for the afternoon meal, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Most of the work people get dinner away from the works; at other meals, probably one half remain on the premises.

A. 55.—The workmen are at entire liberty in this respect; and in remaining on the premises at meal times, or going away, consult their own convenience.

A. 57.—If not attentive and obedient, they are discharged from employment.

A. 58.—No.

A. 66.—In the dyeing department, which includes the principal part of the workmen who are paid by time, the greater number of hands have not been brought up to any regular business; some have left other employments for various reasons, and several are pensioners, who have been in the army, &c. Very few in this department have been brought up to the business, except those who were intended for foremen. In the other departments (preparing and finishing), which are almost entirely piece work, the workmen are usually brought up to the employment, and commence at fourteen years old and upwards.

A. 67.—I have no means of forming an opinion on this point, as in all similar works the workmen are frequently changing situations, especially those who have not piece work; it may, however, be mentioned, that no person in my employment was fatally attacked with the cholera, when it was so prevalent in Leeds last year (1832).

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is not subject to any present act.

A. 78.—Not being subject myself to any legislative enactments as to the hours of labour, &c., I cannot offer any suggestions on the subject of this question.

JOHN HORSFALL.

Yorkshire.

John Horsfall.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN HOWARD, Leeds.

No. 35.  
John Howard.

A. 1.—Leeds, Yorkshire.

A. 2.—Woollen and cotton yarn.

A. 3.—The old mill, first employed by me for woollen and cotton in 1820. The new mill, built in 1823.

(APP.—C. 1.)

G

A. 4.



Yorkshire.

John Howard.

- A. 4.—Steam. Twenty-four horse.
- A. 5.—The windows are, during the summer time, open on each side the mills; in winter they are closed by the men working in each room agreeable to their own inclination.
- A. 6.—Windows.
- A. 7.—By the workmen.
- A. 8.—All fenced off.
- A. 9.—There are piggins, buckets, and dishes, with soap for washing themselves; and a great many change their clothing on entering and leaving the mills.
- A. 10.—Nine years. They either come from other mills, or have not been employed in any thing previous.
- A. 11.—Children at twelve years of age are seldom employed as piecers; at that age they are generally employed as fillers, &c.
- A. 12.—No alterations in my works.
- A. 13.—None.
- A. 15.—They live with their parents and relations.
- A. 17.—Eleven hours.
- A. 18.—Eleven hours, except a few of the scribbler fillers, which are required to work an hour extra at times. They are in general fourteen years of age and upwards.
- A. 19.—The engine runs from six to seven; and should there have been any lost time, it never exceeds eight o'clock.
- A. 20.—The engine has wrought nearly its regular time.
- A. 21.—Nearly regular time with part of the machinery, and not half time with the others. None extra time.
- A. 22.—I have no different periods for carrying on different parts of my works.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours.
- A. 24.—Eleven hours, with the exception as before, which very seldom occurs.
- A. 25.—A misfortune in the machinery.
- A. 26.—I have no excess beyond the regular hours, except as above; and not then, except I am run short in yarn.
- A. 27.—The regular hours have been more than I have had occasion for, for some years back: part of my machinery is in general standing.
- A. 28.—If the hours of working are reduced it must necessarily cause an advance in the price of the article produced, as rent, taxes, capital, and expence of overlookers and foremen, &c. &c. would be equally the same for ten as they would for eleven hours.
- A. 29.—To realize as much of the manufactured article as possible from the same quantity of machinery, having only the same rent, taxes, and capital employed as for a shorter number of hours. No manufacturer can work night and day with one set of hands.
- A. 31.—There can be no objection to having relays of hands when work is required; when the machinery works night and day there must be two sets of hands. The children do not require to be relieved within the ordinary time, and they would rather work two or three hours over-time, being paid for it, than two or three hours under-time, being deducted for it.
- A. 32.—I have not employment for the regular time, nor have I had this some years back.
- A. 34.—I can see no reason for working two sets of hands; nor can I see any interest in it, when one will do.
- A. 35.—I have no night-work.
- A. 37.—I am of opinion that eleven hours are not too long. I have had thirty years' experience, and I have never known any bad effects arise from that cause. If the ten hours' bill was to pass, in case of an urgent demand, I think it might become matter of consideration whether two sets of workmen would not in some instances be the consequence; in which case the labourer would be the loser.
- A. 38.—They are heated by steam, so as to make the rooms comfortable for the work-people.
- A. 39.—No heat is required further than what will make the work-people comfortable during the winter months.
- A. 48.—I have no particular works requiring any specific time.
- A. 50.—In the winter season by gas nights and mornings.
- A. 53.—Three quarters for dinner, and half an hour for breakfast and drinking.
- A. 54.—A very few bring their meals with them; all are at liberty to go if they choose.
- A. 56.—None.
- A. 57.—A little correction with a small strap, sometimes by the slubber, is unavoidable with the piecers.
- A. 61.—I cannot help knowing, but the children are sometimes chastised as above.
- A. 62.—I have forbidden the workmen different times from ill-using the children, and would discharge any man if I found him making a practice of so doing.
- A. 63.—I have not had occasion to give any written orders on this subject.
- A. 64.—I have had no complaints from the magistrates, nor has there been any made against my overlookers.
- A. 65.—They occupy houses where they answer their private ends the best, there is no control over them.
- A. 66.—I do consider those brought up in mills more ready and active than those who come in at a more advanced age.

A. 67.



A. 67.—I can see very little difference in the health of my mill-people; they are in general very healthy.

A. 68.—I have no process that is in any particular detrimental or injurious to health.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 78.—I do not think any alteration could be made, nor do I think it is necessary, if the masters allow only a small strap, which I believe is pretty general. In case of abuse the magistrate is appealed to, which in my opinion is a sufficient guarantee.

JOHN HOWARD.

Yorkshire.

John Howard.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. MACLEA and MARCH, Leeds.

No. 36.

Messrs. Maclea & March.

A. 1.—The township of Holbeck, in the parish of Leeds.

A. 2.—Iron and brass foundries, and manufacturers of flax and tow machinery, &c.

A. 3.—Built in 1825, and the fitting-up shop enlarged in 1831.

A. 4.—Six horse power steam-engine.

A. 5 & 6.—The foundries are ventilated by large wooden ventilators fixed upon the roof; the other buildings are ventilated by opening the windows. Generally each man has the control of the window he works at.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are boxed off, such as the first-motion wheels and upright shaft.

A. 9.—No; some of the hands keep a spare pair of shoes in the works, to change on entering.

A. 10.—We do not profess to take any under fourteen years; sometimes they have only just left school, but generally they have been employed at some of the spinning-mills.

A. 13.—We do.

A. 14.—We never take apprentices from the parishes, but from their parents or friends with whom they live.

A. 15.—We pay them a weekly wage, beginning at five shillings per week, and advancing one shilling per week each successive year.

A. 17.—We work ten hours for a day, and for any extra hours the workmen are paid in proportion.

A. 18.—We do not often employ persons under twenty-one years of age for any extra hours beyond seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and fifteen days five hours at ten hours per day.

A. 21.—Three thousand one hundred and fifty-five hours.

A. 22.—All carried on simultaneously.

A. 23.—Sixty hours and a half per week, or rather more than ten hours per day.

A. 27.—At present we are working sixty-five hours a week, or six days and a half, and have not often worked longer hours.

A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity of work would be enhanced by shortening the hours, as many expences, such as taxes, &c. would remain the same, and the ratio of interest upon the fixed capital to the amount of work done would be increased.

A. 29.—There can be no inducement, as very long hours, we think, cannot benefit the masters, inasmuch as the hands grow tired, and do not perform their work with alacrity.

A. 30.—We have never been limited in the hours of working.

A. 36.—We only work at night when something breaks down in the mill gearing, so as to get it to work again if possible the next day, to prevent the hands from losing a day's employment.

A. 37.—Our hours of working are very satisfactory both to workmen and masters.

A. 38.—The temperature of the atmosphere, except in cold weather, when we warm the rooms by steam to a genial heat.

A. 39 & 40.—None of our manufactures require any extra heat, excepting melting the metals, and only a few hands are engaged in it.

A. 41.—Twice.

A. 42.—We do not employ children at night-work.

A. 53.—We begin at six o'clock in the morning, allow half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking or tea; or in the whole, two hours a day.

A. 54.—All our work-people go at the same time, and have the option of getting them in the works, or of going home; some stay, but the majority go home.

A. 57.—No other means than talking to them.

A. 60 & 61.—Only in one instance, when two boys were found fighting in the workshop.

A. 62.—We have.

A. 63.—The very few young people we employ render unnecessary any other than verbal instructions.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—No; they all select houses for themselves.

A. 66.—Our workmen are brought up to the business by serving a regular apprenticeship.

A. 67.—We are not able to ascertain any alteration in the general health.

A. 68.—The change of employment to different jobs is frequent.

CHARLES G. MACLEA.  
JOSH. OGDIN MARCH.



Yorkshire.

No. 37.

John Sayner.

## ANSWERS of JOHN SAYNER, Hunslet, near Leeds.

A. 1.—Hunslet, in the parish of Leeds, in the county of York, on the banks of the river Aire.

A. 2.—Dyeing, scribbling, and fulling mill; cloth dressing, ware grinding, calenderer and cylinderer.

A. 3.—Building erected about the year 1792. Used as a dye-house since that time to the present. The scribbling, fulling, and dressing for about the last twenty years.

A. 4.—A steam-engine of twenty horse power. No water power.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the foreman of each separate room.

A. 8.—All.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Eight years. None but one girl at cotton.

A. 11. Yes; because they can do the work equally well, and can be obtained at lower wages: this applies to slubbing.

A. 12.—Cannot speak to this with any correctness.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—From six o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening; two hours each day allowed for meals and recreation, making eleven hours each day. Saturday only nine hours.

A. 18.—The same as above; no difference as to age or otherwise.

A. 19. & 24.—Eleven hours.

A. 25.—None.

A. 27. & 33.—No.

A. 50.—By oil lamps.

A. 51.—None but the opening of windows.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinkings. All.

A. 54.—All that choose do; we have no restriction.

A. 56.—Cannot speak to the effects.

A. 57.—Nothing but kind means, which if not obeyed, are discharged.

A. 65.—Partly. Domestic cleanliness, &c. regulated by their parents.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—None.

JOHN SAYNER.

## ANSWERS of HENRY SKELTON, of the Firm of Hirst, Bramley, and Co., Leeds.

No. 38.

Henry Skelton.

A. 1.—In the township and parish of Leeds, and county of York.

A. 2.—Manufacture and finishing of woollen cloths.

A. 3.—The principal part in 1819; additional weaving and spinning rooms in 1824, 1825.

A. 4.—By steam.

A. 5.—No; except common ventilators in two rooms.

A. 6.—Yes.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes; all.

A. 9.—As regards the specific arrangements here mentioned, it is left entirely to their own discretion so far as relates to change of clothes, nor is there any general provision for washing. We have introduced several plans, rules, &c. for benefiting our work-people in a moral and religious point of view.

A. 10.—Our wish is to employ none under ten years of age; but if they are more than nine, we permit the men to engage them in the slubbing department.

A. 11.—The principal, almost the only department in which children under twelve years of age are employed, is in the slubbing department. Their work is most easily performed by those whose height is the usual one of children about or under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—In a woollen manufactory there has been little or no variation. In our particular case, we employ a less number of children under twelve years of age than formerly.

A. 13.—We have one in the dressing department; three in the drawing department.

A. 14, 15, & 16.—We have no parish apprentices.

A. 17 & 18.—Our regular time is eleven hours per day, except Saturdays, which is nine hours and a half. There are extra hours worked in some departments, as circumstances require. Those in which children are employed, are the scribbling, spinning, and dressing departments. In the scribbling and spinning departments, the extra hours occur as stated in first part of answer 25, except the scribblers' fullers, ten in number, from the ages of about fourteen to twenty-three, who sometimes work during meal times, but their work is not



not considered fatiguing nor injurious. In the dressing department, which is divided into two branches, the raising and the shearing, part of the hands in the former often work about three extra hours per day (one day they worked four hours extra). The remainder form two sets, who work as stated in answer 33. In the shearing department, the extra hours are often two per day. As we stated in latter part of answer 25., it is in this dressing department the extra hours most frequently occur; for reason given, see latter part of answer 26. The remainder of the men weavers, dyers, &c. sometimes work over-hours, but we cannot state correctly.

A. 19.—The milling or fulling, which employs nine men, forming two sets, has been kept on twenty-four hours. There is only one in attendance at meal times, who can get his meals either at the usual time or afterwards.

A. 20 & 21.—Our manufactory is worked regularly (subject to variations as to extra hours). The usual holydays are, half a day at Easter, Whitsuntide, two Leeds fairs, the whole of Good-Friday and Christmas day. Last year we had a partial stoppage in part of the works, in consequence of some necessary repairs. We also stopped one day for the national fast, and one day for the local thanksgiving.

A. 22.—Our works are carried on in all parts at the same time.

A. 23.—Impossible to tell.

A. 24.—One day three men and six children, about sixteen or seventeen years old, worked from six o'clock in the morning till half past nine at night; and one day, one man and one boy worked fifteen hours and a quarter.

A. 25.—It is our general practice in the manufacturing department (where the greatest number of children are employed), that if there be any lost time, to make it optional either to have it deducted from the weekly wage, or to make it up by working one hour extra per day: this seldom occurs. But in the dressing department, where our children are, with five exceptions, above thirteen years old, they also occasionally work extra hours on account of a pressure of business.

A. 26.—In the manufacturing department we have endeavoured to avoid it, and preferred getting any additional work, that we require, done at other mills to working our own hands extra hours, and this we are in the regular habit of doing. But in the dressing department, where the children are generally above thirteen years old, we cannot pursue the same course without being subject to loss and inconvenience, on account of not getting work done to our satisfaction at other places.

A. 27.—Yes.

A. 28.—We believe it is.

A. 29.—As regards extra hours worked by adults, we consider masters and men are at liberty to please themselves, particularly if doing so enables a manufacturer to complete an order in a given time, which is often of immense consequence. This is a great inducement. But where children are necessary, especially under thirteen years of age, extra hours, particularly protracted ones, we disapprove of.

A. 30.—A manufacturer, who, by the aid of a certain quantity of machinery executes a certain quantity of work, finds that, with the same machinery, he can execute a larger quantity by working longer hours; he is induced then to do this by the consequent saving of interest on a further outlay of capital to increase his works, and necessarily by a saving of taxes, insurance, overlookers' wages, &c. But another may not have it in his power to make this outlay of capital, therefore he must decline some of his orders or work extra hours. (It may be alleged, that he can get his extra work done by some other house; but the question is, can he get it done so as to give satisfaction to his friends who gave the order?) Should a curtailment of the hours of labour lead to an advance of wages, by masters being compelled to give twelve or eleven hours wage for ten hours' work, it is needless to state that this must materially increase the loss, and thus have a tendency to produce results inimical eventually to the interests of the men, in consequence of masters being partially or totally obliged to give up their trade for fear of total ruin.

A. 31.—Where are the children to come from? they would be frequently changing, which is not a pleasant thing. We think it might lead to a system of deception, and still greater oppression: children, who worked a certain number of hours in one mill, might be sent to another in a different part of the town. It would necessarily lessen the amount of a child's earnings, except where the two sets worked day and night. For if two sets worked, say twelve hours, they each would only receive wages after the rate of six hours per day; and if each set worked longer than that, it must increase the labour of the men very greatly who might have to work these long hours.

A. 32.—We have had two sets in the dressing department, but it was only when we have been working all night, in consequence of a pressure of business for a short time. We have not adopted it as a system, nor shall we probably ever do it again. We, therefore, do not feel competent to give an opinion on it from actual observations.

A. 33.—In two departments, the milling and part of the raising, comprising together twenty-two men and one boy aged fifteen, the day-set work from six o'clock in the morning until six o'clock at night, then the night-set come on, who work until six o'clock at morning; each set having one hour allowed for meals. They make eleven hours per day, and nine hours and a half on Saturday.

A. 34.—As regards the milling, see answers 46 and 47. In the case of the raising, we conceive it to be our interest so to do, as stated in the latter part of answer 26 (no children are employed at night in either of these departments, except one boy aged fifteen).

(APP.—C. 1.)

G 3

A. 35.

Yorkshire.

Henry Skelton.



Yorkshire.

Henry Skelton.

A. 35.—They change. One set work one week at night; the following week by day.

A. 36.—We consider we need only refer to our answer, latter part of No. 26, as regards our particular case, and in general to answers 29 and 30.

A. 37.—We presume no alteration in the law is contemplated as regards the labour of adults. The proposed reduction in the hours of labour, therefore, applies only to children, and such adults as depend on the labour of children. We beg leave to observe, before considering the effects in a commercial point of view, that we are of opinion, that for children of thirteen years old and under, any time exceeding ten hours per day actual labour is too long; and that, for children above this age, extra hours beyond that time ought to be avoided as much as possible, whether we regard their welfare in a physical, moral, or religious point of view. When we consider the effects merely in a commercial or pecuniary point of view, there can be no doubt but loss and inconvenience must ensue; whatever tends to increase the expence of producing an article has a tendency to lessen the consumption, but at present the supply (or what would be supplied) is, generally speaking, greater than the demand; consequently, to make sales, a manufacturer is obliged to sell for the least amount of profit possible, often to a loss. In such a state of things, whatever further expence he may incur (in interest on capital and machinery, taxes, insurance, &c.), by erecting new works to carry on the same amount of business at reduced hours, as he did formerly when working extra hours, must be deducted from his present small amount of profit, which may produce ruinous consequences to himself (in not enabling him to meet his engagements), and therefore to his work-people, for his interests and theirs are, truly speaking, inseparably united. But the inconvenience may also be great. Perhaps a manufacturer gets an order which is required in a given time; if he cannot engage to do it in such time, it is given to another; or should he undertake it and not be able to finish it, he may have it returned on his hands. Now, if he were allowed to work a few hours extra, he might have had it, and thus benefited himself and his work-people. As regards the amount of wage to be paid for working short-time, it cannot be expected that the same wage can be afforded as for working the longer hours; therefore, this would tend to diminish the comforts of a workman's family. Such are some of the effects in a pecuniary point of view; but, as we before said, we think they do not justify working children longer hours than we mentioned above.

A. 38.—We do not require more than the usual temperature of the atmosphere, except as regards the dry-houses.

A. 39.—About 100° in the dry-houses.

A. 40.—Two men are employed about eight hours per day in one dry-house, and two men and four boys about two hours per day in another.

A. 41.—The milling and part of the raising regularly.

A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—One night, one man and five children, and one man and two children worked all night. We did not require it; it was even unknown to us, it was done to forward some particular order. There was also, we understand, one night during which three men and five boys worked in the shearing department.

A. 46 & 47.—None. It is of great advantage to continue the milling or fulling, inso-much as there is a saving of expence in soap, and the work is more speedily and better done.

A. 48.—Men.

A. 49.—We do not allege them to be indispensable.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—None; except as stated in answers 5, 6, 7.

A. 52.—Generally injurious; at any rate they have that tendency.

A. 53.—Our regular hours are, half an hour each for breakfast and drinking, and an hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—All may leave at meal times, except when the scribbler fullers work, as mentioned in answers 17, 18. (the nature of their work allows them to get their meals easily), and except one man who attends the milling department, as in No. 19.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—We have not sufficient data on which we can give a correct opinion, but, generally speaking, the skill and character combined may be estimated from the length of time any man, woman, or child has been in our employ.

A. 67.—We have no specific accounts to refer to, so as to give a complete or correct answer. We think there has not been any material variation, and should say that the health of our work-people, especially that of the children, has been good. We have had no instance of any infectious or other dangerous disease being generally prevalent among them. During the time the town was afflicted with cholera, we took all the precautions in our power, and had great reason for thankfulness to God that so few of our people were attacked (only two men and one boy died).

A. 68.—No; for we have not any that we consider particularly injurious.

A. 69, 70, 71, & 72.—We are not aware that we are liable to come under the provisions of any act at present in force.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that they are, and we should hope they have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—We consider it too extensive a subject to engage in, and as regards the treatment of children, we refer to our rules, &c.

HENRY SKELTON.



## ANSWERS of T. W. STANSFIELD, Burley Mills, Leeds.

Yorkshire.

No. 39.

*T. W. Stansfield.*

A. 1.—Headingley-cum-Burley, in the parish of Leeds and West Riding of the county of York.

A. 2.—Weaving of worsted stuffs by power looms, and the different operations connected therewith.

A. 3.—Burley Mill was erected about thirty-two years ago; raised two stories higher about ten years ago; and was first employed for its present purpose about eleven years ago.

A. 4.—Steam and water. The steam-engine is one of thirty-five horse power; the water power, when at the best, is about the same: frequently, from either too much or little water, it is of no use at all, when, as well as in the intermediate state, the engines supplies the deficiency; but when at about the best, the water-wheel is capable of working the whole mill.

A. 5.—There are twenty-six windows in each room, pretty near the ceiling, which are left open at meal times; and partially, so as to cause ventilation, during the working hours. The mill is forty-five yards long by fourteen; and, lying north and south in a valley running east and west, a current of air is almost continually passing through the mill, and in the hottest days in summer the temperature is generally only from two to four degrees hotter in the mill than out of doors in the shade. There is a necessary in each room, in a trunk built outside the main wall, and leading perpendicularly into the stream which turns the wheel. These necessities are well cleaned and whitewashed every morning.

A. 7.—There are four under overlookers in each room, who attend to their respective windows, and who are responsible to one upper overlooker in each room, and he to the head overlooker and to myself. When at home, I pay particular attention to this point.

A. 8.—The dangerous part of the machinery has always been fenced off. During the eleven years which I have worked the mill, there has not been a single serious accident on the premises which has been attended with loss of limb or injury whence the individuals have been prevented from resuming their usual employment.

A. 9.—There are no arrangements in the mill for enabling the work-people to change their clothes, but the greater part live in the immediate neighbourhood; and the bonnets, shawls, &c. of the women and children are taken off in the mill, and have time to become dry before they are again wanted. The nature of the employment allows the children to be cleanly, and they appear to take a pride in being so. There is a vapour bath in the engine-house for the use of the work-people; and in the warm season there is a convenient bathing place in the river, hard by, for the boys, who are accompanied by the person who has the general superintendence of the health of the work-people. About an acre of land is appropriated as a playground for the children, besides an extensive yard. In case of illness, the work-people are admitted as patients at the General Infirmary, which, as well as several other similar institutions, I contribute, with this view, to the support of. There is a cook-house with a woman to attend to the ovens, where those who come from a distance have their meals prepared and take them.

A. 10.—The rule of the mill is to employ no children under ten years of age, but occasionally one is taken under peculiar circumstances. There are now eight under that age out of about five hundred. They have very rarely had other employments before their present, except weaving by hand.

A. 11.—Unless children under twelve years old were employed at Burley Mills, its capability could not be made available. There is almost always a deficiency of hands. The appearance of the children will probably show that it has not been injurious to their health.

A. 12.—Greater; but much less exertion of strength is requisite at a power-loom than at a hand-loom.

A. 13.—No; except occasionally, and then seldom but in the mechanical departments.

A. 14.—There is only one parish apprentice at present, put out from Leeds. He is an under overlooker, and his time is nearly out.

A. 15.—The one just mentioned is an orphan. He is the only one whom I lodge and maintain.

A. 16.—He lives with and is under the superintendence of the head overlooker.

A. 17.—Eleven hours and three quarters; except in some departments, principally mechanical, where the employment is more laborious, and the time only eleven hours.

A. 18.—The same. The difference is not regulated by the age.

A. 19.—Eleven hours and three quarters; where children have been employed, occasionally some of the men and a very few of the young women have been employed in auxiliary departments to keep up machinery and supply it with work; and once, when the whole of the machinery was stopped for a few days, by the breaking of a main wheel, and then there were nearly always mechanics at work night and day.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and seventy-four hours and a quarter.

A. 22.—The mill opens regularly at six o'clock in the morning, and closes at seven in the evening, except in March and September, when, to save gas light, it opens before six and closes before seven. The weavers, which comprise very nearly all the children, have one hour and a quarter for their meals. The mechanics have two hours for theirs.

A. 23.—The average of weaving hours, of the days in which there has been any weaving going on in the last year, was eleven hours and one fifth; but the general weaving time was

(APP.—C. 1.)

G 4

eleven



Yorkshire.

T. W. Stansfield.

eleven hours and three quarters per day. The difference arises from holydays and stoppages under one day each.

A. 24.—Eleven hours and three quarters.

A. 25.—Before last year we had, in conformity with the usual practice in the neighbourhood, worked occasionally half an hour later, to make up for holydays. Since then we have reduced the number of holydays, and no longer worked up the lost time.

A. 26.—I consider working above twelve hours as avoidable. It is too long a time for young children, who, it is probable, would not, in the long run, turn out more work than in the shorter time.

A. 28.—I have probably produced more in twelve hours and a quarter than in eleven hours and three quarters, but not in so great a proportion.

A. 29.—In similar manufactories to that at Burley, which is probably the largest of the kind, and of the longest standing, twelve hours have, I believe, seldom been exceeded. The inducement with other manufacturers, who do not employ so large a proportion of children, is probably the making their machinery as productive as possible, or supplying extraordinary demand for particular goods, or making up lost time.

A. 30.—Should the working time in the weaving department be reduced from eleven hours and three quarters to eleven hours, the production would not, I think, be reduced in quite so great a ratio.

A. 31.—If I were compelled to have two sets of children, I could not carry on the mill. As it is, although my work, in point of cleanliness and good wages, is as desirable as any in the neighbourhood, I have generally some looms unoccupied for want of weavers. The plan of two sets might suit woollen and other manufactories, where but a small proportion of children is required. The masters of some of these are, I understand, wishing to have two sets, to work seven hours each; by which they would be enabled to work their mills longer hours than ever: but my mill, which has been the main support of the neighbourhood during a long period of distress, would, in such case, be of necessity discontinued. The woollen manufacturers would benefit in another way by this plan at my expense. My best weavers, young women, having only about half wages, would, as burlers, get full wages, as they might be employed out of factories, without limit as to time.

A. 32 & 33.—The relay system has not been tried, except part of last year, for night-work, and once, some years ago, for the same for a very short period.

A. 34, 35, & 36.—We were compelled last year to work part of our looms in the night, owing to a sudden increase in the demand for goods of double width, and the difficulty of selling the former kinds; but my orders were, not to allow any to work at night under the age of sixteen. There were seventy night weavers, and the working time ten hours. It was discontinued at the end of the year, and I am making new machinery, which will render the resumption of night-work unnecessary. These broad-weavers were in two sets of seventy each, and took the night-work and day-work alternately, week and week about.

A. 37.—If the working hours were reduced considerably, it would occasion a good deal of spare time to children, who, it is to be feared, would employ it improperly. Their wages too must necessarily be reduced.

A. 38.—No particular temperature is requisite for the manufacturing process. The mill is warmed throughout by steam pipes, and all that is necessary is to attend to the health and comfort of the work-people.

A. 41.—From 3d of September to 31st of December.

A. 42.—Seventy weavers, young men and young women.

A. 43.—Ten.

A. 44.—Seventy young men and young women.

A. 45.—From seven to twelve and from one to six.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as in the daytime.

A. 52.—When young persons are not accustomed to it, and do not take the necessary repose in the daytime, it produces languor and occasional illness; but this, by proper regulation and care, might in general be prevented.

A. 53.—Weavers one quarter of an hour for breakfast, three quarters of an hour for dinner, and one quarter of an hour for tea. Mechanics half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Reduction of their wages by forfeits; giving them better or worse work; pecuniary rewards weekly for industry; and occasional rewards of moral and religious tracts for general good behaviour; and, above all, the fear of being dismissed from the mill.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Corporal punishment is not permitted in the mill; the overlookers occasionally, but very rarely, use a broken strap if at hand at the moment, and apply it to the backs of the children, but only in the way it would be at a school. My orders are, not to use it so as to leave a mark; rather to dismiss the child at once. I make a point of hearing myself all complaint of ill usage of this kind, from children and their parents: they are exceedingly rare; but if well grounded, the offender is either severely reprimanded, or, in case of not making satisfactory compensation to the aggrieved party, dismissed.

A. 63.—No instructions respecting corporal punishment are in writing, but they have been too long acted upon not to be generally known.

A. 64.



A. 64.—Not one.

A. 65.—About seventy cottages belonging to the concern are occupied by the work-people and their children who are employed in it; they have each a garden. There is a committee of some of the most respectable of the cottagers, whose duty it is to see from time to time that the whole are well ventilated, and kept whitewashed, and in every respect clean. A library is attached to the mill. An evening school has been only temporarily discontinued; and an infant school, conducted by the wife of the individual who has always had, and not without some knowledge, a kind of general superintendence over the health and welfare of the children, and whom I have always considered as one of the most valuable appendages to the concern. There are Sunday schools of different denominations in the neighbourhood, and at one or other of which nearly all the children attend.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from childhood excel, as well in point of general character as of skill, those who have been taken into employment at later periods, and more particularly those who have been brought from a district where hand weaving in the domestic system has prevailed. The following families, as well as many others, might be referred to:—Longbottoms, Taylors, Turners, Hodgsons, Normantons, Murgatroyd, Robertshaw, Roberts, Ackroyd, Halls, Sitrons, Holgate.

A. 67.—No sensible alteration; the most decided improvement which ever took place with respect to health in this mill, I have understood, under former occupiers, was when gas light was substituted for oil lamps.

A. 68.—A few weavers, who cannot bear standing, have been sent to the dry-house, where they can sit.

A. 73.—There are none, that I am aware of, subject to the provisions of the present act.

A. 79.—In conclusion, I beg to call the attention of the commissioners to two facts which they will probably think afford a fair criterion whereby to judge of the state of Burley Mill with respect to health and morals. I have taken (for which see the List No. 19.) out of the whole of the lists the thirty-nine individuals who have from youth or childhood worked the longest, none of them less than ten years, at the mill. Out of these I have rejected four, who have had long and severe illnesses not attributable to their employment. The average loss of employment from illness sustained by the remaining thirty-five for the whole period is four days and a quarter a year; the average for the last year, including the influenza now prevailing, is only one day and three quarters; from which the inference may be drawn that the last year the mill has been more healthy than on an average of preceding ones. I would respectfully suggest to the Commissioners that they should see and question these thirty-nine individuals. The other fact is, that out of above two hundred and fifty young women of sixteen years of age and upwards, a great proportion of whom have been brought up in the mill almost from childhood, there is not one of bad character, and that if one should be found she would not be tolerated by the rest.

THOMAS WOLRICH STANSFELD.

Yorkshire.

T. W. Stansfeld.

ANSWERS of JOHN WILKINSON, for the Firm of Wilkinson and Co., Flax Spinners, Leeds.

No. 40.

John Wilkinson.

A. 1.—Township of Leeds, in the county of York.

A. 2.—Flax spinning.

A. 3.—The mill built in 1825, and first used for its present purpose in April, 1830. An addition to the mill took place in 1832.

A. 4.—Steam power.

A. 5.—In the carding room we have a ventilator, being what is termed a blowing-machine, which causes a strong current of air to pass out of the room and takes the dust with it; and in all the rooms we have slides in the windows, to be opened when required.

A. 6.—The ventilator in the card room does not depend on the opening of windows, being driven by the engine.

A. 7.—By the overlooker generally, and sometimes by the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—Our arrangements have always allowed them to wash and clean themselves, where necessary, previous to leaving their work.

A. 10.—We have not generally taken any children under ten years of age, except in a very few instances, where they happen to be nearly ten, and have older brothers or sisters in our employment.

A. 11.—The nature of some parts of our work requires children to learn before they are twelve, but we do not think it necessary to have any under ten.

A. 12.—We do not think that the recent alterations have made much difference in this respect; but, if any, more are required under twelve.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14.—None.

A. 15.—We have only two or three orphans, who are under the care of their relations.

A. 16.—Their relations act the part of parents.

A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours thirty-six minutes.

A. 19.—Longest time thirteen hours twenty-five minutes, for two several days only.

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H

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

John Wilkinson.

A. 20.—Total days, two hundred and eighty-seven.

A. 21.—Total hours two thousand eight hundred and seventy-four and twenty minutes.

A. 22.—The parts are so connected that one cannot work without the other.

A. 23.—Average day's work, ten hours one minute.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours twenty-five minutes, as per question 19.

A. 25.—Having had to stop our work a few days, to connect the newly built part with the old mill, we paid our work-people their wages in advance, and worked up the time by an hour per day afterwards.

A. 26.—Not altogether; for, owing to the liability to accidents and repairs, some time will necessarily be lost in the course of the year, as will be seen by the above average of day's work, which is only ten hours one minute, whereas we profess to run eleven hours and a half; and it is generally the wish of the persons employed to work up such lost time.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—Having never worked protracted hours, nor through the night, we cannot give an opinion.

A. 30.—We find an increased cost on our manufactures by the diminution of the hours of labour, by many of the expenses of our establishment being the same, viz. rent, taxes, interest of capital sunk in machinery, and all other fixed capital, we believe to the extent of about one and a half per cent. for every hour less in the day's work, though we only pay wages according to the time we work.

A. 31.—Men must necessarily work along with the children, and could not work the time of two sets, nor would be sufficiently remunerated by the time of one. In addition to this, with us there is absolutely a scarcity of hands for one set of the children.

A. 32.—We have never tried, for the above reason.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 36.—It has never been much practised in our trade, and no evil could arise by a prohibition of it.

A. 37.—For the reasons given in answer to No. 30., we think it would cause a reduction in wages proportionate to the diminished time.

A. 38.—About 70° in summer and 60° in winter. It is not so well to have our temperature under 60°, nor do we require it above 70°.

A. 39.—65°.

A. 40.—About 70°.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 47.—There is no maximum.

A. 50.—By gas lights in the mornings and evenings during winter.

A. 51.—The windows are generally open.

A. 52.—We never work all night.

A. 53.—We allow to all the persons in the mill fifteen minutes at breakfast, forty minutes at dinner, and ten minutes at tea, and to some men two hours per day.

A. 54.—Very few go out of the yard except to dinner.

A. 55.—There is no restriction on their going out of the mill; and if they stop in it, it is to suit their own convenience.

A. 56.—An extension of time would be necessary, as many live at a distance from the mill; but if more were given, a great proportion would still stop on the premises.

A. 57.—Small fines, or we discharge them if refractory.

A. 58.—Seldom or never, and not by our authority.

A. 59.—We have no authority over the parents.

A. 60.—Seldom, with our knowledge.

A. 61.—Never.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—We have always given general verbal orders to forbid corporal punishments.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—None of our work-people live in our houses.

A. 66.—We always find those persons the most skilful who have begun at an early age, and in some processes it is almost impossible to instruct them thoroughly if they begin so late as fourteen years of age.

|                       |                  |           |                                                                                |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Elizabeth Wainwright, | 15 years of age, | wages 6s. | } These had been some<br>time in other employ-<br>ment before coming to<br>us. |
| Hannah Wainwright,    | 13               | Do. 6s.   |                                                                                |
| Ann Foster,           | 16               | Do. 6s.   |                                                                                |
| Ann Gilpin,           | 14               | Do. 6s.   |                                                                                |

A. 67.—We do not think there is much alteration in our trade, but we should say certainly not deteriorated.

A. 68.—When we find any process of our work to disagree with the health of the persons employed, we exchange them to some other, or discharge them.

A. 69.—No.

JOHN WILKINSON.



ANSWERS of P. WILLANS, for the Firm of O. Willans and Son, Leeds.

Yorkshire.

No. 41.

P. Willans.

- A. 1.—Holbeck, in the parish of Leeds, in the county of York.
- A. 2.—Altogether woollen.
- A. 3.—At different times. The first material part about forty years since.
- A. 4.—All steam power. About seventy horse.
- A. 5.—No.
- A. 6.—Windows and doors.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of all.
- A. 8.—Yes.
- A. 9.—No.
- A. 10.—We have three children between seven and a half and eight lately set on; the rest are eight years and upwards. Some have been employed in flax mills.
- A. 11.—There is no absolute necessity to employ children at an earlier age than twelve years. But in one branch of our manufactory children called pieceners are generally preferred at eight or ten years, because they do the work quite as well, and at a less price than those at twelve years.
- A. 12.—We think not.
- A. 13.—Yes.
- A. 14.—We have not any parish apprentice.
- A. 15.—We have orphans in our employ, but they are lodged and maintained by their guardians.
- A. 16.—Regular overlookers.
- A. 17.—Our regular day is eleven hours.
- A. 18.—Eleven hours.
- A. 19.—The fulling stocks were sometimes required to work all night, in which case we employed two sets of hands.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.
- A. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred and ninety hours.
- A. 22.—None to specify. Our moving power being steam, we have no occasion to vary.
- A. 23.—Average, nine hours and three quarters per day.
- A. 24.—Fourteen hours; and this only for eighteen scribbler feeders, whose ages are from eleven to fifteen years.
- A. 25.—During a part of the meal-times the eighteen scribbler feeders are required to work.
- A. 26.—We think it might be avoided by an increase of machinery.
- A. 27 & 28.—Yes.
- A. 29.—When shipping or other particular orders have to be executed, manufacturers often find it absolutely necessary to work extra hours to enable them to finish such orders within the given time; and as these instances only occur occasionally, it would be extremely inconvenient and difficult to be compelled to employ a change of hands for such extra work.
- A. 30.—By limiting the hours of working to ten per day, we consider that the cost of production would be increased at least ten per cent.
- A. 31.—No objection.
- A. 32.—No. We have had no occasion to try it.
- A. 33.—In the milling department we have. The time is equally divided, one set for night and another for day work.
- A. 34.—In our manufactory we do not require it, except in fulling.
- A. 35.—They change periodically.
- A. 36.—The only bad effects would be in the milling department, particularly when making double-milled cloths, when a suspension of the fulling process during the night would be injurious.
- A. 37.—We think the probable effects would be, to enhance the price of goods, and lower the rate of wages; because more machinery would be required by a reduction in the working hours; and as most of the woollen mills are now wrought to the full extent of their power, new steam-engines would be required by such addition of machinery.
- A. 38.—General house temperature, except in the dry-houses.
- A. 39.—The usual temperature of our dry-houses is about 88° or 90°. The heat is always regulated by the workmen.
- A. 40.—Four men in the cloth and wool dry-houses, and two men in teasel dry-house, with four boys at fourteen to fifteen years old.
- A. 41.—Forty-one nights in the fulling department.
- A. 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None.
- A. 46.—None, except the fulling department.
- A. 47.—Uncertain.
- A. 48.—Adult males, twenty-one years of age and upwards.
- A. 50.—By oil and candles.
- A. 51.—The same as by day. See No. 6.
- A. 52.—We know of no bad effects.
- A. 53.—Two hours. Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour; afternoon, half an hour.
- A. 54.—All except scribbler feeders, see No. 25., and one man and three boys at the steaming mills occasionally.



Yorkshire.

P. Willans.

- A. 55.—If any others remain, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—It would be no inconvenience to us.  
 A. 57.—We threaten them with a discharge.  
 A. 58.—No punishments whatever are allowed.  
 A. 60 & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—We have no written instructions, but it is well understood throughout our manufactory that corporal punishments are not allowed.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—None, except overlookers.  
 A. 66.—We consider those who have been employed in our works from infancy to maturity quite as skilful as those who have been taken into our service at later periods. We refer to Francis Spence in No. 13. list, and Michael Spence in No. 15., who have been in our employ since the year 1823 (and two years previously were employed in a flax mill). These young men are now overlookers.  
 A. 67.—We think that the health of our work-people during the last ten years has been uniformly good.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—We are not aware of any act applying to woollen mills.  
 A. 70 & 71.—No.  
 A. 72.—None.  
 A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Don't know.  
 A. 77.—We have not.  
 A. 78.—No suggestion to make.  
 A. 79.—No.

P. WILLANS.

No. 42.

William Ackroyd.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM ACKROYD, Otley.

- A. 1.—Town of Otley, county of York.  
 A. 2.—Wool sorting, combing, and worsted spinning.  
 A. 3.—Part of the works erected about fifty years ago for a cotton mill; enlarged forty years since, and again seven years ago. A new erection three years ago. The works have been used for their present purpose since 1810.  
 A. 4.—Water, occasionally scarce in a drougthy season, and in a very wet one the works are frequently stopped by floods; the work-people have always cheerfully made up the loss of time. Power about thirty horse.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The ventilation depends on the opening of windows. In the new mill, where there are sixty-two persons, 150 superficial feet of ventilation. In the old mill, seventy-six people, 212 feet. The size of the new mill is 1605 cube yards, the room for each person being  $25\frac{5}{8}$  cube yards. The size of the old mill is 2601 cube yards, the room for each person being  $34\frac{1}{6}$  cube yards.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker, or any of the work-people.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There are seats in the windows, and nails in the walls to hang up hats, cloaks, and aprons in the old works, which have been used for this purpose since 1817, the time of the present occupier. In the erection of the new building seats were made in the windows, and boxes under them, which have always been used for the same purpose. There is a wash-house at the end of the old mill, erected in 1817.  
 A. 10.—Of late years none have been admitted under eight years and a half, and very few have been previously employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Yes; they are more active for spinning.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 14.—Having no apprentices, questions 14, 15, 16. require no answers.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—They are all employed twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half (when a stoppage had occurred) for five days.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eight.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and six.  
 A. 22.—All begin and stop at the same time, except those who work by the piece.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half for five days in the week, and twelve for Saturdays.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half for five days, when a stoppage had occurred.  
 A. 26.—Unavoidable, owing to the irregularity of water power, the mills being sometimes obliged to stand a whole day for floods; and without provision be made in the Factory Bill for the making up of lost time, the masters will be obliged to abate the wages of the work-people, or ruin themselves.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—No.  
 A. 29.—In working extra hours to oblige their customers; but I know from experience that the plan is unprofitable. I do not know of any mills that work the same hands through the night.

A. 30.



A. 30.—Never having worked less than the usual time, viz. twelve hours and a half per day, I cannot answer this from experience; but should have no objection to Sir J. C. Hobhouse's bill being extended to all mills.

A. 31.—No objection.

A. 32.—It has never been tried, as the work-people have always been anxious to continue at their work, in order to obtain extra wages.

A. 33.—Yes; during the erection of the new building I worked one room in the old mill day and night. The hands employed in the day came at six in the morning, and worked till seven in the evening; when another set came, and worked till six in the morning.

A. 34.—I only worked during the night for five months, I did not think it my interest to continue night-work.

A. 35.—No night-work.

A. 36.—No bad effect, except some accident should occur to stop one of the mills: under such circumstances, it would be highly desirable to work the other day and night, or the work-people would be thrown out of employment, in one of the mills; but in no other case do I approve of children being employed during the night.

A. 37.—My opinion is, that if the hours of work were less than sixty-nine per week, it would have the effect of reducing wages.

A. 38.—About sixty.

A. 39.—No heat is required in the mills except for the warmth and comfort of the hands.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 49.—No reason.

A. 50.—In winter mornings and evenings by mould candles.

A. 51.—None.

A. 53.—Half an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—When the weather is fine, the children play in a field adjoining the mills.

A. 55.—In wet weather they do not; for the convenience of the work-people.

A. 56.—In cold wet weather, as most of the work-people live at a distance from the mills, they would be liable to take cold.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—Slightly, when the parents prefer it to dismissal.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 62.—Severe punishment has been forbidden.

A. 63.—When very disobedient, orders have been given to send them home.

A. 64.—Never since I commenced business.

A. 65.—No; they do not live in the houses of their employer, but they have the advantages of Sabbath schools, and also those of a week evening school, which I have established for their benefit and gratuitous instruction.

A. 66.—I am not aware of any particular difference.

A. 67.—The general health has always been good.

A. 68, 69, 70, & 71.—No.

A. 72.—None to state.

A. 73.—Messrs. Greenwood's and Whitaker's mills are all we have in the neighbourhood under the present act, and I believe they strictly conform to its regulations.

A. 74.—Not that I am aware of.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—I disapprove of Lord Ashley's Bill, but I should be glad to see Sir J. Hobhouse's passed for mills of all descriptions.

WILLIAM ACKROYD.

Yorkshire.

*William Ackroyd.*

#### ANSWERS of JOHN B. SIDGWICK, Skipton.

No. 43.

*John B. Sidgwick.*

A. 1.—In the township of Skipton, in the parish of Skipton, in the West Riding of the county of York.

A. 2.—In spinning of weft and twist on throstles, and in power-loom weaving. All cotton.

A. 3.—The part turned by water was built about 1782, and that part turned by steam in 1825; and the buildings have always been used for spinning, &c. of cotton wool.

A. 4.—Both steam and water are employed. The water power varies from thirty horses' power to fifteen horses' power.

A. 5.—The ventilations is by fans, so placed as to draw the air from the top of the rooms.

A. 6.—The ventilation continues as long as the mill works.

A. 7.—The ventilation is not under the control of any of the workmen.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have no arrangements of this kind, but allow the hands to change their clothes or not, as they please.

A. 10.—We employ none under nine years old, and generally they have not been employed in any other way.

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H 3

A. 12.



Yorkshire.

*John B. Sidgwick.*

A. 12.—A greater number of children are now employed in proportion to the adults than used to be, both from machinery being better and profits being less.

A. 13.—We do not employ any apprentices.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for five days, and eight hours and a half on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-three days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and seventy hours.

A. 22.—They all run the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and five minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—From damage to millwright work, and the whole time thus worked during the year will not exceed twenty half hours.

A. 26.—It is not avoidable, as with the greatest care accidents may occur.

A. 27.—Not since the acts of parliament were passed, and before that time we had not the mills, except for one fortnight, when the dams were carried away by a flood, at which time the hands in the part turned by water worked at night in the part turned by steam.

A. 29.—I never knew or heard of any mill being worked through the night by the same hands who had worked it during the day.

A. 30.—The cost will be increased more than in proportion to the diminution of the time.

A. 31.—I believe they always are relieved.

A. 33.—We never did it but for one fortnight. See No. 27.

A. 34.—We do not work at night.

A. 36.—None.

A. 37.—It will cause a reduction of wages at least, if not more than, in proportion to the loss of time. When the time was shortened from six days to five and three quarters, it caused a reduction to that amount or more.

A. 38.—The weaving shop will vary from 65° to 85°, and is the hottest when the gas lights are lighted in a winter's evening. The other rooms will vary from 65° to 80°; but it is our interest to keep them at about 70° to 75°, which we endeavour to do by ventilation.

A. 39.—About 100° or 120° for dressing.

A. 40.—Three men and one boy.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 53.—We do not begin to work the mill till seven o'clock in the morning, allowing half an hour from half past six to seven for breakfast, though we allow the hands to have their breakfasts in the mill when they choose, and in fact boil them for as many as wish it. From twelve to one we allow for dinner.

A. 54.—All who choose go home, except a few who are above the age limited by act of parliament, and are generally overlookers.

A. 55.—Those who remain in the mill remain for their own convenience, except as above. See No. 53.

A. 56.—Very little to us, except the inconvenience of stopping the mill, at which there is always some little loss of time, and a great inconvenience to the hands, who would have to begin work so much earlier, many of whom live so far distant from the mill that they could not go and return and breakfast in half an hour.

A. 57.—Every means we can think of.

A. 58.—Yes.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 60 & 61.—Yes.

A. 62.—No; nor do I intend to do so, as I think it would be to the injury of the child to be allowed to do wrong and not be punished; and to the injury of the parent, as he must then be dismissed from the mill.

A. 63.—None, except that if a child requires frequent correction, that he should be turned away rather than cause any uneasy feeling between their parents and the overlookers.

A. 64.—No proceedings or complaints before magistrates have ever been made.

A. 65.—Only five families live in cottages belonging to me in the town of Skipton.

A. 66.—There is very little difference; but if any, it is in favour of the younger child.

A. 67.—It has improved. The cause, better ventilation and lighter work.

A. 68.—There are no injurious processes.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—We have never been informed against.

A. 73.—They do not, and no steps have been taken to make them conform.

A. 77.—They will naturally wish to be on as good terms as may be with their employers.

A. 78.—None. But that proper persons should be appointed to see that the acts of parliament are carried into effect.

JOHN B. SIDGWICK.



ANSWERS of JOHN HOLDSWORTH, of the Firm of John Holdsworth and Co., Skircoat.

Yorkshire.

No. 44.

*John Holdsworth.*

- A. 1.—Township of Skircoat, parish of Halifax, and county of York, West Riding.  
 A. 2.—Worsted spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected at one time; first employed in August, 1831; rooms eleven to twelve feet high.  
 A. 4.—Steam only. Forty horse engine.  
 A. 5.—Four squares open in the top of every window. When opened, their effects must be such as is caused by the admission of fresh air into any room.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows only.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker in each room, or any person working in the same, that feel a necessity for fresh air.  
 A. 8.—They are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The mill is always kept clean; there is no necessity for changing their dress. When rainy or cold, they can come in a cloak or shawl, or top coat, which they hang up, or put aside, to suit themselves, till they are again wanted.  
 A. 10.—Seven years old is the youngest; only one at that age. They cannot have been employed at any other trades, unless card-setting, of which we are not certain.  
 A. 11.—They are useful under twelve. We could dispense with them. We are sometimes obliged to employ them to accommodate their parents, having other hands at the place.  
 A. 12.—We have not any machinery that can make any difference.  
 A. 13 & 14.—None.  
 A. 15.—We lodge none nor maintain any.  
 A. 16.—The overlooker, principally during work only, for we do not lodge any.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours; except Saturday, that day only ten hours.  
 A. 18.—Thirteen hours; we make no difference, except Saturday only ten hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a quarter, except Saturday, as above.  
 A. 20.—Cannot answer this, not having particularly noted down every holyday and stoppage which have been paid for as if worked.  
 A. 22.—All at one time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Never more than what is stated above.  
 A. 25.—A quarter of an hour each day, Saturday excepted, to make up for a stoppage.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Not applicable to us.  
 A. 29.—We have not any night-work; that is, through the night.  
 A. 30.—We are under no limitation.  
 A. 31.—No extra hours required by us except under a stoppage; and then only a quarter of an hour, five days out of every six days.  
 A. 32.—We have not any extra hours to require such a change.  
 A. 33.—Day set only.  
 A. 37.—If the hours of labour were shortened, the wages would, no doubt, in many branches of our business, be reduced also; but there would be a still greater inconvenience to some of our piece hands, such as reelers, warpers, wool-sorters, and combers: in consequence of the mill doing less, there would be less for those hands to do also.  
 A. 38.—The temperature depends much upon the state of the weather. Such a temperature as makes the children comfortably warm whilst at work, is more than sufficient for our work even in a severe frost: from 60° to 65° would be warm enough at all times. During the hot days of May, 8th and 9th, the thermometer ranged from 72° to 75° with open windows.  
 A. 39.—Hot frame is the warmest, but being in a cold room the warmth does not exceed any other: during the hot days of May, 8th and 9th, the thermometer stood at 72° when placed about a yard from it.  
 A. 40.—One only.  
 A. 49.—We have no such work.  
 A. 50.—By coal gas in the winter mornings and evenings.  
 A. 51.—Same as by day, before specified.  
 A. 52.—Having no night-work, we are not judges.  
 A. 53.—No stopping for meals, excepting three quarters of an hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—We have no control over them; they either go home to dine, or bring their dinners, as suit the parties best.  
 A. 55.—They either stop or not, to suit their own conveniency.  
 A. 56.—Those who bring their dinners, chiefly get them in the mill. They are not bound to do so. It would make no difference whether they dined in the mill or out.  
 A. 57.—If not obedient, they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—None allowed.  
 A. 60 & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—Have had no occasion.  
 A. 63.—No instructions given.



Yorkshire.

*John Holdsworth.*

- A. 64.—No complaints have been made.  
 A. 65.—Overlookers only. No control exercised.  
 A. 66.—We have observed no difference.  
 A. 67.—We have not observed any difference either way.  
 A. 68.—We have no occasion.  
 A. 69.—Is not.

JOHN HOLDSWORTH.

No. 45.

*J. & W. Priestly.*

ANSWERS of JOHN and WALKER PRIESTLY, Sowerby, Halifax.

- A. 1.—Sowerby, in the parish of Halifax, county of York.  
 A. 2.—Woollen manufactory, carding, spinning, weaving, and also fulling and finishing of woollens.  
 A. 3.—In 1782 and 1814; but a fulling mill existed previous to 1782 on the present site.  
 A. 4.—Water only; probably thirty or forty horses' power; the supply irregular, occasioned by droughts in summer, so that sometimes the wheels can run only seven or eight hours out of twenty-four.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Sufficiently ventilated by large windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the workmen, who suit their own comfort.  
 A. 8.—The parts considered dangerous are rendered as safe as possible.  
 A. 9.—Those children who work in the card rooms are provided with canvass frocks to cover their dress, at our expense; and have access to a place where they can wash themselves; but their parents should attend to that when they get home. They have means of drying their clothes if they get wet, and the factory has been whitewashed annually for many years past.  
 A. 10.—At about eight years of age; and mostly employed under the superintendence of their parents, seldom having been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Yes; for most purposes in our manufactory where children are required; those under twelve years are more expert, nor could sufficient wages be afforded for children of the age of twelve years and upwards.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—No. We maintain or lodge no person whatever.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Our usual hours in summer are from six in the morning to eight in the evening, if in full work, and no scarcity of water, and the day sufficiently long to admit of it; and we allow an hour for dinner, and half an hour for breakfast and drinking; and during about four months in the winter we commence at daylight in the morning, and work till near eight at night. The children work the same time; we close our mill at from four to five o'clock on Saturday.  
 A. 19, 20, & 21.—We keep no time book, and can give no further answer than what is stated in No. 17.  
 A. 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Answered, as far as we can, by 17 and 18, no time-book being kept.  
 A. 24 & 25.—We have seldom exceeded the hours stated in 17 and 18, and then never above one hour in the day, and it has generally been to make up for time lost in repairing machinery, or after a scarcity of water, when a supply is obtained.  
 A. 26.—Water mills irregularly supplied cannot avoid excess beyond regular hours, which is generally caused by a number of mills being erected upon the same stream, which have reservoirs or dams to collect the water during the night; and those mills which are near the head of the stream beginning to draw at six o'clock in the morning, the water does not reach the mills situate lower down the stream till some hours have elapsed; and if both mills are stopped at the same hour, the mills situate lower upon the stream would be considerable losers.  
 A. 27.—Very seldom; and then only for very short periods, when manufactures were in demand.  
 A. 28.—Undoubtedly it would be so.  
 A. 29.—Profit.  
 A. 30.—Undoubtedly there would be; for if the machinery was worked all night, or twelve or fourteen hours per day instead of ten, the interest of capital sunk in factories, machinery, rent and taxes, &c., would be less upon a greater production than upon a small one.  
 A. 31.—No; relays we think unnecessary during the day, and would be difficult to arrange; but if night-work is required, certainly it would be advantageous.  
 A. 32.—No, we think it unnecessary; it would be difficult to adopt without serious loss to the parents of the children so employed.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—None, as far as regards the employment of children. Part of our works being employed in the fulling and finishing of woollen cloths (in which only a few adults are required), should we be obliged to stop the works at a stated hour, the cloths being only part milled would be in many cases spoiled, or in all cases a considerable loss would occur; and by carrying on that process during the night, the water which the mills above us draw on late in the day would not be lost to us.

A. 37.



A. 37.—If the hours of working were much reduced, the manufacturers would reduce the wages in proportion, which would be a source of great dissatisfaction, and would deprive many families of many of the comforts, if not necessities, of life.

A. 38.—The usual temperature only is required.

A. 39.—The factory, &c., is heated by fires and stoves when the weather requires it, and to such a temperature as to promote comfort.

A. 41.—None, except as stated in answer 36.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—No night-work, except as 36.

A. 51.—Lamps and oil, when light is required.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner, from twelve to one; and half an hour for breakfast and drinking.

A. 54.—Those persons who reside near the works generally go home to breakfast and dinner; but those who reside at a greater distance have their meals brought, or they bring them when they come in the morning.

A. 55.—For convenience of the workpeople only.

A. 56.—Those persons who live above two hundred yards from the works would consume too much time, if they went home to their breakfast and drinkings.

A. 57.—Unmanageable children are dismissed.

A. 58.—We have given no orders, or forbid it.

A. 60 & 61.—We have not sanctioned it.

A. 62.—We have had no complaint of it having been inflicted, and we have had no occasion to forbid it.

A. 63.—We have given no instructions.

A. 64.—Never during the last three years, or since the works have been in our hands, which is near thirty years.

A. 65.—Several of our workpeople live in cottages belonging to ourselves; and with a view to promote cleanliness and comfort, water is plentifully supplied to all; and a person is employed, as occasion requires, to remove the dirt and filth which accumulates about them; and quick lime is given to whitewash the cottages, or make any trivial repairs they require, when applied for; and whenever a cottage is relet we always have it whitewashed before it is taken possession of by a new tenant, at our own expense.

A. 66.—Most of our workpeople have lived many years with us, and we generally find when early initiated into any branch of our business, they make more expert workmen.

A. 67.—We have made no observations upon this point, but our workpeople are generally stout and healthy.

A. 68.—We make no selections, we have no cause to do so.

A. 69.—We know of no act that applies to woollen manufactories, so far as regulates the hours of working.

A. 70.—No.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—In mills worked by water only, where the supply is irregular, the interference of the legislature would, we conceive, be very injurious to the owners, occupiers, as well as the workpeople employed therein; if the hours of working were materially reduced, or if they were prohibited from working any part of the machinery during the night, or after stated hours. If the ten hours bill should be enforced, it is our opinion, that the time so acquired by the workpeople would be spent in dissipation and idleness, and in few cases would any of the children make use of it towards their intellectual improvement.

JOHN and WALKER PRIESTLEY.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN INGHAM, for the Firm of Richard Ingham and Sons, Stansfield.

A. 1.—Township of Stansfield, parish of Halifax, and county of York.

A. 2.—Twenty-eight hanks weft and twist.

A. 3.—1811, and 1824.

A. 4.—Two mills, steam-power; one ten horse power, and one twenty horse power. The tunnel to the engine is mudded up every third year, and requires six or eight days opening.

A. 5.—Window shutters.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—Greatest number reside within fifty yards of the works.

A. 10.—Lowest ages, nine years to ten years; previously employed in weaving.

A. 11.—Yes, for the purpose of setting rovings into creels for spinners.

A. 12.—A greater number of children.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—The greatest part of the children we employ are under the care of their parents.

A. 16.—We consider this question answered in No. 15.

A. 17.—Twelve hours; the Saturday nine hours.

(APP.—C. 1.)

I

A. 18.

Yorkshire.

J. & W. Priestley.

No. 46.  
John Ingham.



Yorkshire.  
 John Ingham.

- A. 18.—No difference is made.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and one half when gaining lost time.  
 A. 20.—Near three hundred.  
 A. 21.—Say near three thousand five hundred.  
 A. 22.—All departments begin and give over at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and one half.  
 A. 25.—Loss of time occasioned by breaking down.  
 A. 26.—When a misfortune happens the steam-engine or geering, so as to occasion loss of time, wages we cannot pay without work, and time lost must be gained, or no wages can be paid.  
 A. 27.—Before Peel's act, thirteen hours.  
 A. 28.—Yes; according to the reduction of the hours of labour.  
 A. 29.—More than twelve hours we do not consider advantageous to the spinner.  
 A. 30.—In proportion to the diminution of hours, in the same proportion is the increased cost of the article.  
 A. 31.—We have not adopted a system of relays of hands.  
 A. 32.—We consider it inconvenient to put two sets of hands to the same machinery in one day.  
 A. 33 & 34.—Not tried night hands. Would not answer the end.  
 A. 37.—If a reduction in the hours of labour take place, the profits are so small that the same proportion of reduction must also take place in the rate of wages.  
 A. 38.—70°.  
 A. 39.—We require no more than 70°.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 50.—Do not work in the night, but light up morning and evening with lamps in winter.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Sending them home.  
 A. 58.—Not any.  
 A. 59.—By no one; we do not allow it.  
 A. 60 & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—Forbidden.  
 A. 63.—Always discharged when not obedient.  
 A. 64.—No complaint has been made.  
 A. 65.—Yes; and cleanliness recommended.  
 A. 66.—Factory hands are so changeable, that they rarely remain at one place more than two or three years.  
 A. 67.—From the fact, that those who are employed in mills are constantly at a more regular temperature in winter than those employed in their own houses, who are generally employed in damp shops and low rooms; and mill children are more regularly fed.  
 A. 68.—No; we have no process particularly injurious.  
 A. 69.—To the best of our knowledge.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—So far as we know.  
 A. 74.—None to our knowledge.  
 A. 76.—We know of no case where evidence has been required. Competition is a sufficient guarantee to the workman.  
 A. 77.—People in general are averse to become informers.  
 A. 78.—We consider it would be a great hardship if the regulations in cotton factories were made so severe, as almost to put the masters of cotton factories out of the protection of the law. We consider the last act of parliament on this subject the best that can be made.  
 A. 79.—We consider no further enactments necessary than Hobhouse's bill.

JOHN INGHAM.

No. 47.  
 J Wordsworth.

#### ANSWERS of JOSHUA WORDSWORTH, for the Firm of Wordsworth and Co., Holbeck.

- A. 1.—Holbeck, in the parish of Leeds.  
 A. 2.—Iron and brass founderies, flax, worsted, and woollen machines, and smiths' work, &c.  
 A. 3.—Nearly forty years since first part was erected, and increased at various periods.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, ten horse power.  
 A. 5.—Iron and brass foundry is ventilated by the roof and windows.  
 A. 6.—The turning and filing shops are ventilated by opening the windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—The persons employed are at liberty to ventilate at their own pleasure.  
 A. 8.—Dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Not any.  
 A. 10.—Do not take boys under eleven years of age.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—Yes.

A. 15.



- A. 15.—Under parents.  
A. 16.—Yes.  
A. 17.—Average not more than ten hours.  
A. 18.—Not more than ten hours per day.  
A. 19.—Not more than eleven hours.  
A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.  
A. 21.—Three thousand and twenty-nine hours.  
A. 23.— $59\frac{1}{2}$  hours per week, or  $9\frac{1}{4}$  hours per day.  
A. 27.—Ceased to work eleven hours per day in 1824.  
A. 30.—In pattern and model makers one-eleventh.  
A. 33.—No.  
A. 41.—None.  
A. 50.—Gas.  
A. 51.—Same as by day.  
A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast; one hour at dinner; half an hour drinkings.  
A. 54.—Great majority go home.  
A. 55.—Some few dine here for their own convenience.  
A. 56.—None with us.  
A. 58, 60, & 61.—No.  
A. 62.—None allowed.  
A. 63 & 64.—No.  
A. 65.—Some few, who are not under control.  
A. 69, 70, & 71.—No.  
A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Do not know.  
A. 77.—No.  
A. 78.—Do not employ children under eleven years.  
A. 79.—No.

Yorkshire.

J. Wordsworth.

JOSHUA WORDSWORTH.

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## ADDENDA,

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### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

ANSWERS of JOHN THACKERY, Nottingham.

C. 1.

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Nottinghamshire.

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No. 48.

*John Thackeray.*

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- A. 1.—In the town of Nottingham.  
 A. 2.—Lace-thread manufactory.  
 A. 3.—Erected at one time, about ten years since.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, twenty horse power.  
 A. 5.—The ventilation is complete, and regulated according to the wishes of the work-people.  
 A. 6.—There is a ventilator in each window.  
 A. 7.—Each person opens or shuts the nearest ventilator at pleasure.  
 A. 8.—There are no accidents or dangerous parts.  
 A. 9.—There is a regular lead slop, with tap of soft water, that the girls are regularly going to; but the occupation is neither laborious or dirty.  
 A. 10.—None under twelve.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—In my business I want very few children, and them not the whole day.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Seventy-two hours weekly.  
 A. 18.—The young do not work more than sixty-five hours; seldom so much.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours, in consequence of having lost twenty-eight days in putting down a new boiler.  
 A. 22.—There is no difference.  
 A. 23.—I can only work seventy-two hours by virtue of a lease.  
 A. 24.—I have only one set.  
 A. 25.—In consequence of stoppages.  
 A. 26.—My lease gives me seventy-two hours per week; and if I lose time by accident, or break down, I must get it up again, or I could not carry on.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The smallness of profits.  
 A. 30.—Certainly; the particular amount I never ascertained.  
 A. 31.—I do not employ children in that way.  
 A. 37.—Foreign competition, where there are no restrictions, would ruin the trade in this country. The proposed Bill would be a premium to foreigners.  
 A. 38.—The temperature is regulated by the workpeople.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as day.  
 A. 53.—The meals are generally brought to the mill, where there is convenience for having them cooked, &c.  
 A. 57.—If they do not conduct themselves satisfactorily, they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—Never.  
 A. 62.—Certainly. I have lived in the spinning districts in Lancashire for forty years, and know the rise and progress of the chief manufactories. I have been a large spinner myself in that district, but I never knew one single act of cruelty committed in my life, and the greatest severity has been inflicted by parents on their own children.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—They live at home with their parents generally; a few, perhaps, in lodgings.  
 A. 66.—I never employed any under twelve, and very few so young. The ages of my girls are from eighteen to thirty. Those who have been the longest employed are generally the best hands.  
 A. 67.—Improved; cleanliness is more attended to.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 74.—I should say not.  
 A. 75.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 78.—My hands are well paid, well fed, and well clothed. The young are sent home early, and those of mature age are paid according to the time they work. There is no compulsion, and consequently there is no need of penalties.

JOHN THACKERY.



Nottinghamshire.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. FISHER &amp; Co., Radford.

No. 49.

Messrs.  
Fisher & Co.

- A. 1.—Parish of Radford, in county of Nottingham.
- A. 2.—Lace-weaving and lace-frame building.
- A. 3.—About ten years ago.
- A. 4.—Twenty horse high pressure engine.
- A. 5.—None.
- A. 6.—Opening of windows and ventilators.
- A. 7.—By the overlooker.
- A. 8.—The engine-house is not accessible to the workpeople, and there is nothing dangerous in the rest of the machinery.
- A. 9.—None.
- A. 10.—Children of twelve years wind off the bobbins; boys of fourteen years attend to the frames.
- A. 11.—No; difference of wages is the only reason for employing them: the employment for which they are used requires neither skill nor labour.
- A. 12.—Not so much under twelve as above fourteen; those under twelve are very few, but increase in proportion to the increase of machines; but boys of fourteen are quite equal to grown men, in consequence of recent alterations. Fourteen is the youngest age at which boys are permitted to work machines.
- A. 13.—None.
- A. 15.—We lodge and maintain nobody, but employ orphans among others.
- A. 16.—None at their work.
- A. 17.—Smiths, &c. ten hours; lace hands, eleven.
- A. 18.—Eleven hours.
- A. 19.—Twenty-two and a half.
- A. 20.—Three hundred.
- A. 21.—Six thousand four hundred and sixty-four.
- A. 22.—The machine-building is only carried on in the day, but the machines work day and night.
- A. 23.—Twenty-one and a half.
- A. 24.—Perhaps twelve, never fourteen hours.
- A. 25.—This might happen once a month, when so many frames had completed their work at the same time, that the ordinary persons were unable to get them to work again on their fresh piece without serious delay.
- A. 26.—It is avoidable, but at great expence; and no one would incur the expence upon an old frame, as it would amount to one third the value of a new one.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—Decidedly.
- A. 29.—If he does so without any intermediate change of hands, his object is, as far as he can, to get the work of two hands for the wages of one.
- A. 30.—The same expences of establishment fall upon a diminished production. The hours of labour alone being diminished, the wages are proportionably increased.
- A. 31.—None, if these extra hours are of regular occurrence; if not, it is clear the relays cannot be provided.
- A. 32.—In working all hours, as we do and have done, such relays are inevitable, both for children and grown persons.
- A. 33.—We have: the two sets for the most part take eight-hour shifts alternately, so that each sleeps on the alternate night. Some sets work by day during one week, and by night the next.
- A. 34.—One set of hands are not adequate to our work.
- A. 36.—The fixed capital on buildings and machinery would for that period be wholly unproductive; the expences consequently would lay so heavy on the limited production as to render it wholly unprofitable.
- A. 37.—Further reduction would aggravate the evil, and put us out of condition to compete with continental rivals.
- A. 38.—The temperature in winter is comfortable and wholesome; but in summer, especially at night, owing to the lights, close and oppressive. We require no heat beyond what is comfortable to the men.
- A. 39.—We require no heat in our manufacture.
- A. 41.—Every night excepting Saturday night and Sunday till midnight, and two nights at each of the Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide holidays, in fair-week and race-week.
- A. 42.—From five to ten.
- A. 43.—Eleven.
- A. 44.—None together.
- A. 45.—All hours.
- A. 46.—None.
- A. 50.—By gas.
- A. 51.—Ventilators.

A. 52.



A. 52.—No bad effects have come to our knowledge, but the hands expect better wages, as it is not supposed to be so healthy.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, half an hour at tea.

A. 54.—All but the lace-hands, who only leave at dinner.

A. 55.—For our own: the lace-frames never stop, save when the engine cannot go. As our lace-hands do not drive the lace-frames, but merely sit and see that the threads do not run when broken, and so break more, they have leisure for eating their meals without stopping the frames.

A. 56.—All but the lace-hands do take them out of the factory; and as they are never here above seven hours together, such arrangement, without assisting them, would put us to great inconvenience and loss of time. A man might as well sit at a lace-frame as a table while he takes his tea and breakfast.

A. 57.—Threat of dismissal, and prospect of better frames.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—Neither; corporal punishment is never thought of. Discharge.

A. 65.—We have but one tenant among our workpeople.

A. 66.—The difference is immense. Thomas Hayes, aged sixteen, was equal to any man two years back; William Hayes, aged thirteen, Robert Bakewell, fourteen, W. S. Mozley, fifteen, George Benjamin Mozly, sixteen, are equal to any men, and filling men's situations.

A. 67.—It is impossible to say: our factory is but recently established, and of very gradual growth; the species of machine and mode of working have been continually changing. Workmen not content with good wages are always leaving to look out for better, or to become proprietors of frames. We had no case of cholera, but very many of influenza. It must be owned that night-work by strong gas-light in full rooms cannot be very healthy.

A. 68.—We have no such processes.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—The workpeople are quite independent of any master in the present growing state of the trade.

A. 79.—We recommend our plan of working eight-hour shifts, which is approved no less by the opinion of the faculty than by its results.

FISHER & Co.

Nottinghamshire.

Messrs.  
Fisher & Co.

## YORKSHIRE.

### ANSWERS of JOHN JELlicORSE, Sowerby.

Yorkshire.

No. 50.

John Jellicorse.

A. 1.—Stansfeld Mill in the township of Sowerby in the parish of Halifax, county of York.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton wool into yarn, No. 40s; twist chiefly.

A. 3.—It has been used as a cotton mill since the spring of 1830, previously it was a flax mill. Some little additions were made towards the end of 1829, such as staircase, blowing-room, mechanic shop, &c. The other part of the mill was built at one erection.

A. 4.—The power required is about twenty-four horse power. There is a steam-engine of twenty horse power, and water-wheels computed at thirty horse power; but the supply of water is very uncertain. From 17th October 1831 to 17th October 1832 we worked the steam-engine on an average three hours and a few minutes each day, being about 25 per cent. on the whole working time.

A. 5.—In the upper room are moveable skylights, in the lower ones the windows are made to open. The staircase is wide and communicates immediately with the exterior of the building; hence a strong current of air ready to go into the rooms whenever the doors be opened.

A. 6.—The building stands across a valley; there is therefore a strong current of air ready to enter through the windows whenever they are opened.

A. 7.—Both overlookers and all the other workpeople open the windows at their own pleasure.

A. 8.—The upright shafts of the mill-gearing are all enclosed, as well as other parts that are dangerous.

A. 9.—Shawls, cloaks, and other outer garments are left in the porter-lodge as the hands arrive; these are put on to rails and pegs appropriated for them: when they leave the mill at night this extra covering they put on. Pure spring water is always kept ready for them to drink, and they have access to it at all times. Personal cleanliness is insisted on; water-closets are attached to each room, well ventilated and kept clean. These arrangements take date from the commencement of the concern.

A. 10.—The lowest age is ten years, and has always been so, even when the Act allowed us to take them at nine. A number of the children have been winders for weavers before they came here.

A. 11.—No; children from ten to twelve are employed, I conceive, because their wages will be less than those from twelve to fourteen. The state of the cotton trade is such that the utmost exertions are necessary to produce cheap, on account of foreign competition. See A. 79.

(APP. C. 1.)

A. 12.



Yorkshire.

*John Jellicorse.*

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have rendered necessary a greater proportion of children, to the exclusion of adults, but not necessarily of those under twelve years. See A. 79.

A. 13 & 14.—I never took an apprentice. The majority of my workpeople are hired to me for various terms, from one to three years. This was found necessary on the outset of the business, as the children were for the most part unemployed, or if employed worked at hand-loom weaving, since the parties who had formerly worked this mill had failed; and having taught the children a new business, it was necessary that we should be sure of their services at least for a while.

A. 15.—I do not lodge and maintain any of the children; they all reside with their parents or relatives.

A. 17.—Thirteen for five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—All under eighteen years of age work only twelve hours on five days and nine on Saturday. I keep a number of extra hands who keep relieving the others all through the day, consequently six or eight children are always seen playing about; as the children know they are entitled to this hour's play they take care to get it.

A. 19.—Between 9th May 1832 and 9th May 1833, thirteen hours per day, except in August last, when on the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th we worked thirteen and a half hours, for the purpose of making up two hours lost on the 4th by repairs of the boiler.

A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and ten hours and a half.

A. 22.—As far as I can recollect, all the mill has worked the same time.

A. 23.—The average will be twelve hours and one sixth for each of the six working days; this time those above eighteen and adults worked; children under eighteen worked five hours per week less than this.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, excepting in the case above alluded to, when for four days they worked twelve hours and a half.

A. 26.—Such excess of work as is here alluded to, arising either from accidents and in making good repairs, is, I conceive, unavoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To produce cheaper than his neighbour I should consider to be the inducement.

A. 31.—To keep relieving the children all day long by means of a few extra hands is in my opinion a good plan; I don't think it would do to have two entire sets of children, each to work for instance six hours, because the same children may get employment at two different mills on the same day at a distance from each other, and in fact work twelve hours, whilst the master supposes they have worked only six hours; nor would it do, I think, for one set of children to work for instance ten hours, and to have another entire set to work the two hours remaining, because the wages for these two hours could not be made sufficient for the children to depend on.

A. 32.—The system which I have adopted in this respect, and explained at A. 18, I have found to answer well.

A. 33.—I have not.

A. 34.—I think it very questionable whether it would be my interest to work night and day by means of two sets of hands, except perhaps just at a time when trade may happen to be very flourishing; the general adoption of such a system would immediately produce a supply quite excessive, and greatly beyond the demand, whilst a partial adoption of it would be an unfair advantage over the rest of the trade. A general and simultaneous adoption of night-working at favourable periods would, I think, produce ruinous fluctuations for the masters, and great temporary distress to the operatives, from so many hands being at times suddenly thrown out of employ.

A. 35.—Not worked two sets.

A. 36.—I think it would make the course of trade more steady; the demand and supply would better adjust themselves to each other, and consequently there would be less fluctuation.

A. 37.—In my opinion, any reduction in the hours of working must cause an increase in the cost of production, but in what degree it is difficult to say with accuracy, because it would in a great measure depend upon the question whether wages would fall in the same proportion as the hours of labour have been diminished. Assuming that they would not, and that we should have to pay the same amount of wages for ten hours work as we now pay for twelve, of course in wages alone there would be an increase in cost of one sixth; but in addition to this must be added an increase of one sixth on all the standing expences of the mill, such as rent, taxes, interest on capital invested, &c.; but if wages should fall in the same proportion as the working hours have been decreased, then the cost will be increased only by one sixth of the standing expences. It is to be feared that if not the immediate, at least the ultimate result would be a reduction in the wages, because the quantity of labour in the market is now more than equal to the demand for it. Certainly it is a much more agreeable thing for a master to be increasing wages when the state of trade will warrant it, rather than depressing them, inasmuch as it engenders a spirit of contentment and mutual good feeling between masters and men. Whether the state of trade now in cotton-spinning, or for some years past, could bear any diminution in the quantity produced without a corresponding reduction in all the other charges (wages included) will be apparent from the answer to Q. 79.

A. 38.



Yorkshire.

*John Jellicorse.*

A. 38.—The card-room requires the greatest degree of heat, and this usually varies from 64° to 70°; the lowest temperature at which we could work well would be about 68°.

A. 39.—Sixty-eight to seventy degrees.

A. 40.—Twenty-four hands.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 42 & 43.—None; that is, between half past eight in the evening and half past five in the morning.

A. 49.—None.

A. 50.—By good mould candles, the same kind which I use in my house.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Never tried.

A. 53, 54, & 55.—In winter we begin at six and leave at eight P.M., being one hour for dinner and thirteen working hours; in summer we begin at half past five and leave at half past seven o'clock; formerly we stopped half an hour for breakfast and half an hour for tea, but at the request of the hands, and not of my own accord, we do not now stop the mill either at breakfast or tea, because they said they could get both these meals whilst the machinery was running without inconvenience, and diminish one hour a day in attendance on the mill.

A. 56.—It would be a matter of indifference to the manufacturer whether the meals be taken in or out of the mill; but unless some large commodious room was provided for this purpose, and warm, the hands would not like to go out; at least, I always find they prefer getting their meals in the mill, and in cold weather we could scarcely drive them out.

A. 57.—A list of rules, which I annex.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Ill-treatment of all kinds is expressly forbidden (see list of rules), and the offender is made to pay a penalty, or is dismissed, whenever such a complaint comes to my knowledge in any way. This both children and parents are aware of; neither overlookers nor any other persons are allowed to ill-use any of the children. In several instances when complaints of this kind have come before me the offending parties have been heavily fined, and in some instances dismissed.

A. 64.—None whatever.

A. 65.—I have not more than eight cottages in which my workpeople reside; the others live under different landlords in the neighbourhood. The greater part of the children attend the Sunday-school at Sowerby church, and all may if their parents would send them.

A. 66.—As far as my own observation has gone, those persons who have entered factories early in life have been more expert in their business, and have risen higher by their merits and habits of industry, than those which have entered later in life. All my overlookers have been in factories from children, since they were nine or ten years of age, viz. John Woolfenden, William Holmes, Thomas Potts.

A. 67.—For the three years which this mill has been at work I cannot discern any particular improvement or deterioration in health of the persons employed therein. The children certainly continue to thrive well, which may be taken as a pretty decisive proof of their good health.

A. 68.—As the temperature throughout my mill is nearly alike, we seldom make any change of hands.

A. 69.—Yes, to the best of my knowledge, the Act is obeyed.

A. 70 & 71.—Never.

A. 72.—None to state.

A. 73.—This being a country situation, the neighbouring mills are not within sight of mine, consequently I cannot tell from their time of lighting up what number of hours they may work, and I am unable to say whether they conform in other respects to the Act.

A. 74, 75, & 76.—Not that I have heard of, though it is very possible for such to have been the case without my hearing any thing about it.

A. 77.—If substantial grounds of complaint exist, I think evidence of them could readily be obtained.

A. 78.—I think it would be decidedly for the interest of all classes engaged in cotton manufacture, masters as well as operatives, if night-work were to be effectually stopped. From a calculation which I made some time ago I found if I were to work night and day, and at the same time conform to the provisions of the last Act (Sir J. C. Hobhouse's), the cost of producing each pound of cotton yarn would be more, about 1s. 4d. per pound, than if I were to work by day only; but then the quantity produced would be increased about two thirds, which would be a great temptation to over-production when trade was good. The morals of children must undoubtedly be exposed to greater danger by night than by day. But I much fear this desirable end will never be attained by legislating against the practice indirectly, the means of evasion are so great. Nothing, in my opinion, short of a positive law, forbidding mills to work between such an hour in the evening and such an hour in the morning, will be effectual. Between those hours they cannot work without lights, and the fact of the mills being lighted up within such hours would be evidence of their working, to prove which any number of witnesses could be had. To abolish night-working altogether would, I think, go a great way towards inducing greater conformity to the present Act. Probably if a power were lodged with the local authorities in each district to stop mills from working unreasonable hours, it would be a ready means of checking the evil. In country situations children above eighteen and adults mostly work five hours a week more than they do in Manchester;



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this is intended as some advantage towards the great expence of carriage backwards and forwards to Manchester, to which country spinners are subject. This mill is only twenty-one miles from Manchester, and the carriage amounts to more than 1s. 4d. a pound on each pound I spin. It has always been thought desirable, in a national point of view, to encourage manufacturers to diffuse themselves over the country rather than to congregate in such immense masses on one spot. It has been suggested by some persons, that if a restriction were to be put on the moving power in each mill, it would produce throughout the country an uniformity of working time; but such a plan would be unjust to the country spinners, who have to bear such heavy expences of carriage, and it is the adults only who work the five hours per week more in the country. It would in fact be a restriction on adult labour which would be contrary to every principle of freedom of trade. Besides, I conceive seventy-four hours per week in the country, where there is a good circulation of air, would not be so injurious to the human constitution as sixty-nine hours in Manchester would, where the population is so dense, and the circulation not so free.

A. 79.—This mill has now been established three years; the machinery is on the newest construction, and possesses every advantage from the latest inventions; indeed, I believe it is the only entire mill in the kingdom where the self-acting mule is worked to the total exclusion of the common hand-mule; hence the great proportion of children to adults employed in the mill. Nearly the whole of what I spin is exported. I feel, therefore, peculiarly the effects of foreign competition; and I can assert for a fact, that with all the advantages before enumerated, this concern has done no more for the three years which it has been in existence than barely to pay interest on the capital invested. Indeed, I believe any good security would have yielded as good an annual return, and have saved the parties an infinite deal of labour and anxiety. With regard to the cost of production here, compared with that in foreign countries, I beg to observe, that a spinner whose works are in Switzerland, and in extent eight times the size of mine, when on a visit to me, wishing to know the cost of a certain No. of twist at my mill, by way of comparison with the cost of the same No. at his own mill, first told me what it cost him; and I answered that I could not produce it for the same sum, nor could I by a halfpenny per pound, although he had to pay for carriage of cotton one hundred and fifty miles from the coast. The produce of both mills probably meet in the same market. The same engineers made his water-wheels that made my steam-engine, and the channels of communication are so well established between this country and his work, that the most recent improvements in machinery are known to him, I believe, before they are known to one tenth of the cotton-spinners in England. It is believed further that English capitalists have property embarked in this concern in Switzerland. Upon investigation, I found the amount of wages were infinitely lower than ours, and the hours of working (I believe he said) fifteen per day for six days a week. Not many days ago my carder, a very valuable servant, was induced, by a prospect of greater wages, to make an engagement to go to a large cotton-mill in Russia, and the person with whom he is going is an Englishman, having been brought up in some of our best-conducted factories, perfectly conversant with all our latest inventions, and indeed with some yet in embryo, and who not many days ago assured me that he had been in nearly all the most celebrated cotton-mills in this kingdom within the last twelve months, and of course had observed the different methods of working. This man is going to be overlooker of a concern of great magnitude, moved by a power of upwards of two hundred horses. It can scarcely be doubted, that should the British legislature, in the face of these facts, impose further restrictions on one branch of the productive industry of the country, they would be hazarding the very existence of a trade which has spread to an extent beyond all anticipation, and which may now be called the staple trade of the country. No doubt instances, and numerous ones, may be adduced of the effects of foreign competition on the cotton trade in nearly all the markets of the world; but I have refrained from speaking in generalities, and confined myself to noticing such facts only as have passed within my own personal observation.

23d May 1833.

JOHN JELlicORSE.

#### RULES AND LAWS OF STANSFELD MILL.

The workpeople are to observe the following rules, and for every neglect of each of them shall forfeit the penalties annexed thereto; and if any of the hands shall be found incorrigible by such fines, the said fine or fines to be doubled and trebled according to the number of offences committed.

- 1.—Waste of every description, and of any value, is to be kept clean and put in its proper place in the way and manner as shall be pointed out by the overlooker, and no brush is to come near or in contact with it, under a penalty of one penny.
- 2.—No roving or waste of any kind shall be carried out of the room, and especially when going to the necessaries, under three-pence penalty for each offence.
- 3.—The machines are to be kept clean, and justice done to them in the same way as is usual and customary in all well-regulated cotton-mills, under a fine of two-pence.
- 4.—No bad ends are to be allowed to go on the cop, but must be broken out, under two-pence forfeiture.

5.—



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- 5.—No piecer shall permit the ends to be down, but shall keep them pieced up, as is usual, and as becomes good piecers, nor shall any piecer or scavenger stop the wheel from spinning, under pretence of piecing up, without permission of the overlooker, under a penalty of one penny for each offence.
- 6.—The oiling to be done in the way as pointed out or shown by the overlooker, or one penny shall be forfeited for each neglect.
- 7.—The oil-cans never to be anywhere but in their proper places, except when in use, under a penalty of one penny.
- 8.—Candle-snuffers are to be kept in the water-cans allotted for them, under a penalty of two-pence for each offence.
- 9.—Any person extinguishing a light in any other manner than by covering it with an extinguisher shall forfeit sixpence for each offence.
- 10.—Workpeople of one room are not to go into any other room or rooms, unless they have a substantial reason for so doing, without forfeiting one penny for each offence.
- 11.—No hands are allowed in any way to meddle with any machine or machines to which their work does not belong, under forfeiture of two-pence; and if any damage or loss be thereby incurred the party causing the same shall pay for it.
- 12.—For being absent without leave or sickness, the party offending shall forfeit what the wages of the absent time would have amounted to.
- 13.—For any damage or broken panes the hands in the room where it occurs shall be responsible, unless the party causing the same be found out, who then shall alone pay for it.
- 14.—Any machinery or other property in or out of the mill damaged or broken incautiously or maliciously by any hand is to be made good or paid for by the party so offending.
- 15.—Any person found to behave immorally or improperly to the other sex to be expelled the mill, if the masters shall so order.
- 16.—Any person leaving the doors of the closets open, or committing any nuisance, shall be fined two-pence for every offence.
- 17.—No person is allowed to ill-treat any of the children that work in this mill, under pain of a penalty of two shillings and sixpence, or instant dismissal, according to the discretion of the master.
- 18.—It is further hereby made a law, that if it should hereafter be found necessary to establish further additional reasonable laws and penalties for offences which in a well-regulated cotton-mill are not to be borne, the overlooker shall, by the direction of the matters, make them known to all the hands in his room, or they shall be stuck up in a public part thereof in writing, and shall have the same effect as if they were incorporated in this list.
- 19.—All punishments shall publicly be made known in the mill by notices put up as an example, and in order to prevent the like afterwards, if it be thought proper by the masters so to do.
- 20.—Every penalty incurred, or damage to property, against these rules or any of them, may be deducted by the masters from the wages of the party offending, either in one sum, or by weekly instalments, at the masters' discretion, any law, custom, or statute to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.
- 21.—For defacing or otherwise damaging or altering this printed list of rules, &c. a penalty of two shillings shall be incurred.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. MARSHALL &amp; Co., Holbeck.

No. 51.

Messrs.  
Marshall & Co.

- A. 1.—Township of Holbeck, parish of Leeds, county of York.
- A. 2.—Flax-spinning; viz. heckling, carding, preparing, spinning, reeling, and drying of line and tow yarns.
- A. 3.—There are five principal buildings, erected as below, and employed from the commencement for the present purposes:

|         |   |   |      |         |   |   |      |
|---------|---|---|------|---------|---|---|------|
| Mill A. | - | - | 1788 | Mill D. | - | - | 1825 |
| B.      | - | - | 1795 | E.      | - | - | 1830 |
| C.      | - | - | 1816 |         |   |   |      |

- A. 4.—Steam, two hundred and sixty-six horse power.

A. 5.—In the wet-spinning rooms air-blowers or fans, similar to those used in cotton blowing or batting machines, are employed to drive a large supply of fresh air into the rooms. They are thirty inches in diameter and thirty inches wide, and revolve six hundred and fifty times per minute, and we consider them sufficient to change the whole air in each room about once every twenty minutes. They answer the purpose very well, keeping the air always fresh, and at a moderate temperature. We have also tried a similar fan or blower in one of the card-rooms to draw the dust out of the room, which, though not so effective as in the spinning-rooms, removes a considerable proportion of the dust.

- A. 6.—In all the rooms there is the usual provision of opening windows.

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A. 7.



Yorkshire.

Messrs.  
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A. 7.—By the foreman or overlooker.

A. 8.—All those parts of the machinery considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople are allowed to make use of the mill-stoves for drying their clothes, cloaks, &c. when wet, and have the opportunity of washing and making the requisite change in their dress on entering or leaving the mill. There are no compulsory regulations on these points.

A. 10.—None are employed under eleven years of age at full work. Some have previously worked at other manufactories, chiefly flax and woollen mills. We have lately, as an experiment, employed a small number, about twenty children, from nine to eleven years of age, at half time, for which they receive half wages, and are required to attend the mill school the other half of the day, for which they pay half the usual charge. By this plan the children are sooner able to earn something towards their own support, which is an important relief to families in poor circumstances. The attendance at school, besides securing a proper education, prevents the possibility of the children being employed the whole day at different mills. This system offers no additional advantage to the manufacturer; but if in its general adoption the provision to prevent the children from being employed the whole day at different mills could be rendered effective, it would, we think, be very beneficial to the workpeople.

A. 11.—It does not. Children of eleven or twelve years of age are preferred by us to those of nine or ten. They do more work and require less superintendence than younger children, provided they have been previously brought up in habits of order and obedience; otherwise they make worse servants than those who begin to work at nine or ten years of age.

A. 12.—See above.

A. 13 & 14.—We employ no apprentices.

A. 15 & 16.—We do not lodge or maintain any of the children.

A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours and a half on the average for all ages; twelve hours per day for five days, and nine hours on Saturday, or sixty-nine hours per week. The mechanics employed in repairing the machinery work eleven hours per day, or sixty-six hours per week.

A. 19.—Twelve hours twenty-five minutes.

A. 20.—From January to 31st December 1832 inclusive, three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and twenty-three hours forty-five minutes.

A. 22.—All the different parts have been carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Ten hours fifty-six minutes, reckoning six working days to each week.

A. 24.—Twelve hours twenty-five minutes.

A. 25.—During two weeks only, one ending 16th March, the other 28th September, at the conclusion and commencement of lighting the mills by gas, in order to make up time lost in each case in the preceding or following week from want of sufficient length of daylight.

A. 26.—It is possible to avoid any excess.

A. 27.—Yes; previous to the commencement of the year 1831 we worked our manufactory seventy-two hours per week; we then reduced the hours of working to sixty-nine per week, the wages per week remaining the same as before.

A. 28.—Certainly; we find that the cost of producing a given quantity of yarn is enhanced by the reduction of working hours.

A. 29.—We think that it is never the permanent interest of the manufacturer to work his mill such long hours as to tire his workpeople, because in that case the work must be ill done; there will be great loss from waste, and the skill and discipline of the workpeople must be deteriorated. These disadvantages outweigh in the long run the saving on a part of the general expences, which working long hours certainly produces. A manufacturer may, however, be induced to do so for a time, in order to meet a large demand for his goods, which he expects may be merely temporary, and therefore does not warrant a permanent extension of his concern, or the trouble of procuring an additional set of hands and overlookers. He may be induced to work protracted hours constantly from want of capital to extend his concern in proportion to the demand for his goods, or because his competitors work protracted hours, or because they have superior machinery which he is unable to procure, and which advantage he endeavours to meet by increased and cheaper production from inferior machinery. We think that the system of working protracted hours has been very much increased by the great fluctuation and depression to which trade and commerce have been subject, produced by the unsettled state of the currency, the pressure of taxation, and the restrictions and prohibitions by which trade and industry have been encumbered.

A. 31.—The plan of employing occasionally an additional set of children to work extra hours would be objectionable, because the manufacturer could not organize and manage such a system economically, unless it were regularly continued. It would be difficult to prevent children who had worked the ordinary hours in one mill from working extra hours the same day in another mill. The proportion of night-work would be also increased, and the children employed as extra sets of hands would be liable to be frequently thrown out of employment by changes of trade.

A. 32.—We are not aware that this plan has been tried.



A. 33 to 36.—We have never employed a night-set of hands. There is certainly a great saving to the manufacturer in the interest of capital sunk in buildings and machinery by working day and night; but we have thought that advantage overbalanced by the greater difficulty of enforcing economic management in night-work than in day-work, and by the liability of the former to be injurious to the health and comfort of the workpeople. Not having personal experience of the system of night-work, we cannot form an accurate judgment of the amount of the objections attributed to it, nor of the extent to which it is practicable to remove them.

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A. 37.—We think that any great reduction in the working hours below the legal standard now established in the cotton manufacture of sixty-nine hours per week must be attended by a serious reduction of wages or of profits, or of both. In our branch of business we calculate that a reduction of working hours from sixty-nine to fifty-eight per week would raise the cost of the yarn produced nearly 6 per cent. if we continued to pay the same wages, or, if the cost of production and profits remained the same, would lower the wages of the working people upwards of one fourth part. Assuming the whole cost of producing a certain quantity of yarn to be one hundred, the value of the raw material would be about fifty per cent., the interest of floating capital eighteen per cent., the interest of fixed capital vested in buildings, machinery, &c., fourteen per cent., and wages eighteen per cent. The two latter items, interest of fixed capital and wages, would be equally affected by a reduction of the hours of working from sixty-nine to fifty-eight, and would be increased from thirty-two to thirty-eight per cent., or about six per cent. on the whole cost. If the wages are so much reduced as the interest on fixed capital is increased, so as to keep the cost of production the same, they must become fifteen and a half in place of eighteen, or be reduced one seventh on a given quantity of yarn; but as the quantity produced each week is also reduced one seventh by the reduced hours, the weekly wages of the workpeople must be reduced two sevenths, or upwards of one fourth.

|                                | Sixty-nine Hours. | Fifty-eight Hours. |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Wages - - -                    | 18                | 15½                |
| Interest of floating Capital - | 18                | 18                 |
| Ditto fixed ditto -            | 14                | 16½                |
| Material - - -                 | 50                | 50                 |
|                                | 100               | 100                |

The rate of profit is low in England compared with other countries, and the British manufacturer labours under the disadvantage, compared with the foreign, of having to pay his workpeople in proportion to the price of food in England, which is about a third part dearer than in other manufacturing countries with which he has to compete. To set against this he has superior machinery and more skilful workpeople, that have hitherto enabled him to produce better and cheaper goods than his foreign competitor, so as to admit of the continued investment of fresh capital in manufactures. This great extension has caused a regularly increasing demand for the workpeople employed, and is the reason that their wages are greatly higher than those either of agricultural labourers or of hand-loom weavers, for whose labour no such increasing demand has existed. Any thing that should materially check this growth of capital invested in manufactures would diminish the demand for the workpeople, and rapidly reduce them to a rate of wages similar to that of the agricultural labourers and hand-weavers. It is only by great exertions that the British manufacturer can now maintain his competition with the inhabitants of cheaper countries, and a small addition to his burthens would check his progress. We think, therefore, that the first effect of a great reduction of working hours would be a severe loss to the manufacturer, producing a great check to the manufacturing industry of this country, which would be immediately followed by the commencement of a fall of wages of the working people that would continue till the whole amount of the increased cost of production had been deducted from their wages, excepting only the extent to which they would be able to do more work in proportion in shorter hours. We are perfectly aware that a working man can use a greater exertion for ten hours a day than he can for eleven or twelve hours; and if the work he was employed upon required chiefly bodily strength, he could do as much in ten hours as in twelve. But the labour in manufactories is of a sort requiring little bodily strength, and chiefly consisting in care and skill in the attendance on machines, the velocity of which does not admit of such an increase as would compensate to any great extent for diminished hours of labour. In every description of labour there are practical limits arising from the nature of the work that render a certain number of hours work per day better than either more or less. For a coal-heaver eight hours may probably be the best duration for a day's work, for an agricultural labourer ten hours, and for manufacturing workpeople, when mechanical power is employed, eleven or twelve hours. We should prefer eleven to twelve hours, as being the lowest limit consistent with the welfare both of the capitalist and labourer. We think that a limit to eleven hours would eventually cause a small reduction of wages, but not more, perhaps, than would be fairly balanced by the advantage

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of



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Messrs.  
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of more leisure to the workpeople. The evils arising from the dust and the heat in certain manufacturing operations have been already greatly reduced, and admit of removal to such an extent as to render their employments not more unhealthy than the ordinary work of other artisans, and there is therefore no ground on this account for shortening the hours of labour. These limits of working hours, and the provision that no children shall be employed in factories under eleven or twelve years of age for more than six working hours daily, thus giving sufficient time for that first necessary of life, a good education, and also the acquirement of sufficient bodily strength before the commencement of labour, we think are all that specific laws can possibly do for the protection and real benefit of the working people.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—The wet-spinning rooms have (since the improved mode of ventilation has been introduced) a usual temperature of about 62° to 68° in winter, and 65° to 75° in summer; the line-preparing and carding, 62° and 68°, winter and summer; the heckling and dry-spinning, 56° to 62° in winter, and 62° to 68° in summer. The line-preparing and carding requires a temperature of about 65°, and in these departments about one third of the hands are employed. The temperature in the other departments is of no material importance to the work.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—The mills have never been worked at night.

A. 46, 47, 48, & 49.—None are so.

A. 50.—Gas-light is used morning and evening during winter during the usual hours of working.

53.—One hour for dinner, quarter of an hour for breakfast, ten minutes for drinking, for all the workpeople where machinery is employed. The mechanics employed to repair the machinery have half an hour each for breakfast and drinking, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—The majority of the workpeople go home to dinner, but none, except some of the mechanics, go to breakfast and drinking.

A. 55.—With respect to dinner, it is entirely optional with the workpeople; at breakfast and drinking the time allowed is too short to permit them to go home; that regulation is adopted for the convenience of the manufactory chiefly, but we also believe that it suits the convenience of the majority of the workpeople.

A. 56.—It would frequently be much less comfortable for the workpeople to have to go home to their meals twice or three times a day, particularly in changing from the warm air of the rooms to the cold air in winter, than to have their breakfast and drinkings brought to them, as now. They would also have to remain later at their work in the evening, and have less leisure time afterwards. Many who come to their work from a distance would not go home to breakfast and drinking if the time were lengthened.

A. 57.—Fines of 1*d.* to 6*d.* for each fault, or temporary or permanent reduction of weekly wages, or finally discharged from the works.

A. 58 & 59.—No corporal punishments are allowed to be inflicted by any person in our employment.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—In all cases when we have known the rule to be infringed the overlooker has been reprov'd or dismissed.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions have been given to all the foremen or overlookers always to punish the children by fine, reduction of wages, or dismissal, and not in any case to use corporal punishment.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—The workpeople do not live in the houses of their employers.

A. 66.—There is on the average a considerable superiority in the skill and general character of those who have been employed in the works from infancy, compared with others. It is our almost invariable practice to set on no new hands but learners of eleven to thirteen years of age, who regularly advance as they grow older, and fill the vacancies that occur amongst the older hands. The exceptions to this rule are too few to give a fair comparison between the two classes from our present list of hands.

A. 67.—We have no precise data to prove what is the actual state of health of the workpeople now, compared with what it was ten years ago; but we have persons who have been in our employment in each department for that length of time, who state that the work is now generally easier than it then was, and less injurious to their health. The cause is, the better construction of the machinery requiring a less laborious attendance from the workpeople, and from its being better boxed up in the dusty operations, so as to throw much less dust into the room. The change from coarser to finer spinning has also made the work easier and more healthy.

A. 68.—We always change the employment of any persons who complain themselves, or appear to us to suffer injury from any particular process. We have lately employed a medical person who regularly inspects the condition of the workpeople as to health once a week, who points out for removal any person in his opinion requiring it.

A. 69, 70, 71, & 72.—Our mill is not subject to the present Act.

A. 73, 74, 75, 76, 77.—The mills generally in our neighbourhood are not subject to the present Act.

A. 78.



A. 78.—Having no experience of the operation of the present Act, we can only state generally that a moderate scale of penalties and simple modes of procedure are, in our opinion, most likely to be effective in securing obedience to any legislative enactment for regulating the hours of labour in factories.

A. 79.—We would observe that it is impossible to form a correct judgment of the extent to which restrictions on the hours of labour of children in factories are requisite for the protection of their health and morals, without a careful inquiry into other causes of disease and immorality that in fact produce many of the evils attributed to too long hours of work, and which, if removed, would render any great reduction of the present hours of labour both unnecessary and undesirable. In our opinion, the health of the workpeople in this and other large towns receives very great injury from the filthy and unhealthy state of many of the streets, arising from want of proper sewerage, draining, and paving, and proper regulations to secure cleanliness and ventilation. This is corroborated by the increased mortality in towns being almost confined to children under eight years of age. The great number of spirit and beer shops, and want of efficient regulations of them, and of police generally, the want of adequate means of education and religious instruction, and of opportunities for healthy recreation, are all of them evils of the most serious nature; and we believe that it is the debilitated health and improvident and immoral habits produced by these means that in the great majority of cases cause the usual hours of working to be injurious to the health of the children and workpeople.

MARSHALL & Co.

Yorkshire.

Messrs.

Marshall & Co.







# D. 1.

## Lancashire District.

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D. 1.  
Lancashire District.

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A N S W E R S.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS received to the QUERIES.

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CHESHIRE.

ANSWERS of SAMUEL ASHTON, Bredbury.

- A. 1.—Bredbury, Cheshire.  
A. 2.—Cotton-manufactory.  
A. 3.—Built in 1828, 1830, and 1832; first employed in 1829.  
A. 4.—Steam-power, regular; sixty-five horse power.  
A. 5.—Nearly all the working-rooms are ventilated by flues to the top of the roof.  
A. 7.—At the discretion of the hands employed.  
A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.  
A. 9.—Plenty of good water in every story of the mill, regularly supplied, with every convenience for washing themselves, and also for drying their wet clothes.  
A. 10.—We don't employ them under nine years of age.  
A. 11.—It does, because spinners cannot work without piecers.  
A. 12.—The greater proportion latterly employed are more than twelve years old.  
A. 13.—None.  
A. 15.—Few orphans; the children chiefly employed are living with their parents.  
A. 16.—Our spinners employ small hands as piecers, over whom we have no control.  
A. 17.—The extreme length of time any above twenty-one years are employed will not exceed thirteen hours per day.  
A. 19.—It has very seldom happened that we have had occasion to work more than thirteen hours and a quarter per day.  
A. 20.—Three hundred days, or fifty weeks; and we pay all day-wage hands for fifty-two weeks in the year.  
A. 21.—About three thousand seven hundred hours.  
A. 22.—Carried on nearly altogether.  
A. 23.—Nearly thirteen hours for five days, and nine hours on the Saturday.  
A. 24.—Not more than thirteen hours and a quarter.  
A. 25.—Don't recollect that it has ever exceeded thirteen hours and a quarter.  
A. 26.—We consider it completely avoidable to work more than the above time.  
A. 27.—We have not worked more, but less.  
A. 28.—By a reduction of working-hours per week it must cost more.  
A. 29.—By protracting the hours of labour in the establishment, the produce will cost less.  
A. 30.—By the limitation of the hours of labour the produce will cost more in all the branches of our works, and will be a very serious expence, particularly to rented mills, if ten hours a day be adopted.  
A. 31.—It is very objectionable to have two sets of hands; and as the labour is so light we don't consider it necessary to have two sets, as it would be attended with much trouble.  
A. 32.—Never tried it.  
A. 33.—Never practised night-working.  
A. 34.—We have a great objection to employ more than one set of hands, for instance, if two weavers are put to one pair of looms they attempt to throw the spoiled work upon each other.  
A. 37.—My opinion is, if a further reduction of the hours of labour is carried into effect the wages will necessarily be lowered, for under the present state of the trade the employer cannot afford an advance; and piece-workers will produce less goods, which will make their wages less; and I believe they will be the first to complain of the very short time they will have to work.  
A. 46.—We don't require it for more than thirteen hours.  
(APP.—D. 1.)

D. 1.

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Cheshire.

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No. 1.

*Samuel Ashton.*

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Cheshire.

Samuel Ashton.

- A. 48.—Dressers, whose ages vary from twenty to fifty years.  
 A. 49.—If the dressing be left till it is in a proper state for drying, it would spoil it; it is never left off till the dinner-hour.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as the day.  
 A. 52.—We have only a watchman during the night.  
 A. 53.—At eight, twelve, and four o'clock.  
 A. 54.—A part of them.  
 A. 55.—Convenience to both.  
 A. 56.—In dressing the yarn, particularly, the effect would be bad, as the work requires to be continuous.  
 A. 57.—If they wont do with scolding we send them home.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—Never had any complaints before a magistrate.  
 A. 65.—Partly in my own houses, and some in their own dwellings.  
 A. 66.—Those employed early we have found in general more skilful hands.  
 A. 67.—We have not observed any change in the state of the health of the hands employed during the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—We have very little occasion to change the employment of persons here; dressers, who are employed in the warmest rooms, are decidedly the stoutest people we employ.  
 A. 69.—Not in every particular.  
 A. 70.—We have never been informed against.  
 A. 73.—Don't recollect of any convictions in our neighbourhood.  
 A. 77.—Suppose they are.  
 A. 78.—We can suggest no mode to secure obedience to the laws so good as to put the regulation on the moving-power; any other plan will fail.

SAMUEL ASHTON.

No. 2.

John Middleton.

## ANSWERS of JOHN MIDDLETON, Cheadle Bulkely.

- A. 1.—Cheadle Bulkely, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning of cotton-yarn.  
 A. 3.—At different times, but I cannot particularize them. No alteration has taken place since I became the occupier.  
 A. 4.—Both steam and water; the latter is very irregular, sometimes too little, and at other times too much. The engine is eighteen horses power, and the water-wheel from nothing to twenty horses power.  
 A. 5.—Yes; the windows open; the doors of each room open into a brick and stone staircase; and there is an air-pipe from the bottom to the top of the building, by which all the necessary purposes are answered.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is under the control of the overlooker, and the hands themselves.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople come generally clothed suitable to the season of the year; when entering the factory they put off their upper garments, and put them on when leaving their work. Water is provided for drinking.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years of age, and have not generally been employed before.  
 A. 11.—Yes, because there is a good deal of light work suitable for children only.  
 A. 12.—Recent alterations have made it less necessary to employ children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours every day except Saturday, then only nine hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—Above eighteen years of age, the same as above, A. 17. Under eighteen years, twelve hours only, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours; the additional hour has been to make up lost time.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand eight hundred and twenty hours.  
 A. 22.—No difference.  
 A. 23.—About twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When repairing the engine, water-wheel, or heavy gear, or when the wheel has been flooded.  
 A. 26.—Unavoidable, from accidents and weather.  
 A. 30.—In spinning the cost of production is increased to a greater amount than would appear from the reduction of the hours of working, on account of the fixed rent, wages, taxes, and capital.  
 A. 31.—Only one set of hands.  
 A. 32.—Have no knowledge; made no trial.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—None but beneficial ones.  
 A. 37.—Diminished production, lower wages, and increased foreign competition.  
 A. 38.—From 55° to 60° in spinning.

A. 39.



- A. 39.—Sixty degrees.  
 A. 40.—All generally in spinning and preparing cotton.  
 A. 50.—By candles and oil; never employed all night.  
 A. 52.—I suppose very bad where used.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, afternoon refreshment half an hour, for all classes.  
 A. 54.—All under eighteen years.  
 A. 55.—If any one remains it is for his own convenience, and contrary to order.  
 A. 56.—It would produce loss of time to those who live at a distance.  
 A. 57.—They are admonished, threatened, moderately punished, and finally discharged.  
 A. 58.—Yes, moderately, on the children, for obstinacy, idleness, and mischief.  
 A. 59.—By the general overlookers in the factory only.  
 A. 60.—My orders have invariably been that nothing but necessity should lead to any punishment whatever.  
 A. 62.—Yes, all severity. I would discharge an overlooker for cruelty.  
 A. 65.—Some of them; they are required to whitewash them twice a year, I finding them lime. They are required to keep them in repair, and to be orderly in all things.  
 A. 66.—Children learning their business in a cotton-factory early are always the best and most expert in future life in their employment.  
 A. 67.—Improved in every respect, particularly in discipline, order, and cleanliness; and if it is not their own fault, they are better fed, clothed, and taught.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Yes, once, for neglecting to register at the proper time.  
 A. 71.—No.  
 A. 78.—Yes; managers and overlookers ought to be subject to punishment and fines as well as their employers, for breach of positive orders and general rules.  
 A. 79.—Night-work ought to be abolished.

JOHN MIDDLETON.

Cheshire.

*John Middleton.*

## ANSWERS of ROBERT GEE, for J. and R. Gee, Cheadle.

No. 3.

*Robert Gee.*

- A. 1.—Hamlet of Edgeley (near Stockport), in the parish of Cheadle, in the county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Carding, spinning, winding, warping, dressing, and weaving.  
 A. 3.—Erected about twenty-five years ago.  
 A. 4.—Seventy-three horses power of steam.  
 A. 5.—There is no distinct provision for ventilating the rooms of the factory, except in the dressing-room (see A. 39). The situation of the factory is so open and airy that none is required for the other rooms.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the foreman and overlookers generally; but any of the persons employed may open the windows nearest to them, if they want more air.  
 A. 8.—All the parts of the machinery considered dangerous are securely fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople take off a part of their clothing before they begin to work; the men and boys their coats and jackets, and for the most part their shoes and stockings: the women and girls their cloaks, bonnets, and shoes, exchanging the latter for slippers, and in many cases they change their gowns for a short working-dress. On leaving the manufactory they resume their out-door clothing. There are several water-troughs in and about the works, for the convenience of washing; it is therefore the fault of the workpeople if they are not cleanly in their persons, and they are found fault with for being otherwise.  
 A. 10.—We employ no children under nine years of age; we are not aware that any of them have been employed at other trades.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely; but in some kinds of work their small size is an advantage: and it is of great importance to poor families that they should not lose the wages of their children from nine years to twelve; and the earlier the children begin to learn, the more expert they become.  
 A. 12.—We are not aware that the recent alterations in machinery have made any difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours and twenty-one minutes for five days, and nine hours on a Saturday.  
 A. 18.—Persons from the age of nine to eighteen years work twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on a Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and forty-five minutes.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 22.—The whole of our works start and stop at the same time, except such parts of them as are worked by persons under eighteen, who work twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on a Saturday.  
 A. 23.—From thirteen to thirteen hours and half for five days, and nine hours on a Saturday.

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A 2

A. 24.



Cheshire.

Robert Gee.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—In July, August, October, and November, thirty-nine hours and a half were lost by reason of stoppages of the steam-engine.

A. 26.—In the event of a stoppage of the machinery by any extraordinary accident, it is our custom to recover the time lost as far as the Act of Parliament allows; to do this we cannot avoid working for the time beyond the regular hours.

A. 27.—In part of 1829, the whole of 1830, and to November 1831, we worked about one hour and a half per week longer than at present.

A. 28.—Certainly.

A. 29.—By producing a greater quantity, to bring his goods cheaper into the market.

A. 30.—The increase of cost will be in proportion to the working-hours reduced; there are certain fixed charges, such as rent, interest of money sunk, certain salaries, &c. &c., which are the same whether more or less work is done; these form a considerable part of the cost of every thing produced; of course the more pounds of yarn or pieces of cloth are made, the less will be these fixed charges on each, and the cheaper they will be brought into the market.

A. 31.—There is no objection where such relays of children can be obtained, but in most situations this would be impossible.

A. 32.—We have had no experience of the system, and therefore cannot answer the question.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—By further reducing the working-hours we should further increase the cost of production, and thereby injure both our home and export trade; any rise in price would operate as a proportionate bounty to the foreign manufacturer. The injury done to a mill-owner by reducing the working-hours (suppose from seventy-two to sixty hours per week) would be tantamount to that which a farmer would sustain who should be deprived of one sixth part of his land, and made to pay the same rent as before.

A. 38.—The temperature of the carding-room is 64°; winding, warping, and reeling room, 64° to 66°; throstle-spinning-room, 70° to 77°; mule-spinning-room, 68° to 70°; weaving room, 70° to 74°; stretching-room, 67°; dressing-room, 80° to 86°.

A. 39.—From 80° to 86° in the dressing-room; in this room there is a distinct provision for ventilation.

A. 40.—Thirteen; all adults and males.

A. 41.—Our works have never been worked at night.

A. 53.—The children from nine to eighteen are allowed half an hour for breakfast between the hours of seven and nine A.M., a full hour for dinner between the hours of half past eleven and two P.M., and half an hour for tea between half past three and five P.M.: the adults take their breakfast and tea when brought to them by some of their family or friends, and they dine between twelve and one.

A. 54.—For the most part, all under eighteen years of age leave the manufactory at meal-times; but those to whom the distance from their homes would make it an inconvenience are allowed to eat their meals in the mill: all, both adults and children, dine out of the manufactory.

A. 55.—The practice is adopted both for the convenience of the manufactory and of the workpeople many of whom live at a considerable distance from the works; to these it is a convenience to be allowed to have their meals brought to them by such members of their family as happen to be unemployed; it is also a saving to them.

A. 56.—Those of the workpeople who live too far from the manufactory would be obliged to pay a weekly sum for the privilege of eating their meals in the neighbouring cottages, an expence they could ill afford to incur.

A. 57.—The orders to the overlookers are to enforce obedience on the part of the children by lecturing and reasoning with them; with such as cannot be so governed, moderate punishment is resorted to.

A. 58.—If by corporal punishments are meant such punishments as would injure health, never; but such punishments are occasionally resorted to as a father would inflict on his child; certainly not more severe.

A. 59.—By the foreman, by overlookers, and by parents, when, as it frequently happens, their children work under them.

A. 60.—Such punishments as have been described have been inflicted with our knowledge.

A. 61.—And with our sanction, and also at the request of the parents themselves.

A. 62.—We have never been informed of the infliction of any punishments in our works which we felt ourselves called upon to forbid on the score of humanity; we know of such only as are for the eventual good of the children, and without which some tempers cannot be governed. We believe it is the rule of some proprietors of mills to discharge rather than punish refractory boys, but we think it more merciful both to the boy and his parents to retain and endeavour to amend him by such moderate and salutary chastisement as has been mentioned.

A. 63.—The instructions to our foreman and overlookers are, on no account to strike a boy with any thing heavy, or with the fist clenched, or to kick him; but if chastisement be necessary, to punish them with something that cannot possibly injure health or limb; the severest



severest punishment the boys ever receive is a box or two on the ear, or a few strokes on the back with a slender strap or switch.

A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made, or any proceedings before the magistrates taken against us, or our foreman or overlookers, on the subject of any punishment inflicted in our establishment; and moreover we have never had a complaint made against us before the magistrates on the part of our workpeople on any subject whatever.

A. 65.—A few of our workpeople are our tenants; we frequently visit their houses, and can bear testimony to their domestic cleanliness and to their moral conduct. Those of them who do not live in our houses are of course from under our control when they leave the manufactory, but we look strictly to the moral character of the adults we employ; and the children are expected to be members of some school, and to attend some place of worship.

A. 66.—Other things being equal, the balance will be in favour of those earliest employed.

A. 67.—We are of opinion that the general health of persons working in factories has decidedly improved in the last ten years; we attribute this to the greater cleanliness of the mills, and to the attention now more generally paid by the proprietors to the education and moral condition of their workpeople. The Beer Bill has operated latterly both against the morals and the health of the workpeople.

A. 68.—We have occasionally made changes in the employment of our workpeople.

A. 69.—Yes, to the best of our knowledge; we have printed and written instructions to all classes of our workpeople in every room of the mill, ordering them to conform to the Act, on pain of dismissal; and the children are instructed to inform the foreman or their overlookers if the persons under whom they work attempt to keep them beyond the hours, or do not allow them the full time for all their meals prescribed by the Act. The children are frequently questioned on these points, in the hearing of those they work under.

A. 70.—We have never been informed against.

A. 74.—We believe a few of them have been before the magistrates.

A. 75.—We are not aware that any of them were fined.

A. 76.—We do not know.

A. 77.—We do not think they are.

A. 78.—Perhaps a restriction on the moving-power, to a safe limit, would be the best security for the same time of working being generally observed. With respect to penalties we think that any overlooker or adult workman who obliges or permits a child under him to work contrary to the Act of Parliament, in defiance of the orders of his employer, should be liable to a penalty. This would be only a fair security to the master against any ill-disposed workman playing into the hands of the common informer.

A. 79.—We should be glad if respectable inspectors of mills were appointed to take our case out of the hands of the common informer.

ROBERT GEE.

#### ANSWERS of BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE, Glossop.

No. 4.

Benj. Waterhouse.

A. 1.—Glossop.

A. 2.—The spinning and weaving of cotton.

A. 3.—Our mill was built seventeen years ago.

A. 4.—In one mill a steam-engine, twenty-seven horsepower, and a water-wheel of eighteen; in the other as team-engine of twelve horses power, and a water-wheel of thirty.

A. 5.—In the blowing-room and card-room ventilation is produced by means of powerful iron fans; in the other rooms there is no provision for this purpose but that of opening the windows.

A. 7.—The fans being turned from the shafting are always in operation while the mill is at work; the opening of the windows for the purpose of ventilation is more particularly the province of the overlookers, but may also be controlled by any person employed in the mill. There is considerable difficulty found in inducing the people to keep the windows open as much as wished.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the gearing and machinery are fenced off, in some cases by wooden, in others by tin boxes or frames.

A. 9.—There are no arrangements of this description beyond the common provision of hooks for hanging up the out-door clothing of the hands on coming into the mill.

A. 10.—Nine years. In this neighbourhood the cotton mills are generally the first places where children are put to work; sometimes they have come to us after being employed in a silk-mill in the village.

A. 11.—Not absolutely.

A. 12.—Children are now employed in operations which formerly required the labour of adults. I do not consider the employment of children under twelve years of age indispensably necessary, though there are some parts of the work which are perhaps better performed by children under that age. (I allude more particularly to those technically called scavengers.)

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—The persons of eighteen years of age employed in the card-rooms work thirteen

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A 3



Cheshire.

Benj. Waterhouse.

thirteen hours and a half per day ; those in other parts of the mill thirteen ; all under eighteen only twelve hours.

A. 19.—Sixteen hours and thirty minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.

A. 21.—Four thousand four hundred and thirteen hours and a half.

A. 22.—This is always done, as will appear by A. 17 & A. 18. The length of time which the card-rooms have been kept at work has varied according to the description of yarn that has been spun at the time, requiring a greater or less quantity of rovings or prepared cotton. Frequently a considerable quantity of machinery is kept at work with only two or three men to attend it. During the past year the quantity of work required from the card-rooms was much greater than at present.

A. 23.—Fourteen hours and sixteen minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours for all under eighteen. If this has in any instance been exceeded it has been contrary to orders.

A. 26.—This would be easily avoided if the extent of the mill and arrangement of the different rooms in it were such as to admit of a greater quantity of carding machinery being put up, and if there were power sufficient to turn it. This excess did not exist at the time when I put my machinery into the mill, but since that time it has been found advantageous to change the description of work to one requiring more carding.

A. 27.—Yes. See A. 22. At times also the whole of the mill has been worked longer than at present.

A. 28.—I consider this to be a point not very easily determined. If your work is as well done, and the mill as well managed, when worked fourteen hours as if it were worked only twelve, the reduction of cost is very great ; but this probably is not often the case.

A. 29.—The preceding answer will apply to this question.

A. 30.—Also answered in A. 28. The proportion not easily ascertained.

A. 31.—None whatever.

A. 32.—I am not aware that this has ever been done, except in the case of night-work ; and children under eighteen work only twelve hours.

A. 33.—In my mill the night-work was confined to two small rooms, one a card-room and the other a throstle-room, and in both of which the hands being paid by the hour no difficulty existed.

A. 34.—The wish to have a profit on an increased quantity of yarn without any additional outlay ; this inducement is always greater in case of water-mills. It was discontinued from the increased trouble attending it appearing to be greater than any benefit arising from working so small a part of the mill in the night.

A. 35.—They were occasionally changed.

A. 37.—The cost of production would unquestionably be increased ; at the same time its effects upon the markets would for a while be very favourable to the manufacturer, until the competition of the foreign manufacturer, carrying on his business without any additional expence, should drive him from those markets where they now meet on more equal terms, and end in the ruin of trade ; to the labourer its effects would be a reduction in the amount of his earnings corresponding with the diminution in the hours of work.

A. 38.—From 70° to 75°. I have made no experiments to ascertain the lowest temperature at which the different processes could be carried on.

A. 50.—By gas in evenings.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—I am not aware of having perceived any peculiar effects, but its influence upon domestic and moral habits cannot be supposed to be good.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner ; tea is brought into the mill about four or five o'clock in the afternoon.

A. 54.—All, to breakfast and dinner, excepting that occasionally those bring and eat their meals on the premises who come a long distance from home.

A. 56.—They ought always to be, at breakfast and dinner ; whether to leave the mill at tea-time would be preferred by the workpeople or benefit their employer I am not prepared to say.

A. 57.—Fining and expulsion.

A. 58.—They are not allowed to be inflicted by any one.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—The overlookers have orders not to strike any children, but, when necessary, to inflict a fine ; when that is not sufficient, to dismiss them.

A. 64.—The only case of this kind was that of a man named John Hurrop, who had recently been in my employ, who complained to the magistrates of an alleged assault in the course of the last autumn. The case was brought before Mr. G. W. Newton and Mr. John White, at Hayfield, and the complaint dismissed with a reprimand to the party complaining, for his misconduct.

A. 65.—Some of the people live in houses belonging to my establishment, but no particular arrangements of the sort alluded to are made.

A. 66.—Nearly all are employed from early childhood.

A. 67.—I have been engaged in the trade only six or seven years, and till within about twelve months the number of my workpeople was from 150 to 200 ; it is now about twice that, or 400 ; and during the whole of that period I have had but three deaths.

A. 68.—Whenever an occupation is found injurious or irksome to any person he seldom hesitates to say so ; and if his then employer hesitates to find him other work, such is the abundance



abundance of employment in this neighbourhood that in general he has no difficulty in finding it under some other master.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I have heard of but one exception, but I have little time or opportunity to pay much attention to the operations of my neighbours.

A. 74.—Cannot say.

A. 77.—I should think very few workpeople would like to inform against their masters whilst in their employ, but great numbers of discarded servants would be glad to do so from feelings of revenge.

A. 78.—As far as my own observation goes, I think there are very few mills where the provisions of the present bill are not observed; most masters must be anxious to observe them, from an unwillingness to place themselves at the mercy of their servants. When the law is infringed without informations taking place it can only be from a mutual understanding between the parties, which could not well be prevented by any legislative enactments.

A. 79.—I question the policy of any interference of the legislature with the private business of manufacturers, beyond what is necessary for the protection of children, and the securing of ventilation and the cleanliness of mills. In case the law should prevent children being employed in factories at a greater age than at present, it is very desirable that some general system of education be adopted, or it is probable that the condition and character of the rising generation will be rather injured than improved by the change.

BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE.

Cheshire.

*Benj. Waterhouse.*

#### ANSWERS of RANDAL HIBBERT, Godley.

No. 5.

*Randal Hibbert.*

A. 1.—Godley in Cheshire.

A. 2.—Spinning and power-loom weaving of cotton.

A. 3.—Built and worked for present purpose, one third in 1800, one third in 1822, and remaining one third in 1824; one third used for spinning alone till 1822; since then all the works used for spinning and weaving.

A. 4.—Forty-horse steam engine, and six-horse water-wheel. Water-power irregular, but steam engine sufficient alone to work the factory.

A. 5.—Rooms ventilated by sash windows and doors. In every room every third window can be opened; in some rooms every window.

A. 6.—Principally on opening windows and doors. In many rooms there are ventilators in the windows.

A. 7.—Ventilation regulated by the workpeople in the rooms.

A. 8.—Where danger is apprehended the machinery is fenced off.

A. 9.—Spring water is brought by water-pipes into the yard, which the hands have access to at all times. There is also a constant supply of warm soft clean water in a room in the yard, for the hands to wash themselves at, and change their clothing. The necessities stand detached from any other building in the yard.

A. 10.—Nine is the youngest age. There is no other employment in the neighbourhood but in factories for children.

A. 11.—They might be dispensed with, but it would be a serious inconvenience and a loss to the families of workpeople.

A. 12.—No material difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—No orphans, as far as is known.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours, five days; and nine on Saturdays.

A. 18.—Most of the younger class of hands, such as piecers, work twelve only, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half, to the best of my knowledge.

A. 20.—Three hundred days.

A. 21.—As near as can be calculated, three thousand seven hundred hours.

A. 22.—All parts work at once.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes for fifty weeks, the remaining two weeks being holidays.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours, as near as I can state. In some few instances of stoppages from accidents some of the children may have worked thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—After stoppages from unforeseen accidents to the engine or gearing.

A. 26.—It is avoidable by losing the time stopped (which would not be much); but stoppages from breaking of gearing, &c. are unavoidable.

A. 27.—This mill has formerly been worked a little longer than at present, but never more than from a quarter to half an hour per day.

A. 28.—The difference is so small that no calculation has been made.

A. 29.—An increase of time causing a proportionate increase of production, the interest of capital embarked, salaries, day wages, &c., are much less for the same production, and more business done at the manufactory by such extra hours.

A. 31.—To children, say under thirteen, there can be no great objection on the part of the manufacturers to such relays, but as hands above twenty-one could be obtained at less

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A 4

wages



Cheshire.

Randal Hibbert.

wages than two sets under twenty-one, the latter would be turned out of work, or be obliged to work at very reduced wages.

A. 32.—It has not been tried here, as there has never been any complaint of children being over-worked.

A. 33.—Night work has never been practised here.

A. 37.—Shortening the hours of labour of all the hands below sixty-nine hours per week would be giving foreigners an advantage that might be fatal to the superiority of our manufacture in a few years. Shortening the time for hands, say between thirteen and twenty-one, and placing no restraint upon adults, would not only have this tendency, but would drive those young hands out of the manufacture, whose places must be supplied by adults.

A. 38.—In the spinning and card rooms it is not necessary to have more warmth than comfort requires; these rooms need not exceed 65 degrees. In the weaving-room no artificial heat is used.

A. 39.—The dressers (all adult men) require the greatest heat, but they may have it as low as they wish. We fine them for having the thermometer above eighty degrees.

A. 40.—About one dresser to twenty-two other hands.

A. 41.—None after half past eight o'clock, but we generally stop at eight in winter and half past seven in summer.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Windows and doors.

A. 53.—Spinners and piecers, winders, mechanics, and many other classes of hands, stop their work two hours per day for meals; weavers, one hour (at dinner).

A. 54.—All leave the works at meal-times who choose.

A. 55.—If the hands don't leave the works for meals, they stay for their own convenience or pleasure.

A. 56.—The weavers would either do less work or must work later at night.

A. 57.—Send them home for correction by their parents, or discharge them.

A. 58.—Not with my sanction.

A. 60.—Instances have come to my knowledge, but very rarely, and I never heard of any weapon or instrument being used for such purpose.

A. 62.—Corporal punishments are forbidden.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions have been given to the overlookers not to punish but discharge disorderly children.

A. 64.—No such complaint has ever been made with reference to this factory.

A. 65.—Many do, and some in their own. There are several Sunday-schools near, to which I subscribe. The tenants are obliged to whitewash several times in each year, for which purpose I give them quick-lime. I also require them to keep their back-yards and sewer clean. Every yard is paved, fenced in, and has a necessary.

A. 66.—In general, those hands are the most active at their work who have been brought up to it.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference, but the health of my hands is very regular; they are a cheerful and healthy body of people.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Yes, twice on the same occasion, and by the same informer.

A. 71.—Both informations were withdrawn by the informer, and no conviction took place.

A. 72.—They arose out of a combination or union of spinners.

A. 73.—Not strictly, as to the weavers. It was at first attempted and acted on for a considerable time, but the weavers being averse they were allowed to have their breakfasts and tea at their looms.

A. 74.—In two or three instances in this neighbourhood they have.

A. 75.—In one instance only, as far as I know.

A. 76.—Yes, as I believe.

A. 77.—The masters and hands have always been on good terms here, and the hands are averse to informations under the present acts.

A. 78.—In my opinion the most efficient law would be to restrict the moving-power to sixty-nine hours per week; but any act will be liable to be evaded which makes a difference in the hours of labour between children and adults, as such a law will be a constant inconvenience both to masters and workpeople.

RANDAL HIBBERT.

No. 6.

ANSWERS of JOHN HOLLINWORTH, Hollingworth.

John Hollinworth.

A. 1.—Township of Hollingworth, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected upwards of thirty years; always used for spinning.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—Not any.

A. 6.—By opening the windows.

A. 7.



Cheshire.

John Hollinworth

- A. 7.—By any of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—They are all fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years of age; none have been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—It does not require them under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—Less proportion of children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—No orphans employed.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours and a quarter each day, except Saturday, and on that day nine hours.  
 A. 18.—If above eighteen years of age thirteen hours and a quarter; if under that age twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a quarter.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and fifty-one hours.  
 A. 22.—They have not been carried on at any time at different times during the day.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours thirty-two minutes.  
 A. 24.—If above eighteen years of age thirteen hours and a quarter; if under that age twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—Never exceeded.  
 A. 26.—Never.  
 A. 27.—I have not.  
 A. 28.—By reducing the hours of labour the cost would be more.  
 A. 29.—Profit.  
 A. 30.—The increase in the cost would be in the weekly hands employed, rent, &c.  
 A. 31.—I don't see any objection to relays of hands.  
 A. 32.—Never tried two sets of hands.  
 A. 34.—I don't think it would be my interest to have two sets of hands.  
 A. 36.—We should have less done, and give the foreigner an advantage, who has no Time Bill to contend with.  
 A. 38.—Never have the mill heated only in winter; the heat regulated by those employed in the mill.  
 A. 41.—Never worked during the night.  
 A. 46.—They are not.  
 A. 47.—Don't work only the regular hours.  
 A. 50.—By gas in winter.  
 A. 53.—Half past eight till nine in the morning for breakfast; from one till two for dinner; from five till half past for tea, if under eighteen years of age.  
 A. 54.—All leave for breakfast and dinner.  
 A. 55.—If above eighteen years of age they don't go out for tea, for the convenience of the manufactory and workpeople as well.  
 A. 56.—It would make no difference to the manufactory.  
 A. 57.—Persuasion.  
 A. 58.—They are not.  
 A. 62.—They have been forbidden.  
 A. 65.—Principally live in the houses of their employer; no control exercised, &c.  
 A. 66.—I see no difference.  
 A. 67.—Only been in business since Christmas 1832; cannot say.  
 A. 68.—I do not.  
 A. 69.—Strictly.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—I know nothing respecting the mills in the neighbourhood.  
 A. 77.—I am quite certain they are not.

JOHN HOLLINWORTH.

## ANSWERS of JAMES SHARPLEY, for Messrs. Brocklehurst, Hurdsfield and Macclesfield.

No. 7.

James Sharpley.

- A. 1.—Three silk-mills in Hurdsfield adjoining to, and two silk-mills in, the town of Macclesfield.  
 A. 2.—Silk throwstering, manufacturing, and dying. Of the first branch, the operations consist of winding, cleaning, spinning, doubling, throwing, sorting, and making up; of the second, dying, winding, and warping silk in a dyed state for the weavers use.  
 A. 3.—Built at various periods before 1824. The rooms generally about ninety to one hundred and twenty feet long, twenty-six to thirty feet wide, nine to twelve feet high; the windows only about four feet apart, for the advantage of good light.  
 A. 4.—Mills turned by steam-engines; one, the largest, by water; the supply of water as irregular as other water-power mills; the power at each mill varies from twenty-four horse down to about six horse power.

(APP.—D. 1.)

B

A. 5.



Cheshire.

James Sharpley.

A. 5.—The windows are only about four feet apart, and every alternate window has a casement, to be opened at the wish of the workpeople.

A. 6.—The opening of the windows is by no means casual, it being the duty of the overlooker of each room to aim at making the temperature of the room as congenial as possible to the feelings of the people; any heat above ordinary degree is prejudicial, and renders the silk brittle; and to obviate this and the glare of sunshine the windows have open linen blinds, at the control of those who work near them.

A. 7.—The ventilation, cleanliness, and temperature are attended to for the general comfort of all; the more carefully they are conducted the more work is done, and with more ease and pleasure to the workpeople.

A. 8.—They are; and if the manager apprehends any danger from wheels or shafts it is his duty to suggest a fence, and see it attended to.

A. 9.—The women and girls, in winter and in inclement weather, usually come clad in extra cloaks or shawls, and have nails or hooks to hang these things upon, as well as bonnets, &c.; their pattens and umbrellas they also put by. The men and boys seldom trouble their heads about these things, beyond changing their hats for light paper caps, and their coat for any old light jacket; some of them change their shoes for old ones, as the wear is nothing; and as regards personal cleanliness, silk-working, in all its processes, being clean and delicate, it requires corresponding neatness in the workpeople.

A. 10.—About eight years; a very few a month or two under; but this is allowed more at the urgent wish of the children to be with their companions, and to escape school, or other work and confinement at home; and from these very little work is obtained; and though the money may be necessary at times to a parent with a very young family, they seldom earn their wages. The lists of the ages were made out after this answer was written, and our orders to the manager, who engages the workpeople, being limited to none below eight years of age, an apparent contradiction arises, as the lists show many to have been at work at a younger age; but this is accounted for in part by the habit of computing age from the last birthday and time at work, inclusive of the present year. We beg to suggest, however, to the Commissioners, the propriety of examining the people in our mills on this point, for by the accounts of some of the oldest of them it would appear they were at work at five years of age; this occurred before we had any thing to do with throwstering. We have, however, frequently heard that children were employed earlier than at present, but then these early workers were employed at home winding a peculiar kind of skein-silk, not now imported.

A. 11.—The processes of silk-working ascend in difficulty of management, winding being the first and the easiest; it is best and cheapest performed by the children under twelve years, and this requires also the most numerous body of workers; about twelve years of age many of the most expert are advanced to the next and more difficult processes, that is, the girls to the cleaning the silk-thread, doubling several threads together, &c.; and at fourteen or fifteen years many of the girls are again advanced to the winding and warping the dyed silk for the weavers, which are the highest kinds of employment; the boys at fourteen are often promoted to the throwing-mills, and at sixteen many of them learn to weave silk.

A. 12.—No machinery has hitherto been introduced to obviate the employment of children under twelve years; in winding silk and tying requisite knots the processes will always be the same.

A. 13.—No, except to learn weaving.

A. 14.—No parish apprentices.

A. 15.—We lodge and maintain none; some few who are orphans live with their friends and relatives.

A. 16.—The children attend chapel and schools on Sundays, and they know our practice to fill up from the mills any vacancies we can in the warehouses, and this acts as an encouragement to good conduct and to acquire learning. On no account do we take learners with premiums.

A. 17.—Two hours before breakfast (twenty minutes allowed for breakfast), three hours and forty minutes to dinner (one hour allowed for dinner), four hours from dinner to tea (twenty minutes allowed for tea), forty minutes more complete the day; and the people, except those from a distance and the youngest, work two hours longer; except on a Saturday, they all leave off at five o'clock.

A. 18.—The hours as described in A. 17. extend to all, except the younger ones, who only work nine and eleven hours; from these hours are to be deducted loss of time when employment is scarce, or when one part of the machinery is in advance of another, and occasionally an extra hour is worked by those older hands who are in arrear, but never by those at the first process of winding, consisting of those from twelve years of age and under.

A. 19.—This question is not clearly applicable to the hours the people work. Silk being a thread to begin with, the works often go on without the attendance of the hands, and where there may be water this extra running of the machinery in some degree compensates for the loss arising from the inconvenient situation of the mill, being at a distance from a plentiful supply of hands, &c. Water-power mills are generally best adapted to the working of silk requiring much spinning.

A. 20.



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A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-four days, varying in length from six hours upwards, as there happened to be work; during the beginning of the year this was very scarce, and at the close more plentiful.

A. 21.—The winders, cleaners, and doublers were irregularly employed from two thousand three hundred and fifty-two hours to three thousand and sixty-two hours, as the varying nature of the work required. Those who wind and warp dyed silk for the weavers averaged about three thousand and sixty-two hours.

A. 22.—The early part of last year being irregular precludes a precise answer; the hands came to work as the employment presented itself.

A. 23.—About ten hours and forty minutes one portion of the hands, and about eight hours and forty minutes children and learners; but as the time of employment varied during the year, the early part was one of great distress, and many mills belonging to throwsters were in a much worse state than ours.

A. 24.—Only one set work during the day, see A. 21, particularizing the fluctuations of time at the various processes: more sets than one would be equally inconvenient to all, and create great confusion in the processes.

A. 25.—The usual hours are never exceeded by the children at the first process, unless by their choice against a holiday, to have a little more money to expend, and occasionally to make up lost time; these excesses did not extend through twelve days last year, a quarter to half an hour a day.

A. 26.—If the hours were to be precisely restricted it would embarrass the people, silk of itself being variable in its facility of being manufactured; the different processes are equally various; they would have to wait one of another, at a great loss to themselves, when work proved irregular, an occurrence almost weekly happening; also winding dyed work for weavers is a very uncertain process, being done by young women; they never object to an extra hour, as waiting is ruinous to a weaver.

A. 27.—Never varied the hours, except occasionally diminishing the number when supply of work proved short; we believe the hours were the same forty years ago. About 1824 an attempt was made to reduce the time of work an hour a day, but a turn-out ensued, as the hands objected to lose the difference of the wages.

A. 28.—We are of opinion that the ability to produce work at the cheapest rate does not depend on most hours of work, especially the children at the first process of winding at the engines; but the wants of the parents induce them to seek mills where the hours, and of course wages, are the greatest. Whenever we reduce the hours the parents remonstrate, and often withdraw their children.

A. 29.—Necessity compels, rather than induces, the manufacturer and throwster to extra hours, the silk trade being the only one in competition in the home market with foreign rivals. Italy rules the price of throwing silk in this country; and France, as well as India and China, the price of manufacturing: but we have no night-work, nor do we know of any in the town.

A. 30.—Unless the limitation of the hours of work be accompanied by an increase of wages, and, by consequence, an increased cost of production, the people would be distressed by the restriction; therefore, as the hours are diminished, the cost would be increased in relative proportion.

A. 31.—Relays or fresh sets of children in such a multiplicity of processes would only produce the greatest confusion; besides, when work is plentiful all are at work, and none left for relays. When work is scarce, reduced time and wages are tantamount to relays; the poor-rates making up the difference to the workpeople.

A. 32.—Extra hours not being resorted to in silk-working, except on very rare occasions, relays have not been resorted to for the reasons also assigned in A. 31.

A. 33.—A tenant of ours once attempted night-work, but soon abandoned it, silk being too costly an article to be worked by sleepy hands; at best in a state of degradation, by turning night into artificial day.

A. 34.—When work is abundant no second set could be found; and when scarce, shorter hours preclude the necessity.

A. 36.—In some processes of silk manufacturing the work admits of the machinery running several hours without the attendance of hands, and if prohibited would greatly injure the mill-owner, and wantonly deteriorate his property.

A. 37.—Any reduction would be a direct bonus to our foreign rivals, or cause an inconvenient reduction of wages to the people who, on the average of the last six years, did not subsist without the aid of parochial relief in a great many instances.

A. 38.—The temperature of a private dwelling-house.

A. 39.—That which is most congenial to the feelings of the workpeople.

A. 40.—One mean of temperature suits every process.

A. 41.—The workpeople never; the works, especially in the water-power mill, where we put work in process suited to extra hours, without attendance, as often and as long as we have extra supply of water from rain, snow, &c.

A. 46.—As silk is a thread when it comes from abroad, the winding to a certain extent, and the throwing and spinning to a great extent, can be proceeded in without the attendance of workpeople, and often, during the dinner-hour, the engine works any portion of the machinery, to enable it, when in arrear, to overtake the remaining processes, which, if at a stand, would throw a certain portion of the hands out of work.



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A. 47.—Some work, such as hard thrown organzine, will bear working several hours without the attention of workpeople; and crape will bear the process twenty-four hours or more unattended.

A. 48.—The average hands in the mill adjust this work without being engaged extra hours.

A. 49.—Silk throwsters and manufacturers find it requisite to cheapen their productions as much as possible. We must here again distinguish betwixt machinery and workpeople working extra hours. Water-turning costs nothing extra, nor yet steam-engine; turning of the machinery costs merely the coals, oil, and engineer's wages; the cost of power in silk-throwing is very trivial compared with wages, outlay, &c.

A. 50.—By gas in general; where a few moveable lights are requisite by oil or candles.

A. 51.—Free admission of air, short of chilling drafts.

A. 52.—We allow none, but the effects must be humiliating, demoralizing, and unnatural.

A. 53.—Twenty minutes for breakfast, and twenty minutes for tea; at which time they quit their work; and one hour for dinner; at which time they go home.

A. 54.—All go home to dinner; those from a distance bring their victuals with them, and go to some neighbour's house to eat their meal.

A. 55.—The breakfast and tea meals are for the convenience of all parties; their parents or friends bring their breakfast and tea to the mill at fixed times; the people retire from work during the time of eating.

A. 56.—Unequal distances would be found inconvenient; some would lose much time, and of course wages.

A. 57.—Obedience is not at all wanting; idleness and carelessly wasting the material under hand are corrected by the chiding of the overlooker; and, if incorrigible, by dismissal.

A. 58.—Very seldom; we prefer dismissal, if remonstrance will not obtain performance of duty.

A. 59.—By the overseer of each room; who is required to keep an eye over the people under his care, and to see that they do a day's work for a day's wages.

A. 60.—We never wish them to be resorted to; when an overlooker complains to the manager of idleness or carelessness in any young person they are dismissed; this brings the parent in general, with a request that necessary coercion should be used; a cane is used, and no other instrument at any time.

A. 61.—We expect the wages to be earned; and the overlooker's duty is to do justice betwixt the employer and employed.

A. 62.—The tempers and dispositions of the young people vary as much as in schools and elsewhere, and require a variety of management; it is understood, however, by the managers that we are averse to corporal punishment, and prefer all other means of exciting exertion, such as knives, scissors, trinkets, &c. being given to the most industrious and deserving.

A. 63.—We give no written instructions; they consider it their first duty to do justice towards both parties; the verbal instructions given are on no account to strike a servant.

A. 64.—Never since we have been in trade; and where there happens to be a tyrannical overlooker the hands leave, which is the best check upon cruel and improper treatment; and when this appears evident it becomes the interest of the employer to remonstrate with or dismiss the overlooker, as the case may be.

A. 65.—We have no workpeople living in houses of our own; it tends to infringe the independence of both parties.

A. 66.—Children from eight to nine often obtain the same wages as learners who commence at twelve or fourteen; only the latter make more rapid improvement, and of course advance more rapidly in wages.

A. 67.—We believe the health of the people during the ten years before 1826 in mills had improved, but since 1826 they became subjected to foreign competition; consequently employment, most generally, has been precarious, and nothing deteriorates their health, spirits, and condition so much as uncertain employment.

A. 68.—No processes in silk are unwholesome. Age, skill, and dexterity are the criterions that lead to the hands being advanced in their employment in silk-mills.

A. 69.—It is not, at least that we are aware of; for our own interests and the comfort of the people whitewashing and so forth are attended to.

A. 73.—Not under any Act; but still whitewashing is attended to in general.

A. 77.—No more than in any other ordinary case.

A. 78.—We should suggest that the employers should be protected against foreign competition in their own market, for, when they can afford to give remunerative wages, few penal laws are requisite to protect industry against oppression, and otherwise none will.

JAMES SHARPLEY.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. CRITCHLEY, BRINSLEY, and Co., Macclesfield.

Cheshire.

No. 8.

*Messrs. Critchley,  
Brinsley, & Co.*

A. 1.—Township of Macclesfield in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Silk-throwing and silk-manufacturing.

A. 3.—Two factories; one built about 1812, and the other, a smaller one, in 1825.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—The only provisions for ventilation are small casements in some of the windows, and moveable wood panes in others.

A. 6.—It, of course, depends on the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Generally by the overlooker; if the hands complain of heat (which is very rarely the case) they apply to him.

A. 8.—Yes, partially; and we are preparing to do it more effectually. No serious accident has taken place in our factories.

A. 9.—We have no provision for enabling them to change their clothes, nor for washing; the occupation is a very clean one, and does not require it. The male part of the hands use great coats, and the female part cloaks (when they can afford to buy them), which they put off when they enter the factories, and resume on leaving them.

A. 10.—Six years of age is the lowest, and very few of that age. They have not been employed at any other trades before.

A. 11.—The labour in silk-mills is so light that a considerable proportion of the hands are generally under twelve; this applies to one process, winding; the other processes require the hands to be older.

A. 12.—No alteration in machinery has been made to supersede, in any degree, the labour of children.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—It is impossible to ascertain this amongst so many; we do not lodge or maintain any.

A. 17 &amp; 18.—This depends upon the state of the trade, which has undergone so many fluctuations of late years that it would be difficult to arrive at an average. Persons of twenty-one years and upwards are at this time employed thirteen hours daily, subject to twenty minutes rest for breakfast, and twenty minutes for tea in the afternoon, which are included in the thirteen hours. Six months ago, from circumstances, they were only employed eight hours a day. By "short time" is meant eleven hours a day, or, say from six in the morning until twelve, with the twenty minutes rest for breakfast, and from one in the afternoon until six. By "over-hours" is meant the addition of two hours to the afternoon portion of the day, or from one 'till eight, including the twenty minutes rest for tea.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, as more particularly specified in the previous answer.

A. 20 to 25.—It is almost impossible to answer these questions satisfactorily: the hours of working have been, in that time, eight hours, eleven hours, and thirteen hours daily, depending upon circumstances; in no case more than thirteen hours, except when the works have been suspended by accidents to the machinery, and then the lost time has been worked up by making half an hour more daily, never more. We may divide the children and young persons into three classes. The first class work from eight till twelve and from one till six. The second class from six till twelve and from one till six. The third class from six till twelve and from one till eight. It is optional with the parents of the children and young persons to which of these classes they belong. A quarter of an hour is allowed to the hands in coming to their work at six and one o'clock. The actual hours of working (after deducting the time for refreshment and at coming in) of the three classes are as follows:—first class, eight hours thirty minutes; second class, ten hours ten minutes; third class, eleven hours fifty minutes. The "over-hours" only apply to five days in the week; on Saturday no portion of the hands work more than eleven hours.

A. 26.—Accidents which occasion suspension of the works are unavoidable. If the lost time is not considerable it is worked up as above described; if considerable, the hands lose their wages, and the master suffers the loss necessarily resulting from his works standing.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—It is obvious that any reduction in the hours of working must enhance cost, because the fixed capital and expences, rates, taxes, &amp;c., will be the same, and the quantity of work done less.

A. 29.—To lessen the cost is the only inducement. The silk trade has not been the subject of parliamentary regulation.

A. 31.—When the trade is at all active there would not be found enough of children for such a purpose; under such a system the earnings of each child would, of course, only be one half; if more, it would tend in addition to increase cost.

A. 32.—No.

A. 33.—Night-working is not usual in the silk trade of this district; we have never employed a night-set of hands.

A. 37.—If a reduction of wages is made commensurate with the reduction in time, the working classes will suffer to an alarming extent; if no such reduction of wages take place an enhanced cost must result, a large importation of foreign thrown silk will follow, and ultimately loss of employment to the working classes. The hands employed in silk-mills have at different times, particularly in 1826, 1829, and 1831, 1832, suffered great distress.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is about fifty-eight degrees and a half. The lowest temperature at which our works can be conducted is about forty-nine degrees.

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A. 39.



Cheshire.

Messrs. Critchley,  
Brinsley, & Co.

A. 39.—No particular heat is required; the heat is adjusted to the feelings and wishes of the hands; if they complain of cold, more steam is admitted into the pipes; if of heat, the steam is altogether taken out of them.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 42 to 45.—We have not worked in the nights.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—No other provision than the casements and moveable wood panes mentioned in answer to Q. 5.

A. 54.—They all leave for dinner; the other meals are taken in the factories.

A. 56.—There would not be time for the persons employed to go to and from their own houses for their breakfast and tea; the dinner is taken out of the manufactory.

A. 57 to 62.—If the children neglect they are reprov'd; occasionally slightly punished with a small strap or light cane or birch rod, and if incorrigible discharged; sometimes a badge of idleness is suspended to them. On the whole we should say that the means of enforcing obedience are the same as are resorted to in schools for children; corporal punishment is rarely had recourse to.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 63.—We have given no particular instructions on this head except to use moderation in any punishment which may be found necessary; we think this matter safely left to the overlookers, who are generally fathers of families working in factories.

A. 64.—We do not believe that during the last ten years there have been more than three complaints made to us against the overlookers by the parents or guardians of children; only one within the last three years. No complaint has ever been made before the magistrates against our firm.

A. 65.—They live in their own houses. The provision for education by means of Sunday-schools is very ample in this town, and accessible to all.

A. 66.—Generally speaking, those employed from infancy are more expert than those who have begun to work at a later period.

A. 67.—We believe that the health of the people of the factory has improved within the time specified; certainly it has not deteriorated.

A. 68.—We are not aware of any injurious effects attending any particular processes.

A. 77.—No informations, of course, have ever been laid.

A. 78.—We do not apprehend the employment of children and young persons in our factories has led to any practical grievance; the labour is light, and the duration of it adapted to the age and strength of the persons employed, and the temperature regulated by their wishes. There are no offensive smells, nor is there any thing in the nature of the employment to render it injurious to health. Believing that considerations of humanity do not require any alteration, we cannot avoid adding, that any measure which would increase the cost of production in a trade so peculiarly circumstanced as our own must produce effects very injurious both to master and workmen.

Messrs. CRITCHLEY, BRINSLEY, and Co.

No. 9.

S. Higginbotham.

ANSWERS of SAMUEL HIGGINBOTHAM, for Messrs. Pearson and Brother, Macclesfield.

A. 1.—Macclesfield, in the parish of Prestbury, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Silk-throwing and manufacturing.

A. 3.—The mills have always been employed since their erection in the throwing and manufacturing of silk. One of them was erected in the year 1821, but the periods of the erection of the others we cannot precisely ascertain.

A. 4.—Steam and water; the water-power pretty regular. The extent of power employed in both about forty horses power.

A. 5.—None especially appropriated for this purpose.

A. 6.—Yes.

A. 7.—By the overlooker and hands for their mutual comfort and convenience.

A. 8.—Yes; accidents in the machinery in the silk are of very rare occurrence, and those slight.

A. 9.—Water is placed in every room for the workpeople to wash themselves, and if their clothes are wet in coming to their work, they may dry them in the engine-house. There are necessaries leading out of the different rooms.

A. 10.—Seven; children of this age have certainly not been employed previously at other trades.

A. 11.—Yes, on account principally of the impossibility of affording adequate remuneration to persons of riper years.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children, nor do we inquire into the domestic arrangements of the families we employ, and consequently cannot reply further to this query.

A. 16.—Yes; the steward or overlooker while they are at work.

A. 17.—Eleven to twelve hours.

A. 18.



Cheshire.

S. Higginbotham.

A. 18.—From nine to twelve hours; we have no particular ages at which different hours are appointed; it depends on the option of the parents or guardians of the young persons, or of the young persons themselves.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—As near as we can judge, three hundred and eight days.

A. 22.—They have not.

A. 23.—This we cannot answer. At the beginning part of the last year many of the hands were not working above four days a week.

A. 24.—Thirteen.

A. 25.—At the beginning of last year, less time was worked, owing to the badness of trade; but there has been no excess that we know of.

A. 26.—Working at any time beyond eleven hours per day is for the convenience and benefit of the workpeople, and not the employer. In 1824 the masters of this town wished to have limited the hours of work to twelve (the same as at Congleton), when the people actually turned out against the proposal, and a riot ensued. Unfortunately, excess of working-hours has never been called for for many years, owing to the badness of the silk-trade. A bad trade makes the most effectual Time Bill!

A. 27.—Not for many years.

A. 28.—It was only done at particular times, and when one sort of work had over-run another, consequently the other parts must be brought up, or the subsequent processes of the manufacture would stand still.

A. 29.—We have never had any working in the night, nor have we ever been placed under any law as to the regulation of factories, the existing statutes not applying to silk-factories, and we presume not to judge the motives of other parties.

A. 31.—With us there is no necessity.

A. 33.—No; it will have before been observed that we have no night-work.

A. 37.—It would be manifestly injurious, raising the price of production, which would be ruinous to the throwster and manufacturer, owing to foreign competition.

A. 38.—We have never kept an account of the temperature, though we should imagine it to be somewhat about 60°. In silk-mills the temperature is at all times regulated for the convenience of the hands alone. No increased temperature whatever is required in the processes of manufacture.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 47.—No particular times necessary.

A. 50.—It will be seen that we have no night-working, but the factories are lighted in the mornings and evenings, when necessary, with candles and gas.

A. 51.—None other than what has before been mentioned.

A. 52.—We should conceive them to be injurious to the health, and demoralizing to the persons so employed.

A. 53.—For breakfast and tea twenty minutes each, and for dinner one hour and ten minutes.

A. 54.—All leave at dinner-time, but not for breakfast or tea.

A. 55.—Many or most of the hands live at considerable distances from the factories, and consequently it would be next to impossible, in many instances at least, for them to go and return in time. The convenience of both parties is consulted by this arrangement.

A. 57.—In every room there is a steward whose duty it is to enforce obedience.

A. 58.—Seldom, and then in the slightest degree; never with more severity than a father would chastise a child.

A. 59.—By the overlooker.

A. 60.—Very rarely.

A. 61.—Subsequent.

A. 62.—The general instructions given to stewards are not to strike, but only to pretend to do so. When it has come to our knowledge that a steward has beaten or ill-used a child, we have discharged him.

A. 63.—We have never given any instructions in writing.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—We let three houses to persons employed, and who are married people, and who are the masters both of their houses and families. We meddle not with them or their domestic concerns in any way.

A. 66.—We should, as a general principle assume, that a person always brought up to a trade from his youth is much more likely to excel in it than one who engages in that line of business at a more advanced period of life.

A. 67.—No perceptible difference; there has never been any complaints of the unhealthiness of silk-factory employment, and instances are numerous of persons who could no longer bear employment in the cotton-trade, seeking and finding it in a silk-factory.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—No; they are, as before mentioned, all employed in the silk-trade.

A. 73.—There are but two in the township under the Act, and whether complying, or not, to the provisions thereof, we cannot state.

A. 78 & 79.—No; indeed as far as the silk trade is concerned we conceive any legislative interference unnecessary; there is no complaint, and in this opinion former committees of the House of Commons have coincided. We beg in conclusion, and as confirmatory of this

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statement,



Cheshire.

S. Higginbotham.

statement, to append copies of letters from different medical gentlemen residing in this town to the undersigned, as secretary to the silk association, in answer to the general inquiry as to the healthiness of employment in silk-factories. We also take leave to observe that these letters were written and sent upwards of two years ago.

14th May 1833.

SAMUEL HIGGINBOTHAM

Dear Sir,

Macclesfield, 16th April 1831.

In answer to your inquiries respecting the general healthiness of employment in the throwing department of the silk manufacture, I beg to state that there are few occupations which can be considered less laborious or unhealthy. The custom of keeping the rooms in which the various processes are carried on at a moderate and equal temperature, tends in a great measure to secure the operatives from pulmonary complaints, which in this town are unusually rare. This freedom from pulmonic diseases may also be owing, in part, to the entire absence of exhalation or escape of dust or particles from the material operated upon. Though work in any shape must, in early years, be less agreeable than uncontrolled liberty and exemption from labour, yet, from association, the children engaged in factories evince more cheerfulness and vivacity than would probably be the case if they were allowed to wander at large; and it is my decided impression, that in the earliest years, hour for hour, the occupation of the children in silk-factories is more conducive to health than confinement in an ordinary school would be.

If it were not for the disposition to scrofula which exists in this place, arising, in my opinion, from the coldness of the air and dampness of the soil of a considerable portion of the site of our town, I should expect, from my observation of the silk-manufacture, that in few trades would the artisans be more healthy; yet, notwithstanding the increase of our trade and population within the last nineteen years (the term of my professional residence here) I have observed a manifest gradual diminution of the disease to which I have alluded, which I attribute to the erection and inhabitation of more commodious dwellings in drier and more airy situations. In proof of the above statement I may add, that though the number of patients in our dispensary has increased proportionally with our population, the number of operations rendered necessary by scrofulous diseases has diminished; and perhaps it may not be irrelevant, in the consideration of the healthiness of our staple trade, to state, that the general average of mortality amongst our dispensary patients since the establishment of the institution, fifteen years ago, has been one in twenty-seven, whilst the average of the last three years has been only one in thirty. From these facts I infer, that the silk trade generally is a healthy employment, and that it is becoming more and more so, in our own town particularly.

My opportunities have not been sufficiently extensive to enable me to form a correct opinion as to the comparative healthiness of silk-throwing and cotton-spinning. From theory, taking into account the dust disengaged in the operation, and the exhalation from the machinery, in consequence of the rapidity of its movement requiring more oil to prevent friction, I should suppose the latter less wholesome than the former; but as far as I have noticed, cotton-spinning has not been injurious when confined to day-work.

I remain, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

W. B. Dickinson.

Dear Sir,

King Edward Street, 18th April 1831.

In answer to your inquiry as to the general healthiness of the operatives engaged in the silk-factories of this town and neighbourhood I have to observe, that during my residence in Macclesfield for the last nineteen years, this question has at various times been an object of research with me, and the conclusion to which I have arrived is, that as the silk-manufactures are now conducted, there is nothing whatever prejudicial to the health of those who work in them.

I am, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

Thomas Swanwick, M.D.

Sir,

Macclesfield, 18th April 1831.

In reply to your circular on the subject of the healthiness of the employment of children in silk-factories I proceed to give the result of my experience.

I came to this town twelve years ago, and was house-surgeon to the dispensary two years; my attention was quite alive to the effects of cotton-factory employment, leaving Manchester immediately after the agitation of the Cotton-spinners Bill. As an apprentice at the Manchester infirmary, and having been temporary house-surgeon to the Manchester workhouse, my opportunities were peculiar for witnessing disease of those working in cotton-factories. I was curious to know whether the silk-mills were equally baneful. The investigation I set about for my private information I now regret I did not make full minutes of. I was persuaded the comparative healthiness to be greatly in favour of the silk, the heat being many degrees less; there being no dust, consumption and asthma more rare; the absence of obnoxious smells, deranging most of the stomach, inducing a long train of formidable disease, amongst others scrofula: the too frequent attendance of whatever causes debility in children, also comparatively more uncommon here.

The



The rooms are dry; ventilation strictly attended to; a child can rest frequently during the hours of work; he is invariably cheerful; there is a spirit of excitement and emulation, the one striving against the other; the mind and the body are employed without suffering fatigue. If a poor man's child must work, it is impossible there can be an employment less objectionable.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

*Frederick Francis Lallemand*, Surgeon.

Cheshire.

*S. Higginbotham.*

Dear Sir,

Stanley Street, Macclesfield, 19th April 1831.

I have much pleasure in communicating the result of my experience as regards the influence which employment in silk-manufactories exerts upon the health of young children, and in comparing the effect of this employment with that of occupation in cotton-manufactories.

I received my professional education in a district where the manufacture of cotton goods is carried on more extensively than any other part of the kingdom; and, from the opportunities I then enjoyed, my impression has been, that it is calculated more than any other business to break down the hardihood and vigour of that portion of the population employed in it; and I consider the provisions of Mr. Hobhouse's Bill, which limit the duration of labour, and regulate the age of admission, as a wise and salutary measure when applied to this branch of manufacture. The silk-trade, on the contrary, is an extremely healthy employment, no increase of disease has been brought on by it, and the population, if not quite so hardy, is equally as healthy as that engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Owing to the quantity of steam required to turn cotton-machinery the temperature of the rooms is high, and the air is close and oppressive, charged with small particles of cotton and oil, which is disengaged by the heat; the transition in winter-months and at night is extremely dangerous, and highly prejudicial to health; hence acute inflammations, asthma, consumption, and scrofula are the result. Silk-machinery is light, and does not require a large proportion of steam to keep it in motion; the temperature of the rooms is regulated according to the comfort of the parties employed in them; they are clear from dust, are inodorous, and are well ventilated. I have not traced much indisposition arising from leaving silk manufactories at night. Acute inflammations are not more common than in persons engaged in other kinds of labour; the proportion of scrofula is not greater; consumption does not exist to a greater extent than in other districts; and many persons afflicted with asthma and other affections of the lungs, who have been unable to work in the cotton-trade, have been enabled to work at this with ease and comfort, to support themselves, and to keep off the parish book.

I find it is a popular impression, that deformity of the spine and distortion of the limbs is brought on by employment in the silk business; nothing can be more erroneous than this supposition. In three years, whilst I was house surgeon to the dispensary, seven or eight thousand cases of disease came under my inspection, yet, out of this number, there was not one of deformity which could be ascribed to the occupation. It is a fact well known to medical men, that the muscles grow in proportion to their use, and increase in strength in a ratio with their growth. Lateral curvature of the spine, and relaxation of the ligaments of the knee joints, arise from debility of the muscles, and from irregular exercise; they are commonly met with in females above the labouring classes of society; and a variety of contrivances are resorted to for giving the muscles a proper degree of exercise and tone. The nature of the exercise in silk-manufactories is calculated more than any other to prevent these deformities; the muscles of the upper and lower extremities are maintained in constant action, and the consequence is the children grow in stature perfectly straight, and free from every species of deformity.

I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant,

*John Fleet.*

My dear Sir,

Macclesfield, 22d April 1831.

In reply to your note respecting the health of those employed in the silk-factories of this town, I beg to state, that having been for three years house surgeon to the Macclesfield dispensary, during which period I had daily and extensive intercourse with the poor, it is my decided opinion, that of all factories with which I am acquainted, those in the silk-trade are the least prejudicial to the people engaged in them, which may be accounted for by the present mode of freely ventilating and effectually warming the rooms; to which may be added the pure air breathed by the inmates, silk affording no dust or light particles tending to irritate the lungs. The children engaged in these factories, for the most part, have the appearance of health, happiness, cleanliness, and contentment; and there are very few cases of deformity among them.

I am not aware that scrofulous cases are more particularly prevalent here than elsewhere; if the contrary, however, were proved, I think that the locality of the habitations of some of the poor would be more likely to account satisfactorily for their prevalence than the occupation by which they live.

Cotton-factories are more likely to produce disease, on account of the high temperature of their rooms, the greater dust, and the absence of that perfect cleanliness observable in silk-factories.

I remain, my dear Sir, your obedient servant,

*John Braithwaite.*



## ANSWERS of SAMUEL THORP, Macclesfield.

Cheshire.

No. 10.

S. Thorp.

- A. 1.—Macclesfield, county of Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Silk-throwing, i.e. winding, doubling, and spinning of raw silk.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1827, first occupied in February 1832.  
 A. 4.—Twelve horse steam-engine.  
 A. 5.—None.  
 A. 6.—Every third window is a casement for the purpose of ventilation.  
 A. 7.—By the steward or overlooker in the room, at the option and request of the hands employed therein.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—None, beyond providing clean water and soap constantly in the room for washing, and nails or pegs to hang their top coats or cloaks upon.  
 A. 10.—Eight years; they have not been employed previously at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Yes, principally because we cannot obtain a sufficient number at and above that age.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours, except a few under nine years of age, who work ten hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and three.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred and fifty.  
 A. 22.—They have not.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and forty minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—We were working up, by an additional hour each night-time, which had been lost by an accident to the steam-engine.  
 A. 26.—It is avoidable, but it would be a serious disadvantage to the persons employed not to be allowed to work up time so lost, because in that case they could receive no wages during the process of repairs.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—He can have no other reason than the impossibility of procuring a second set or exchange of hands.  
 A. 30.—I have not ascertained the fact from any given limitation of the hours of work.  
 A. 31.—None, provided they are to be obtained.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—None.  
 A. 37.—It would increase the cost of production in nearly exact proportion to the reduction in the hours of labour; and in seasons of depression or dullness of trade wages would be proportionably reduced: but if foreign thrown silk was entirely prohibited I do not see that any ill effects would be produced by a limitation of the hours of labour below the customary extent. Exposed as we now are to foreign competition, any increase in the cost of production in this way would operate materially in favour of the foreign throwster, and in like degree against us.  
 A. 38.—From sixty to seventy degrees; we are solely regulated in this respect by the comfort of the persons employed, extreme heat or extreme cold being equally injurious to the working of silk.  
 A. 40.—All our hands.  
 A. 50.—By gas lamps and candles.  
 A. 52.—I have had opportunities of observing the effect of night-working upon persons from fifteen to twenty years of age, and do consider it ruinous to the constitution and demoralizing to the mind.  
 A. 53.—Twenty minutes to breakfast at eight in the morning, one hour to dinner at noon, twenty minutes to tea at five o'clock P.M.  
 A. 54.—All to dinner, except on Friday, when the larger hands stop to clean; none to breakfast and tea.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of both; to the workpeople it would be a great loss of time to go to breakfast and tea, some living a mile and upwards from the mill.  
 A. 56.—The time allowed for breakfast and tea would have to be increased, and the irregularity of return, particularly amongst the younger class, would occasion to them reduced wages.  
 A. 57.—Every encouragement which the mind of the steward can suggest in the way of persuasion, and rewards for industry.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—I have strictly forbidden them.  
 A. 63.—My verbal instructions to the general overlooker, as well as to the stewards in each room, are to obtain all the work they can from the hands under their care by every encouragement in the way of variety of rewards, and kind treatment, but on no account to strike a hand, except for gross misconduct.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Some of our best stewards have been brought up in cotton-mills as operatives or piecers; we decidedly prefer those who have been employed at silk from their infancy.

A. 67.



A. 67.—I have not observed any material variation; I have considered the general health of those persons who are employed in silk-factories as good.

A. 69.—No.

A. 73.—We have only four cotton-mills in the neighbourhood. I am not aware of any steps having been taken to enforce obedience to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 78.—I do think that any legislative interference, having for its object to regulate the hours of labour, would be injurious both to the employed and their employers. The children in our silk-factories generally are treated not only with kindness, but indulgence; and I believe that any master, who attempted by strictness and severity to obtain additional work from his hands, would in one fortnight find his mill completely deserted. I may observe that even in times of depression or dull trade the town does not furnish a sufficient supply of young hands, or children under fourteen years.

SAML. THORP.

Cheshire.

S. Thorp.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN LEES, Valley Mill, Matley.

No. 11.

John Lees.

A. 1.—Township of Matley, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Dressing or finishing woollen cloths.

A. 3.—A part of the building was erected about the year 1790, the major part in the year 1821; employed solely for its present purpose only since January 1832.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of windows or other casual means.

A. 7.—No control exercised in any of the work-rooms; in the dry-house or stove it is of course requisite to confine the heat; but no work has to be done here except the putting in and taking out cloths for the purpose of drying.

A. 8.—All parts of the machinery considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—None; the healthy situation of the mill precluding the necessity of any.

A. 10.—No children employed under ten years of age; believe those of this age at present employed have not worked at any other trade.

A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age are not necessarily required in any part of the works.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—No orphans at present employed; the children all cared for by their parents.

A. 17.—Twelve.

A. 18.—Twelve.

A. 19.—Twelve.

A. 20.—Three hundred.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred.

A. 22.—No part carried on at different times during the same day.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—The usual hours not exceeded.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—An expectation of gain, by means of an extra quantity of work being produced by the same machinery, and in general workpeople preferring to work over-hours in preference to a change of hands for such extra work.

A. 30.—Do not vary from the usual hours, have not therefore made the experiment.

A. 31.—Do not know of any objection.

A. 32.—Am not aware that such system has been tried.

A. 33.—Have never worked in the night.

A. 36.—Solely the necessity to employ additional machinery.

A. 37.—Am of opinion that a reduction of the working-hours would materially tend to limit the operations of trade by curtailing the amount of production necessary to enable the manufacturer of this country to compete with foreign manufacturers where no such limitation exists.

A. 38.—About seventy degrees, no artificial heat being required beyond what is necessary for the comfort of the workpeople, except in the dry-house as referred to at A. 7.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By oil lamps.

A. 51.—None.

A. 53.—Two hours to all classes.

A. 54.—All who live near the mill.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 57.—No means beyond the dismissal from work.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Some of the workpeople live in houses belonging to their employers, in which habits of cleanliness and sobriety are strictly inculcated.

(APP.—D. 1.)

C 2

A. 66.



Cheshire.

John Lees.

A. 66.—Do not conceive there to be any difference.

A. 68.—No, the nature of the work rendering it unnecessary.

A. 69.—Not subject to the present Act.

A. 73.—Have no distinct knowledge of any mill in the neighbourhood where the provisions of the Act are not strictly conformed to.

A. 77.—I believe the reason which would prevent workpeople from giving evidence against their masters to be the fear of thereby causing their masters to conform strictly to the provisions of the Act, and thus preventing the younger members of their families from working the extra hours, and consequently limiting the earnings of such young persons.

A. 78.—Do not think any legislative enactment at all necessary in regard to the description of work carried on by me.

15th May 1833.

JOHN LEES.

## ANSWERS of JOHN GREAVES, Mottram.

No. 12.

John Greaves.

A. 1.—Micklehurst, in the parish of Mottram in Longdendale, and county of Chester.

A. 2.—Cotton carding, spinning, and doubling.

A. 3.—Built about the year 1793; widened in the year 1803; employed for its present purpose about twenty-one months ago.

A. 4.—About six horse power employed; steam at present, for want of a water-wheel; have had a many stoppages; impossible to say how many.

A. 5.—None, save the sash windows, which they open at pleasure.

A. 6.—Opening of windows, together with lots of broken windows, of which there is no scarcity.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—Don't consider there are any dangerous parts.

A. 9.—If they are inclined to change their dress, they have perfect liberty so to do.

A. 10.—From ten to eleven.

A. 11.—Not particularly so.

A. 12.—Not as regards this place.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Have none which I employ, lodge, and maintain that work here, except two or three of my own children.

A. 17.—Should be twelve hours, but generally short of that, from one sort of stoppage or another.

A. 18.—Persons of this description from one hour to two in the day off.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Impossible to ascertain, having kept no regular account of lost time.

A. 21.—Can't say.

A. 23.—About eleven hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—When the works have been stopped for a day or one day and a half.

A. 26.—My own children work same as the others, and they find time to work hard at play from one to two hours per day besides.

A. 27.—Can't say it has.

A. 29.—By working fourteen hours per day instead of twelve hours, the manufacturer is saving one seventh at his weekly hands.

A. 31.—I know of no changing of hands in this neighbourhood.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—If it was divided into two sets we should be left without hands.

A. 36.—Have no night-work.

A. 38.—Our temperature is generally low enough.

A. 39.—Don't require extra heat.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at noon.

A. 54.—Generally all.

A. 56.—If the hands come some distance, they would not like to be driven out of doors to eat their meals.

A. 57.—I sometimes beat my own, but none else.

A. 60.—No.

A. 62.—So far as one fighting with another.

A. 63.—No.

A. 65.—In the houses of their parents.

A. 66.—It is as possible for an adult to have skill as it is for some children begun in infancy to have none; but it is better to begin when they are of age sufficient.

A. 67.—I don't think there is any difference either way.

A. 68.—My own are in the card-room, which I consider as injurious a place as any.

A. 69.—For any thing I know.

A. 74.—I don't know of any, excepting one, where they employ only four hands.

A. 75 &amp; 76.—Yes.

A. 77.—Some, perhaps, are afraid, but others are not.

JOHN GREAVES.



## ANSWERS of G. and J. SIDEBOTTOM, Mottram.

Cheshire.

No. 13.

*G. & J. Sidebottom.*

- A. 1.—Mottram, Longdendale, Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Mule-spinning.  
 A. 3.—First mill erected in 1802, begun working in 1803; second mill erected in 1814, begun working in 1815; third mill erected in 1824, begun working in 1827.  
 A. 4.—Both steam and water; water made regular by steam-power, barring excess of water.  
 A. 5.—There are, to cleanse and air the rooms.  
 A. 6.—By opening sash windows, and ventilators worked by power.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off; no pains or expence spared to do it; we never had one killed, nor any seriously injured, since the works commenced.  
 A. 9.—They change what clothes they please; there is a regular spring of good clear water in the yard, that all have access to, and always has been since the works begun.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—For piecers.  
 A. 12.—A less proportion of children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—None of that description.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours per day.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours per day.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and twenty-four hours.  
 A. 22.—All equal.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and thirty-six minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Beginning of February a few hours for excess of water.  
 A. 26 & 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—We are not acquainted with night-work, and hope we never shall.  
 A. 37.—We think our workpeople are as healthy with working twelve hours per day as they would be if they only worked ten hours per day.  
 A. 38.—From sixty-five to seventy degrees.  
 A. 50.—With gas in the winter season.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Talking reasonably to them; if that has no effect, then talking to them severely; if that does not answer, then chastise with a rod or a stick, and if that has no effect discharge them.  
 A. 64.—Not any within three years, nor within this thirty years.  
 A. 65.—Nearly one half live in our houses; and particular care taken in respect to cleanliness by washing and whitewashing.  
 A. 66.—Those that have been employed from infancy are more active and sharp, and better workers.  
 A. 67.—No material alteration.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 70.—We never were informed against at any time.  
 A. 78.—We think putting a stop to night-work completely by two sets of hands, and allowing people to work twelve hours per day, and no longer, would be the best thing that could be done for the working class of people.

G. and J. SIDEBOTTOM.

## ANSWERS of JAMES ADSHEAD, Mottram in Longdendale.

No. 14.

*James Adshead.*

- A. 1.—Township of Stayley, parish of Mottram in Longdendale, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Carding and spinning cotton.  
 A. 3.—Three fourths of the building were erected in the year 1824, and one fourth in the year 1826; commenced working the machinery in the latter end of the year 1825.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power, fifty-three horse.  
 A. 5.—In the rooms used for cleaning and carding the cotton, which are the only rooms where the dust is very perceptible, ventilation is kept up by machines called fans; these fans have only been introduced into card-rooms very recently, and are one of the greatest improvements for the comfort of the people working in card-rooms.  
 A. 6.—Ventilation does not depend on the opening of windows; there are a number of ventilators in the window panes.  
 A. 7.—The working of the fans does not depend on any person; when the steam-engine is at work the fans in the card-room are in motion. In the spinning-rooms the workpeople may open the windows when they please.  
 A. 8.—All upright shafts are fenced off; these are the only dangerous parts in mills, as every practicable improvement has been attended to in the construction of the machinery so as to guard against accidents.

(APP.—D. 1.)

C 3

A. 9.



Cheshire.

*James Adshead.*

A. 9.—On entering the manufactory the workpeople put off a part of their clothes, which they hang upon clothes pegs put up in different parts of the rooms for that purpose. If the children, on resuming their work after meal-times, are not clean, they are sent out of the mill, and as many of them reside in our cottages, near the works, they are sent home for the purpose of washing themselves.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—We do not require children under twelve years of age, but a child at ten years will sooner learn its work than one of twelve; and such as are intended for spinners would never be so active did they not begin piecing before twelve years of age.

A. 12.—The same number, and not more, under twelve, are at present required as at any former period that I have had any practical knowledge of cotton-factories.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days in the week, and eight and a half on the Saturday.

A. 18.—All above eighteen years are employed as in A. 17.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty-three.

A. 22.—All parts have been carried on the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and very near one quarter of an hour.

A. 24.—Twelve.

A. 25.—At no time.

A. 26.—There should not be any excess allowed beyond the hours which are fixed in Sir J. Hobhouse's Act.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—First, that he may come into the market on better terms, for, by getting a greater quantity of work done with a certain fixed capital, the cost is less. Secondly, that he may insure a good class of workpeople, for generally speaking the people will go to those factories working the longest hours, from the consideration that they can earn greater wages.

A. 30.—Any limitation to reduce the hours below sixty-nine to the week would increase the cost in every branch, and, with our foreign competition, would be a serious injury to the cotton-manufacture of Great Britain.

A. 31.—I have an objection to relays, as such a plan would enable masters to evade any legislative enactment, and tend to encourage lying and perjury among the necessitous workpeople.

A. 32.—I have a relay for all hands under eighteen years of age, as such go out one hour each day. This is very troublesome; at the same time the children receive more injury from being compelled to leave a warm room, to loiter one hour in the streets, than if they remained at their work.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—To reduce the hours of work below sixty-nine per week would lead to night-working. Should the hours be reduced to ten per day there would be ten working hours left for the night, and if five per cent. could be made upon the fixed capital from working ten hours per day, nine per cent. would be made by working day and night.

A. 38.—Seventy to eighty.

A. 39.—Seventy-five is sufficient for the whole.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—None, except the making of gas in winter.

A. 47.—Twenty-four hours.

A. 48.—One man.

A. 49.—That the retorts may be kept up to the necessary heat.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—Same as the day.

A. 52.—I cannot say.

A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner to all.

A. 54.—All leave at meal-time.

A. 57.—Argument; when that has not the desired effect they are sent home.

A. 58 to 60.—Not that I know of.

A. 62.—Yes; the last instance we know of was from a parent punishing his child; we called him to account, and informed him that if he was guilty of similar conduct in future we should discharge him from our employment.

A. 63.—No.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A many live in our cottages, all of which are required to keep them clean or leave them; they are also required to clean the offices which are attached to the cottages once a week; should they neglect this they know we should send a person to do it, and charge them with the expence of the person's time.

A. 66.—Those which have been employed from infancy are, generally speaking, much more active than such as are taken in at later periods, and are more certain of regular employment.

A. 67.—I cannot say that the people are either more or less healthy; at the same time there has been great improvements in the cleanliness and comforts of cotton-factories.

A. 68.—Such as are naturally delicate are put to the lightest work, and placed in those situations most favourable for them.

A. 69.



A. 69.—It is subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—I am not aware that any of the mills in our township do not conform to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 74.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 77.—I believe that the workpeople would not, could they by any means avoid it, give evidence against their employers.

A. 78.—I believe that it is impossible to secure obedience to the present law, or any other legislative enactment, unless its provisions extend to all ages. The general treatment of children employed in our works is such as cannot be improved by any Act of Parliament.

A. 79.—I commenced working in a cotton-factory when just turned ten years of age; the time for working was then seventy-two hours per week, besides working up lost time. I have been in or about a cotton-factory for the last thirty years. From my own experience as an operative, my opinion is, that the introduction of children at the age of ten into a well-regulated mill would not be attended with many injurious effects from working sixty-nine hours per week; and as the labour in factories is generally in proportion to the strength of the operative, I consider sixty-nine hours per week sufficient for adults. If we could have an Act for all ages, that would prevent our exceeding sixty-nine hours per week, it would enable parents to leave their employment at the same time their children left, and give them that control over them in the evenings which they cannot have by remaining at their work after their children have left.

JAMES ADSHEAD.

Cheshire.

James Adshead.

#### ANSWERS of GEORGE AINSWORTH, Mottram in Longdendale.

No. 15.

George Ainsworth.

A. 1.—Township of Stayley, parish of Mottram in Longdendale, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Carding, spinning, and reeling.

A. 3.—1803 and 1825.

A. 4.—Water and steam; ten horse of water, twenty steam; the former depends on the summer as respects the power.

A. 5.—Sashes and squares.

A. 6.—Yes, on windows and squares.

A. 7.—By the persons employed near the ventilation.

A. 8.—As much as possibly can be.

A. 9.—Quite optional with the workmen.

A. 10.—Not under nine years.

A. 11.—No; but if they were not employed till attaining that age, it would be a great loss to a many families.

A. 12.—Greater.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half, five days, nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours when making up for short of water.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and thirty-seven hours.

A. 22.—Regular time, as at A. 17.

A. 23.—Seventy-one hours.

A. 25.—In summer, when short of water.

A. 26.—Unavoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Certainly.

A. 30.—Near the same proportion as the hours decreased.

A. 31 & 32.—Not tried.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—Would be attended with considerable loss both to employers and employed, in consequence of less production.

A. 38.—Sixty-five; fifty-five would do, but in the summer it is not possible to keep at any thing near that temperature (without any heat).

A. 40.—All.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—Cannot speak to the effect.

A. 57.—To dismiss them.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Some under us, and others under other landlords, others in their own houses; those under our employ have whitewash and brushes found any time when called for.

A. 66.—Great difference, those taken in young being far superior.

A. 68.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—If not conformable they are often fined.

A. 74 & 75.—Yes.

(APP.—D. 1.)

GEORGE AINSWORTH.



## ANSWERS of JAMES BAYLEY, Mottram.

Cheshire.

No. 16.

*James Bayley.*

- A. 1.—Stayley, parish of Mottram, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning of cotton.  
 A. 3.—One mill built and begun about 1800, two mills in 1824 and 1825.  
 A. 4.—Sixty horse steam.  
 A. 5.—There are casements in every window.  
 A. 6.—It depends on their being opened.  
 A. 7.—They are opened at the option of the workmen.  
 A. 8.—The spur wheels, &c. are boarded round.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Nine. I am not aware whether they have been employed at other trades or not.  
 A. 11.—Yes; because there would not be a sufficient number to carry on the works without taking them at ten or eleven.  
 A. 12.—I am not able to say.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half on the first five days, and nine on the Saturdays.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours and a half above eighteen, and twelve below eighteen.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and thirty-six, or thereabouts.  
 A. 22.—The spinners and piecers leave their work half an hour before the rest, also all below eighteen.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—None under eighteen are employed more than twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—From accidents to the engine or machinery we have occasionally worked thirteen hours.  
 A. 26.—It certainly is avoidable, but it would be a loss to both master and workman.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 30.—As we have not worked beyond the legal number of hours, we have not looked into the matter sufficiently to answer it.  
 A. 31.—We do not work any extra hours.  
 A. 38.—The average temperature will be near 70°, and I do not think that more is required.  
 A. 39.—In consequence of the questions from 33 to 52 both inclusive, relating to night-work, I do not conceive it necessary for me to answer them, as I never made a practice of doing it.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast from eight to half past eight, dinner from one to two o'clock.  
 A. 54.—All, excepting those who prefer staying at the works, on account of their distance from home.  
 A. 57.—Either reprimanded or discharged.  
 A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Part of them live in houses belonging to me: we control them in no form whatever.  
 A. 66.—We find little difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 79.—I consider that an effective Bill of sixty-six or sixty-nine hours per week, such Bill to exclude children of from ten to eleven years of age, would be satisfactory to both masters and workmen. I am of opinion, that no Bill can be made effective without placing the restriction on the moving-power.

JAMES BAYLEY.

No. 17.

*James Howard.*

## ANSWERS of JAMES HOWARD, Mottram.

- A. 1.—Township of Stayley and parish of Mottram, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning of cotton yarn, and preparing the same.  
 A. 3.—About one half in the year 1818, the remainder in the year 1828.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power, ten horses, water-power, twenty horses; together thirty horses power; but in excessive droughts deficient of power, owing to the stream of water being very small at those times.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Ventilation by the windows, and, if necessary, by the doors; also a fan and chimney to clear the rooms where the most dusty operations of the works are carried on.  
 A. 7.—By the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—No dangerous parts are exposed.  
 A. 9.—Left to the discretion of the workpeople.  
 A. 10.—Regulated by Hobhouse's Act. Some hands have been employed in the woollen trade.

A. 11.



A. 11.—Not of much service under eleven years, and not particularly required under twelve years.

A. 12.—A rather less proportion of children.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 18.—Under eighteen years twelve hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half in case of an accident happening to the driving-power.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and sixty hours.

A. 22.—Not at different times.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and forty-one minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—From stoppages of the moving-power through accidents.

A. 26.—It is impossible to prevent accidents happening to the moving-power. A deficiency in water, where the power is by water, may be caused from droughts, or an excess of water from floods.

A. 27.—No, except through causes which are previously stated.

A. 29.—Do not work during the night, nor have any desire to do so.

A. 30.—The number of hours being reduced the cost of production will be increased, from the cost of buildings, machinery, moving-power, and all fixed capital remaining the same, and taxes probably higher from the lowering of wages according to the time reduced.

A. 31.—Not having required, and not wishing, for extra hours, cannot speak to this question.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—A reduction of wages in proportion, or very likely; more if not more, the profit or capital would be less, and consequently the trade would decrease.

A. 38.—Seventy degrees; the rooms are frequently under.

A. 39.—Seventy degrees.

A. 40.—The heat nearly alike through all the factory.

A. 50.—No lighting during the night, but in the evening of the winter months by gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.

A. 54.—The works stop; it is optional whether they go out or stop within.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—Might be injurious in bad weather to workpeople who live at a distance from the manufactory.

A. 57.—Chiding language; if not found to answer, discharged.

A. 58 & 59.—No.

A. 60.—Slight corporal punishments in a very few cases have.

A. 61.—But not with our prior or subsequent sanction.

A. 62.—They have been forbidden, but not forbidden so far as any prudent parent would inflict upon a disobedient child.

A. 63.—No particular instructions; they know we are averse to the punishment of children.

A. 64.—One case against a foreman.

A. 65.—A part do; parents are desired to send their children to the Sunday-school, which is pretty generally attended to; they are required to whitewash their dwellings twice a year, and keep them clean.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are generally more skillful; not aware of any difference of general character.

A. 67.—Consider their health rather improved, better fed and clothed, more cleanly in their persons, owing to provisions and clothing being much cheaper, and the wages of a great number of hands keeping at the same rate.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—No reason to believe they are afraid.

JAMES HOWARD.

#### ANSWERS of RALPH HOWARD, for Buckley and Howard, Mottram.

No. 18.

Ralph Howard.

A. 1.—Stayley, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Preparing and spinning cotton yarn.

A. 3.—One part of the works erected about eighteen years ago, the other about twelve; before these were erected the same trade was carried on in works on the same site, which were burned down.

A. 4.—Water and steam power; the water sometimes sufficient, and at other times not half enough. The power employed about twelve horses.

A. 5.—See A. 6.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows.

(APP.—D. 1.)

D

A. 7.



Cheshire.

Ralph Howard.

- A. 7.—By the man who works opposite the window.
- A. 8.—Yes, such as are considered necessary.
- A. 9.—No arrangements for the workpeople changing clothes or washing. The workpeople provide such clothes as they think necessary to come to work and return home in.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age. Some have worked in the woollen trade previously.
- A. 11.—They may be dispensed with till about eleven, if their parents can support them.
- A. 12.—A less proportion.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half per day, and nine and a half on Saturdays.
- A. 18.—Those under eighteen work twelve hours, and nine on Saturdays.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and forty-eight hours.
- A. 22.—Only at one time.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours.
- A. 24.—The children under eighteen have worked twelve hours and a half in one day, when time has been lost.
- A. 25.—When time has been lost it has immediately been worked up at the rate of not more than half an hour per day.
- A. 26.—Accidents to the moving-power are unavoidable, and the time lost is worked up at the rate of half an hour per day.
- A. 27.—We entered into the trade only four years ago, and during that time we never worked more than half an hour more than at present, and that only for a few weeks, to make up for holidays.
- A. 28.—Yes, undoubtedly.
- A. 29.—To diminish the cost of his goods.
- A. 30.—Yes; because the fixed capital, the rent of the premises, and the rent of the water would be the same if a diminution should take place, besides other expences depending on various circumstances, and unequal in amount in various localities.
- A. 31.—The trouble and inconvenience of changing hands, and consequently the frequent change, would cause much alteration in and injury to the machinery.
- A. 32.—No change has been tried; it would be attended by the objections mentioned in A. 31.
- A. 33.—No; we have a decided objection to night-work.
- A. 37.—A reduction of wages greater than the reduction of time, because the reduction of time would enhance the cost as mentioned at A. 30, and the probability of higher poor's rates being necessary.
- A. 38.—The usual temperature is such as is comfortable to the workpeople. The lowest degree has not been ascertained.
- A. 39.—No higher than what is considered comfortable to the workpeople.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—Gas-light is used when the works are lighted up.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—All are allowed and ordered to leave them.
- A. 55.—If any do not leave they are those who live at a distance, and it is their own choice for convenience.
- A. 56.—All are allowed to take them out.
- A. 57.—A slight chastisement has been practised, and if not sufficient discharged; such as is inflicted at schools.
- A. 62.—If any complaint of severity has been made, steps have been taken to prevent it for future.
- A. 63.—We don't consider it necessary to use a greater degree of punishment than is practised at schools.
- A. 64.—No.
- A. 65.—Chiefly in their employers houses. Only with respect to whitewashing the houses.
- A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are generally better workpeople and more expert in managing the machinery.
- A. 68.—No; in our manufactory such a practice is unnecessary.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—No.
- A. 77.—Probably not; if they give just evidence there is no reason.
- A. 78.—No further interference or legislative provision is considered necessary by us between employers and workpeople.

RALPH HOWARD.



## ANSWERS of JAMES WILKINSON, Mottram.

Cheshire.

No. 19.

*James Wilkinson,*

- A. 1.—Stayley, parish of Mottram in Longdendale, Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Spinning cotton.  
 A. 3.—All erected in 1827.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, regular; thirty-six horse power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—By opening of four sashes to every fourteen workpeople.  
 A. 7.—By the operatives themselves.  
 A. 8.—All considered dangerous fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No provision but the place they work in, in which they change their clothes, and wash at their own discretion.  
 A. 10.—At ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—Do not require them under twelve years if we can obtain a sufficient quantity of this age.  
 A. 12.—Not any.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours each five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—All under work twelve hours each five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and fifty-two hours.  
 A. 22.—All equal number of hours.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Regular.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—In order that they may come into the market with their manufactured articles upon less cost of production than their neighbours. A better choice of hands will consequently go where they can earn the best wages.  
 A. 30.—Certainly there must be an increase of cost in production, but to what extent cannot ascertain, except trial was made.  
 A. 33.—No night-work.  
 A. 37.—A further reduction in the hours of labour will not enable us to meet the competition of foreign markets.  
 A. 38.—No fixed temperature; the workpeople regulate the heat at their own discretion.  
 A. 39.—All rooms equal.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast; one hour dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave their work.  
 A. 57.—Nothing more than threats of discharge if not attend to orders.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—I have given particular orders in this case.  
 A. 63.—Verbal order, if not attend to their employment, and others engaged.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—In part; if not attend to cleanliness and good order discharge them.  
 A. 66.—Those taken in infancy are quicker and more useful in their work.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 73.—I do not know any case of complaint.  
 A. 79.—I commenced working before nine years of age, at winding for hand-loom weaving, till about twelve years of age; then at hand-loom weaving until fifteen. I consider that work more laborious than any work done in mills by children at the same age. I see no objection to children being employed in mills at the above age; if they were to ramble about in the streets till twelve or fourteen they become more rude and worse to manage, as parents are seldom able to govern their own children so well as a well regulated manufactory. I have been in or about cotton-mills for the last twenty-nine years. I always considered those of all ages to earn more than other trades of all ages out of mills. If there must be legislation on the hours of labour, I would say sixty-nine hours the week for all ages. Restriction put on the moving-power.

JAMES WILKINSON.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH WILKINSON, Mottram.

No. 20.

*Joseph Wilkinson.*

- A. 1.—Croden Brook, parish of Mottram, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—The mill is a very old one; in fact some of the hands say they have worked here more than twenty years; but I have only been working it about four years.  
 A. 4.—Water-power, but very irregular; some parts of the year we do not work more than four days a week. If plenty of water, seven horse power.  
 A. 5.—Yes, in every room. I consider them only useful on a hot summer's day.  
 A. 6.—We have both windows that open, and casements.  
 A. 7.—Any of the workpeople open them in the room they work.  
 (APP.—D. 1.) D 2 A. 8.



Cheshire.

*Joseph Wilkinson.*

A. 8.—Those that are not fenced off are in rooms that the hands are not allowed to go into.

A. 9.—We have not any thing of the kind.

A. 10.—Nine years old. I am not aware that they have.

A. 11.—They are very useful to sweep and keep the machinery clean.

A. 12.—I am not aware that it has.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have not any orphans; the children live with their parents.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours and a quarter per day.

A. 18.—Twelve hours per day.

A. 19.—I am not aware that we have worked any more than thirteen hours and a half per day during the last year.

A. 20.—I believe we have not worked more than three hundred days during the last year.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 25.—When we have had an accident or been very much short of water.

A. 26.—Where they have plenty of water or a steam-engine it may be avoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To get as much weight turned off as he can, because the rent, coal, &c. are the same for less or more.

A. 31.—We have not tried it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—I consider it impossible to do with any thing less than seventy-two hours per week; but a regulation in the hours of labour is essential.

A. 38.—From sixty to seventy degrees.

A. 39.—We do not require any more than the above heat in any department.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—They are lighted by lamps and candles in the winter season.

A. 51.—Same as in day.

A. 53.—They all have thirty minutes for breakfast, forty-five minutes for dinner (except those under eighteen years, which have one hour), and fifteen minutes to thirty minutes for tea; but the works keep running.

A. 54.—All of them go to their meals.

A. 57.—Turning them off, or threatening them with it.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—If they will not do their duty we sometimes acquaint their parents.

A. 65.—Some of them do, but we do not use any control over them in their houses.

We find them lime to whitewash with.

A. 66.—Those that have been employed from infancy understand the machinery better, and will get better wages.

A. 67.—We have had one death from the factory since we commenced business, and it is more than one year ago; it was from inflammation; it might have happened if she had never been employed in a factory.

A. 68.—There is not any occasion for it in our works.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—We have been informed against once.

A. 71.—We were not convicted.

A. 72.—It was brought forward from spite or malice, because I turned one of the work-people off.

A. 73.—I don't know any thing of my neighbours.

A. 79.—I should like to have an effectual Bill.

JOSEPH WILKINSON.

No. 21.

*C. Wood.*

## ANSWERS of C. Wood jun., Prestbury.

A. 1.—Prestbury, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—Mills built by former proprietors, and are about forty years old.

A. 4.—Steam and water; water very irregular, varying from nine to three horses power.

A. 5.—Merely by opening the windows.

A. 7.—Managed by the overlooker of the room, to suit the convenience of the persons employed, who may open or shut the windows if annoyed by either heat or draft.

A. 8.—All the upright shafts cased in, and the dangerous parts of the machinery are also fenced off as far as practicable.

A. 9.—None; and as in spinning low numbers, such as I produce, only a moderate temperature is required, none are necessary.

A. 10.—None under nine, many have been previously engaged in silk-mills, &c.

A. 11.—The doffers are mostly under twelve, because the work is too near the ground for grown-up people.

A. 12.—Some of the new machines have rendered the employment of children under twelve more necessary.

A. 13.



A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours on each day, except on Saturdays, when they work only nine hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—One hundred and thirty-seven days eight hours. In consequence of the engine breaking, and having to put down a new one, the greater part of the mill was stopped six months.

A. 21.—One thousand six hundred and forty-nine hours.

A. 22.—All carried on at same time.

A. 23.—One thousand six hundred and forty-nine hours divided by fifty-two weeks gives thirty-one hours and three quarters.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—In case of any accident to the main-gearing.

A. 26.—Unavoidable if the workpeople are to have regular wages, or if the works are to be systematically carried on.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To make the fixed expences for rent, insurance, cost of machinery, and taxes press lighter on each pound of yarn produced.

A. 30.—Suppose my expences for rent, machinery, taxes, and insurance are 1,200*l.* per annum, if I turn off weekly six thousand pounds by working sixty-nine hours per week, the proportion of expence per pound would be one penny, but if I produce only five thousand pounds weekly, the expence would be nearly five farthings.

A. 31.—No objection, excepting the opening it would afford to dishonest masters to evade the Act.

A. 32.—No; there was no occasion for trying it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—A reduction of wages certainly; a probable reduction in the price of cotton, an increase in the cost of manufacturing, from the fixed expences remaining the same, and the improbability of obtaining better prices for goods when by reduction of wages the people would be less able to pay for them.

A. 40.—Four.

A. 49.—No night-work.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Almost all go home, such as live at a distance are allowed to remain and have their meals brought by their friends; this is done solely for the convenience of the work-people.

A. 56.—Persons living at a distance would be unable to find employment.

A. 57.—Fines for spoiling work, or if incorrigible complaints are made to the parents; if they do not then improve, they are discharged. No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 62.—Yes, most decidedly.

A. 63.—Verbally; to complain to the parents; if they took no notice to discharge the child.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A small part. No control exercised, nor do I think the people would suffer it.

A. 66.—Such as have been taken in at later periods are always clumsy and seldom learn their work well; it is not easy to select individual instances when the application is universal.

A. 68.—No; I do not consider there is much difference in point of health.

A. 69.—Strictly.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe they do in the immediate neighbourhood; in many parts of Lancashire they do not. The best workpeople will always seek employment where the mills are worked the greatest number of hours, and in some instances pay the penalty if the master is informed against.

A. 76.—Not applicable to the neighbourhood.

A. 77.—No; for if they offend one master a five minutes walk will procure them another.

A. 78.—That regular officers should be appointed in the manufacturing districts to see that the Act be enforced, and that the conscientious master, who works according to the Act, be not placed in a worse situation than the one who pays no attention to it.

CHAS. WOOD. jun.

#### ANSWERS of HENRY BARLOW, Brinnington Stockport.

No. 22.

A. 1.—Factory in the township of Brinnington, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Mule-spinning, and preparing the cotton for the same.

A. 3.—There are two buildings, one erected thirty-five years ago, and the other thirty years ago; the rooms are nine feet high, and always been employed in cotton-spinning.

A. 4.—Both steam and water, which makes the turning regular, extent of power twenty-six horse.

(APP.—D. 1.)

D 3

A. 5.

Cheshire.

C. Wood.

Henry Barlow.



Cheshire.

Joseph Wilkinson.

- A. 8.—Those that are not fenced off are in rooms that the hands are not allowed to go into.
- A. 9.—We have not any thing of the kind.
- A. 10.—Nine years old. I am not aware that they have.
- A. 11.—They are very useful to sweep and keep the machinery clean.
- A. 12.—I am not aware that it has.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—We have not any orphans; the children live with their parents.
- A. 17.—Thirteen hours and a quarter per day.
- A. 18.—Twelve hours per day.
- A. 19.—I am not aware that we have worked any more than thirteen hours and a half per day during the last year.
- A. 20.—I believe we have not worked more than three hundred days during the last year.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours and a half.
- A. 25.—When we have had an accident or been very much short of water.
- A. 26.—Where they have plenty of water or a steam-engine it may be avoidable.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 29.—To get as much weight turned off as he can, because the rent, coal, &c. are the same for less or more.
- A. 31.—We have not tried it.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 37.—I consider it impossible to do with any thing less than seventy-two hours per week; but a regulation in the hours of labour is essential.
- A. 38.—From sixty to seventy degrees.
- A. 39.—We do not require any more than the above heat in any department.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—They are lighted by lamps and candles in the winter season.
- A. 51.—Same as in day.
- A. 53.—They all have thirty minutes for breakfast, forty-five minutes for dinner (except those under eighteen years, which have one hour), and fifteen minutes to thirty minutes for tea; but the works keep running.
- A. 54.—All of them go to their meals.
- A. 57.—Turning them off, or threatening them with it.
- A. 58.—No.
- A. 62.—If they will not do their duty we sometimes acquaint their parents.
- A. 65.—Some of them do, but we do not use any control over them in their houses. We find them lime to whitewash with.
- A. 66.—Those that have been employed from infancy understand the machinery better, and will get better wages.
- A. 67.—We have had one death from the factory since we commenced business, and it is more than one year ago; it was from inflammation; it might have happened if she had never been employed in a factory.
- A. 68.—There is not any occasion for it in our works.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—We have been informed against once.
- A. 71.—We were not convicted.
- A. 72.—It was brought forward from spite or malice, because I turned one of the work-people off.
- A. 73.—I don't know any thing of my neighbours.
- A. 79.—I should like to have an effectual Bill.

JOSEPH WILKINSON.

No. 21.  
C. Wood.

## ANSWERS of C. Wood jun., Prestbury.

- A. 1.—Prestbury, Cheshire.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning and power-loom weaving.
- A. 3.—Mills built by former proprietors, and are about forty years old.
- A. 4.—Steam and water; water very irregular, varying from nine to three horses power.
- A. 5.—Merely by opening the windows.
- A. 7.—Managed by the overlooker of the room, to suit the convenience of the persons employed, who may open or shut the windows if annoyed by either heat or draft.
- A. 8.—All the upright shafts cased in, and the dangerous parts of the machinery are also fenced off as far as practicable.
- A. 9.—None; and as in spinning low numbers, such as I produce, only a moderate temperature is required, none are necessary.
- A. 10.—None under nine, many have been previously engaged in silk-mills, &c.
- A. 11.—The doffers are mostly under twelve, because the work is too near the ground for grown-up people.
- A. 12.—Some of the new machines have rendered the employment of children under twelve more necessary.

A. 13.



A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours on each day, except on Saturdays, when they work only nine hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—One hundred and thirty-seven days eight hours. In consequence of the engine breaking, and having to put down a new one, the greater part of the mill was stopped six months.

A. 21.—One thousand six hundred and forty-nine hours.

A. 22.—All carried on at same time.

A. 23.—One thousand six hundred and forty-nine hours divided by fifty-two weeks gives thirty-one hours and three quarters.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—In case of any accident to the main-gearing.

A. 26.—Unavoidable if the workpeople are to have regular wages, or if the works are to be systematically carried on.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To make the fixed expences for rent, insurance, cost of machinery, and taxes press lighter on each pound of yarn produced.

A. 30.—Suppose my expences for rent, machinery, taxes, and insurance are 1,200*l.* per annum, if I turn off weekly six thousand pounds by working sixty-nine hours per week, the proportion of expence per pound would be one penny, but if I produce only five thousand pounds weekly, the expence would be nearly five farthings.

A. 31.—No objection, excepting the opening it would afford to dishonest masters to evade the Act.

A. 32.—No; there was no occasion for trying it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—A reduction of wages certainly; a probable reduction in the price of cotton, an increase in the cost of manufacturing, from the fixed expences remaining the same, and the improbability of obtaining better prices for goods when by reduction of wages the people would be less able to pay for them.

A. 40.—Four.

A. 49.—No night-work.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Almost all go home, such as live at a distance are allowed to remain and have their meals brought by their friends; this is done solely for the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—Persons living at a distance would be unable to find employment.

A. 57.—Fines for spoiling work, or if incorrigible complaints are made to the parents; if they do not then improve, they are discharged. No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 62.—Yes, most decidedly.

A. 63.—Verbally; to complain to the parents; if they took no notice to discharge the child.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A small part. No control exercised, nor do I think the people would suffer it.

A. 66.—Such as have been taken in at later periods are always clumsy and seldom learn their work well; it is not easy to select individual instances when the application is universal.

A. 68.—No; I do not consider there is much difference in point of health.

A. 69.—Strictly.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe they do in the immediate neighbourhood; in many parts of Lancashire they do not. The best workpeople will always seek employment where the mills are worked the greatest number of hours, and in some instances pay the penalty if the master is informed against.

A. 76.—Not applicable to the neighbourhood.

A. 77.—No; for if they offend one master a five minutes walk will procure them another.

A. 78.—That regular officers should be appointed in the manufacturing districts to see that the Act be enforced, and that the conscientious master, who works according to the Act, be not placed in a worse situation than the one who pays no attention to it.

CHAS. WOOD. jun.

#### ANSWERS of HENRY BARLOW, Brinnington Stockport.

A. 1.—Factory in the township of Brinnington, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Mule-spinning, and preparing the cotton for the same.

A. 3.—There are two buildings, one erected thirty-five years ago, and the other thirty years ago; the rooms are nine feet high, and always been employed in cotton-spinning.

A. 4.—Both steam and water, which makes the turning regular, extent of power twenty-six horse.

(APP.—D. 1.)

D 3

A. 5.

Cheshire.

C. Wood.

No. 22.

Henry Barlow.



Cheshire.

Henry Barlow.

- A. 5.—Built near the river side in a very airy situation.
- A. 6.—Opening of windows, which are chiefly made to slide up and down.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker or persons employed.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the shafting are fenced off either with wood or tin.
- A. 9.—When I first commenced business a room was provided for the workpeople to change their clothes, but as it caused so much confusion and disturbance it was soon discontinued; they now change their clothes where they work; they mostly provide themselves with mugs to contain water for the purpose of washing themselves, of which there is always a plentiful supply on the premises; no hindrance is made to their doing it as often as they like.
- A. 10.—Nine years, and it is seldom any are employed at any other trade previously.
- A. 11.—Not more than ten are required under twelve years of age, and their employment is mostly to clean the machinery, which does not occupy them more than six hours in the day in active employ.
- A. 12.—Not in my establishment.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Thirteen hours, and nine hours on Saturday.
- A. 18.—No difference made in the ages, though the younger end are not tied so strictly to the time, nor does the nature of their employment limit them but that they occasionally may enjoy an hour or two's play in a yard adjoining the mill.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and nine hours.
- A. 22.—All alike.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and a quarter.
- A. 24.—I only employ one set, and thirteen hours has been the longest time they have been employed on any one day.
- A. 25.—Loss of time from accidents is the usual cause for exceeding the regular hours.
- A. 26.—It is optional with the hands whether they will work up the lost time or be abated in their wages for such loss; there is only about one in six receives weekly wages, the rest have what they earn.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—I should think it would be.
- A. 29.—The same capital worked night and day will produce a greater quantity and more profit, which I suppose is the only inducement.
- A. 30.—There are many servants about every establishment whose wages could not well be reduced; this, with rent, turning interest of capital, gas, and many other expences too numerous to mention, which will not be much altered in amount by the reduction of the hours, will of course add to the cost of production.
- A. 31.—As I only employ one set I cannot speak to this.
- A. 32.—I have had no experience on this subject, and have not seen any necessity to adopt it.
- A. 33.—I never employed a night-set, having always felt a strong objection to it, considering it to be very injurious both to the health and morals.
- A. 34.—The nature of my work does not require more than one set.
- A. 37.—For adults to work much less time than they do at present will be very injurious, not only to themselves in consequence of the great reduction in their wages which would naturally follow, but also to the middle classes, whose profits nearly all depend on the wages which the working-classes have to spend. I also think the poor rates would be much increased.
- A. 38.—From fifty to sixty-two degrees.
- A. 39.—Sixty-two degrees.
- A. 40.—All I employ.
- A. 50.—By gas.
- A. 51.—The same as the day.
- A. 52.—I cannot speak from experience, but should say bad.
- A. 53.—The children, and the adults whose machines cannot work without the children, take half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea. Those adults who do not require children take their breakfast and tea while their machines are going, and stop one hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—All the children, and as many of the adults as choose so to do.
- A. 55.—If all went out it would occupy more time than half an hour, and would therefore inconvenience the manufactory.
- A. 56.—Loss of time.
- A. 57.—If unmanageable they are discharged, which is sufficient to restrain them.
- A. 58.—No.
- A. 62.—Yes, if they will not do without, discharge them.
- A. 64.—I have had no such complaint laid against me at any time, though I have known the business for the last thirty years; nor can I recollect any of my overlookers so far forgetting themselves as to be liable to any such proceeding.

A. 65.



A. 65.—I have only two of my workpeople as tenants, and their houses are both clean and comfortable.

A. 66.—The children employed early in the mills are more skilful in their employment, and their character is more mischievous and lively, than those who come to work when at a more advanced age; more depends, in regard to their appearance, on their comforts at home, many of whom from the improvidence and drunkenness of their parents suffer far more misery on that account, and their appearance is more wretched from such neglect, than from their attendance at the factories, which are generally kept clean and wholesome.

A. 67.—Have no memorandums to refer to, but I should say improved.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Yes, once, for not having registered the mill at the Epiphany sessions.

A. 71.—I was not convicted, as the Sessions were not over when the information was laid.

A. 72.—Thought the Act had become obsolete was the cause of neglect.

A. 73.—As far as I can judge they do.

A. 74.—Yes.

A. 75.—No.

A. 76.—In their case it was readily obtained.

A. 77.—In some instances rather so.

HENRY BARLOW.

Cheshire.

Henry Barlow.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN GARSIDE, Brinnington, Stockport.

No. 23.

John Garside.

A. 1.—Factory in the township of Brinnington, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Mule-spinning, throstle-spinning, weaving, and preparing the cotton for the same.

A. 3.—There are three buildings; two erected sixteen years ago, and the other nine years ago. One portion of the oldest buildings has been employed in cotton-spinning, &c. twelve years; the other part two years, and the new buildings nine years.

A. 4.—All steam-power; and regular extent of power thirty-six horse.

A. 5.—Built on the side of the river Tame, in a very airy situation.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker, or any persons employed in the mill.

A. 8.—All are fenced off with wood, tin, or iron.

A. 9.—They change their clothes in the room they work in; they mostly supply themselves with mugs to contain water for the purpose of washing themselves; there is always a plentiful supply on the premises, no hindrance being made to their doing so as often as they think proper.

A. 10.—Nine years; and it is seldom they are employed at trades previously.

A. 11.—Yes, for pieceing and cleaning.

A. 12.—It has made no difference in my establishment.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours, with the exception of Saturday, which is nine hours.

A. 18.—There is no difference in the ages; but the younger branches are not so strictly confined to their time, neither does the nature of their employment limit them.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and twelve days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and twenty-four hours.

A. 22.—All alike.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a quarter.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—Loss of time by accidents is generally the cause for extending the hours of labour.

A. 26.—It is optional with the hands whether they will work up lost time, or be abated in their wages for the same.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Yes, I should think so.

A. 29.—To produce a greater quantity and more profit with the same capital.

A. 30.—As there are servants about every establishment whose salaries could not well be reduced, along with rent, turning, gas, interest of capital, &c., and other numerous expences which will not be altered by the hours of labour being reduced, will of course add to the cost of the production.

A. 31.—Not employing above one set of hands, I cannot speak to this.

A. 32.—Not having had experience on this point, I cannot speak to it, neither have I seen any necessity to adopt it.

A. 33.—No, I do not employ any night-hands.

A. 37.—Were the operatives to work less time than they do at present, a reduction in their wages would consequently follow, whereby it would be injurious to them, and likewise



Cheshire.

John Garside.

wise to the middle classes, whose chief support they are; and I also believe it would be the means of creating additional poor rates.

A. 38.—From fifty-five to eighty degrees.

A. 40.—Eight, for dressing cotton-yarn, being all males above twenty-one.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Same as the day.

A. 52.—Not having any night-work cannot answer the question, but should think it had bad effects.

A. 53.—Allowed half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All hands leave at dinner-hour, and all under eighteen years of age at breakfast and tea, half an hour each.

A. 55.—For the convenience of all workpeople above eighteen years of age.

A. 56.—If the engine and machinery stopped at breakfast and tea it would be the means of their losing one hour's work per day.

A. 57.—If words are not sufficient they are discharged.

A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 59.—If any, by parents, over whom I have no control.

A. 65.—I have no dwelling-houses.

A. 66.—Carefulness, cleanliness, and industry is the principal cause why one excels another.

A. 67.—I cannot perceive any change in the health of my workpeople, it being generally good, although there has been considerable improvements as regards ventilation; and upon the whole I consider the health of persons employed in cotton-mills is as good as at any other trade.

A. 68.—Each person attends to their own, as they always learn one particular department, be it what it may.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe they generally do.

A. 74.—I know but of one instance.

A. 76.—I believe it was.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—I consider the present Act a sufficient protection for the workpeople.

A. 79.—Yes. The amount of earnings as annexed will clearly show that the operatives are in good circumstances at my manufactory. From nine to twelve years they earn 3s. 5d. per week; from twelve to eighteen years they earn 8s. 0½d.; above eighteen years, they earn 16s. 4½d. Average of all ages, 12s. 4½d. per head.

JOHN GARSIDE.

No. 24.

Apelles Howard.

## ANSWERS of APELLES HOWARD, Brinnington, Stockport.

A. 1.—Township of Brinnington, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning, weaving, and preparing for the same (cotton).

A. 3.—Two factories; one erected thirty-five years ago, and the other twenty-five years.

A. 4.—Worked by steam-power only; regular power seventy horses.

A. 5.—Windows, being made to slide for the purpose of ventilation.

A. 6.—By regulating the windows.

A. 7.—By the foreman, overlooker, and other persons employed.

A. 8.—All those parts considered dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—Water is brought into the mill-yard for the purpose of the hands to wash themselves. No convenience is particularly made for the change of clothing, as the workpeople provide their own, and change in the rooms where they work.

A. 10.—Ten years of age; I believe they have not been employed at any other trade previous.

A. 11.—Do not consider the nature of the work requires children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Believe recent alterations have required a greater number of children.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours for the five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—Those above eighteen are employed as above; those under eighteen are employed twelve hours for the five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and forty-four hours.

A. 22.—The works have been carried on all alike.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half under eighteen years of age.

A. 25.—At times when accidents occur in the main gearing.

A. 26.



- A. 26.—Avoidable; being optional on my part as to working up the loss of time.  
 A. 27.—Yes; previous to the last Bill being enacted.  
 A. 28.—Yes; by shortening the hours of labour it enhances the price.  
 A. 29.—The incidental expences of the manufactory being less in proportion as the production is increased by working longer hours.  
 A. 30.—There is an increase in the cost of production which proportionably runs through the different branches of the manufactory.  
 A. 31.—I am not prepared to show any objections, not having employed more than one set of hands.  
 A. 33.—Never have employed any night-workers.  
 A. 37.—The wages of the workpeople will be reduced in proportion to the reduction of time, causing less money in circulation, with a probability of increasing their poverty.  
 A. 38.—About seventy degrees.  
 A. 39.—For the process of dressing yarn for the weavers about eighty degrees.  
 A. 40.—Fifteen dressers.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—By windows.  
 A. 52.—My mill not being lighted in the winter after eight o'clock, cannot speak from experience, but think the effects of night-work bad.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—The same times are appointed for all; and those under eighteen absent themselves from work for the purpose of getting their meals.  
 A. 55.—The adults remain at their own option and own convenience.  
 A. 56.—Little or no effect, if any, against the operative.  
 A. 57.—First by admonishment, and lastly by discharging them.  
 A. 58.—No; being contrary to express orders.  
 A. 62.—Strictly forbidden; and immediate attention paid to any complaints.  
 A. 63.—Their instructions are to discharge them, or send for their parents to correct them.  
 A. 65.—My work-hands are not tenants of mine, not having cottage property.  
 A. 66.—Those who have worked in the trade from infancy are much more preferable.  
 A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference in the health of persons from their employment in the manufactory; but the crime of drunkenness has increased so much since the Beer Bill past, that their health and comforts are suffering much more.  
 A. 68.—I do not.  
 A. 69.—Yes, it is.  
 A. 70.—Yes, I have, once.  
 A. 71.—No conviction.  
 A. 76.—There would be no difficulty in obtaining evidence.  
 A. 77.—I think they would not wish to give evidence against their master.  
 A. 78.—I suggest that the penalties be placed on the moving-power, as I consider all enactments will be useless, by evasion, unless the restriction is on the first motion. The time should be the same for all; and the time of working from five or six o'clock in the morning to six or seven o'clock in the evening, including two hours for meals, viz. half an hour for breakfast, one hour dinner, and half an hour for tea; eleven working-hours.

APELLES HOWARD.

Cheshire.

Apelles Howard.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM and CEPHAS HOWARD & Co., Brinnington, Stockport.

No. 25.

W. & C. Howard & Co.

- A. 1.—Township of Brinnington, parish of Stockport.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, and the weaving of cotton by power-looms.  
 A. 3.—One half erected about the year 1786; a proportion of remainder about 1804; another part about 1821; remainder, 1829; used for spinning alone till 1808; since for spinning and weaving.  
 A. 4.—Water and steam; water irregular, varying from ten to twenty horse power; the deficiency made up by extra steam, worked in conjunction, very regular; total power, eighty horse.  
 A. 5.—Nothing more than common. Windows with loose casements and sashes, which may be opened or shut at pleasure.  
 A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—Windows opened by the parties working next to them, subject to the control of the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Have no distinct room for the hands taking off and putting on clothes; but in the places where they are employed there is sufficient space left for their doing so, as well as washing, with a sufficient supply of water at hand for all those that choose to avail themselves of it.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; not previously employed in other trades.  
 A. 11.—The nature of the work does not absolutely require the children should be under twelve years of age; but those between nine and twelve can do what is required of them quite as well, and as they can be had for less money they are preferred.

(APP.—D. 1.)

E

A. 12.



Cheshire.

W. &amp; C. Howard &amp; Co.

A. 12.—A greater proportion.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—During five days in the week those above eighteen years of age are worked thirteen hours (that is the time the power runs), and one day in the week nine hours.

A. 18.—Those under eighteen work twelve hours per day five days; nine hours one day.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a quarter.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and seventy-six hours and a half.

A. 22.—All employed together.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes that the power has been at work.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a quarter.

A. 25.—20th June lost fifteen minutes, owing to engine being out of order. 21st June regained fifteen.

A. 26.—This excess might have been avoided by deducting from the wages the amount of loss in money, but which would not have been so satisfactory to the hands as regaining the lost time.

A. 29.—That he may with the same outlay in mills and machinery produce a greater quantity of yarn and cloth than his neighbour, and consequently at a less cost.

A. 30.—By lessening the hours of labour the cost of producing the article would be increased, there being a number of hands whose wages cannot be reduced in proportion to the time lessened, as well as a number of expences which the alteration in time would not affect; rents of mills had on leases, original outlay, expences of sales, keep of horses, and various other items, would remain as before. Taking these things into account, we should say, the cost of production would be increased from five to seven and a half per cent.

A. 31.—No objection, but that to obtain a supply would be difficult, and then wages must of necessity be very small.

A. 32.—Has not been tried, because never thought it at all required.

A. 37.—Lessen the chance of successful competition with the foreign manufacturer, because it will increase the cost of the article produced. Reduce the means of the working-classes in proportion to the shortening of time.

A. 38.—The usual temperature where the processes of spinning are carried on (say numbers up to 40<sup>s</sup>) ranges from 60° to 70° during the hours of work; and we consider 65° quite high enough for spinning all numbers below 40<sup>s</sup>. Weaving requires no heat except that for the comfort of the weavers.

A. 39.—The greatest heat required is 80°, for dressing.

A. 40.—Twenty adults.

A. 41.—Not once, supposing this question means all night.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 53.—Persons under eighteen years of age are allowed half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for afternoon's refreshment. Those above eighteen years of age, some take half an hour, and some less, for the breakfast and afternoon's refreshment, and all one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All under eighteen years of age leave the mill at meal-times; and nearly all above eighteen take their breakfast and afternoon's refreshment in the mill; the whole either do or might leave the mill at dinner.

A. 55.—This arrangement is in compliance with the last Time Bill.

A. 56.—Increase the cost of production.

A. 57.—Persuasions, and threats to discharge.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions to overlookers, that if children will not do their duty without beating they must be discharged.

A. 65.—Some part of them do, over which there is no particular control or superintendence, further than seeing that the yards, channels, and sewers of such houses are kept clean and free from nuisance.

A. 66.—In point of skill preference would be given to those brought up to the trade of spinning, and in character we think fully equal to those brought into the works at a later period. In weaving there are great numbers from the hand-loom, but we do not find that these are either superior in character or skill to those brought up to weaving by power.

A. 67.—There is a sick club established in our mill, the stewards of which gave us the annexed statement:—

|                     | 1825 | 1826. | 1827. | 1828. | 1829.                          | 1830. | 1831. | 1832. | From<br>Jan. to May<br>1833. |
|---------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------------|
| Number of members - | 47   | 45    | 42    | 36    | suspended during<br>a turn-out | 34    | 56    | 66    | 64                           |
| Number of sick -    | 15   | 16    | 25    | 13    |                                | 5     | 14    | 34    | 13                           |
| Week's pay -        | 61   | 39    | 51    | 38    |                                | 7     | 21    | 79    | 26                           |
| Deaths -            | 1    | 0     | 1     | 1     |                                | 1     | 0     | 1     | 1                            |

The



The years 1831 and 1832, although the cholera was prevalent here in the latter year, exhibits an improvement in the health of the members as compared with the year 1825, and we feel no doubt that if the whole mill could be taken a like improvement would be shown.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 74.—One case only has come to our knowledge in this town.

A. 76.—Readily obtained.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—We think the present law will be evaded whatever penalties are attached, and suggest the penalty be laid on the moving-power; and enacting that no child under twelve years of age shall be employed in mills.

WILLIAM and CEPHAS HOWARD & Co.

D. 1.

Cheshire.

W. & C. Howard & Co.

#### ANSWERS of GEORGE PARROTT, Brinnington, Stockport.

No. 26.

George Parrott.

A. 1.—Factory, Portwood, in the township of Brinnington, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning on mules, and preparing the same.

A. 3.—The factory was built 30 years ago, and been generally employed as at present.

A. 4.—Steam-power, and very regular.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are all fenced off.

A. 9.—They change their clothes in the same room where they work, and have water to wash them, if they like, before going out.

A. 10.—Nine years; these seldom have been employed before.

A. 11.—Yes; chiefly for cleaning the machinery.

A. 12.—Yes.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—Twelve hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight hours and forty minutes.

A. 23.—Twelve hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—Through loss of time.

A. 26.—It is avoidable, but the hands are usually abated if the lost time is not worked up.

A. 28.—I should think it would be.

A. 29.—He has only the same capital employed, and common sense would say, that capital always at work must be more profitable than when only at work half the time.

A. 30.—Yes.

A. 31.—My works do not require fresh sets.

A. 37.—Less circulating capital in the country.

A. 38.—All from fifty to sixty.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—By the windows.

A. 52.—Never tried it.

A. 53.—Those under age are allowed half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—Those under age, according to the last Act.

A. 56.—If the adults had the same hours it would cause a loss of time.

A. 57.—If unruly they are turned away.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—I never was complained of at any time.

A. 65.—Part of my workpeople are tenants, but I exercise no control or superintendence over them; their houses, when I collect my rents, are generally very clean.

A. 66.—Children brought to the factory young make more skilful and active servants than those brought at a more advanced age.

A. 67.—From my own observations I do not think it is worse.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 73.—I believe they do.

A. 74.—Yes.

A. 75.—No.

A. 76.—Readily obtained.

A. 77.—Rather so.

A. 78.—Would wish it to be on the moving-power.

GEORGE PARROTT.



## ANSWERS of SAMUEL ARMSTRONG, Disley, Stockport.

Cheshire.

No. 27.

*Samuel Armstrong.*

A. 1.—In the township of Disley, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Mule and throstle spinning.

A. 3.—The works have been erected at twice, one part thirty years, the other about forty years; always employed for their present purpose.

A. 4.—It is entirely water-power, which is sometimes irregular in consequence of floods and scarcity of water.

A. 5.—There is no particular provision for ventilation beyond what is stated below.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—It is regulated by the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes, dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—I have none; I am not aware any are required; but the hands generally change clothes on entering and leaving the mill.

A. 10.—The lowest age is nine years; I have no reason to think any of them have been previously employed at any other trade; if so, such employment has been accidental.

A. 11.—It does not; but the wages of a child of nine years of age would be less than one of twelve years of age.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have had a tendency to require the more general employment of children, but not particularly those of under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—I am not aware that I have in my employ more than two orphans, and they are more than eighteen years of age; the parents mostly of the other children occasionally visit them.

A. 17.—Sixty-nine hours a week, twelve hours every day but Saturday, and nine on that day; but for the last few months have lost considerable time with being flooded, and have occasionally worked twelve hours and a half a day, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—I am unable to state exactly the number of days that my manufacture was carried on during the last year, but not more than sixty-nine hours a week of an average.

A. 21.—The above is an answer to this question.

A. 22.—My mill has been carried on uniformly at the same time during the same day. I have no separate department.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, with the exception of Saturday, of nine hours.

A. 25.—The usual hours of work I do not exceed, except in cases of floods or want of a due supply of water, betwixt half past five o'clock at morning till nine at night.

A. 26.—In water-mills any excess beyond the regular hours of work is not avoidable; sometimes considerable time is lost for want of a due supply or an excess of water.

A. 27.—Before the passing of the last Act my mill worked twelve hours and a half to thirteen hours a day.

A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity is enhanced in proportion to the reduced time of working.

A. 29.—The inducement to the manufacturer to have his work protracted is to get a larger and quicker return from the capital he employs.

A. 30.—The increase in the cost of production from limiting the hours of work from twelve to ten hours per day would be in proportion to the reduced time.

A. 31.—So far as I have the means of judging, with respect to my own mill, I do not think that double the quantity of children could be found.

A. 32.—I have no relays or change of hands; I think to get a relay of hands, of children alone, would be very difficult.

A. 33.—I do not employ a night-set of hands.

A. 37.—Any further reduction of the working-hours would be injurious to me, as I take my mill on lease, sixteen years of which are unexpired; it certainly would be an increase of rent. The difference to me betwixt Sir J. C. Hobhouse's Bill and the Bill now proposed, the hours being limited betwixt six o'clock in the morning and seven o'clock in the evening,—it is in a dry season often eight o'clock in the morning before we have a sufficient supply of water from the mills above,—would reduce our time of working to nine hours a day of an average.

A. 38.—I am under no necessity of having any high degree of temperature; I imagine about seventy degrees.

A. 48.—The same age and description of persons as would usually be employed in such process during the day.

A. 49.—I do not work any part of my mill more than another.

A. 52.—I cannot suppose them to be beneficial in any respect.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—They all leave at meal-times.

A. 55.—If any stay in the mill it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Very little, if any.

A. 57.—The means taken to enforce obedience are sometimes fines for neglect and damages.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments I do not allow; if any should take place it is unknown to me.



A. 63.—Children employed have had so little to complain of in this respect, that it has not been necessary to give any particular instructions. Both parents and children in my employment well know that I am willing and anxious to investigate any complaint.

A. 65.—Some few of my workpeople are my tenants; I exercise no control as to their moral and social improvement, nor are there any arrangements made to enforce domestic cleanliness on my part.

A. 66.—There is undoubtedly a greater advantage in being employed during infancy in almost every branch of the cotton-manufacture, especially as those so employed from infancy exhibit more skill and ability.

A. 67.—I am not aware that it has deteriorated; but without further opportunity of considering the matter I am not prepared to give an answer.

A. 68.—Having no particular processes which are attended with more injurious effects than are consequent upon the labour in my mill generally, I have made no selection.

A. 69.—It has been my endeavour to comply with the provision of the present Act or Acts.

A. 70.—I have never been informed against.

A. 73.—I am not aware but the mills in this neighbourhood generally conform to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 74.—I do not know of any in this neighbourhood.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe that workpeople are afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence.

A. 78.—The late Acts are generally complied with in our neighbourhood; and on behalf of children there is not much reason to complain as to improper treatment.

A. 79.—I consider any further reduction of time would injure the operative as well as the employer.

SAMUEL ARMSTRONG.

Cheshire.

Samuel Armstrong.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS BARNES & Co., Disley, Stockport.

No. 28.

A. 1.—One factory in the township of Disley, parish of Stockport and county of Chester. One factory, New Mills, in the parish of Glossop and county of Derby.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The factory in the township of Disley old mill, 1791; new factory 1823; the factory in New Mills erected in 1805.

A. 4.—Power employed, water, irregular; the degrees of irregularity, the liabilities, are various; first, in the summer the water in a dry season is subject to great scarcity, and at other times, from the mountainous part of the country, subject to heavy floods, which causes the water-wheels to be impounded, and a loss of time to the hands. The various stoppages of water as stated will average a loss of one twelfth part. Extent of the power fifty-five horse.

A. 5.—By sashes.

A. 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—Controllable by the hands.

A. 8.—Dangerous parts fenced off by being cased.

A. 9.—From the erection of the mill they have every necessary convenience.

A. 10.—Nine years of age. No other trade.

A. 11.—Not at all.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours per day for five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and seventy-six days.

A. 21.—Three thousand one hundred and seventy-four hours.

A. 22.—In scarcity of water, card-rooms and spinning alternately.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half each day.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—As the flowing of the water served; from half past five o'clock in the morning till nine at night.

A. 26.—Not avoidable, owing to an excess and scarcity of water.

A. 27.—Yes; Mr. Peel's Bill; seventy-two hours per week.

A. 28.—Yes; in proportion to the difference of time.

A. 30.—Without a deduction in wages the cost would be increased in proportion to the diminution of time.

A. 31.—Would tend to great inconvenience, and scarcely practicable.

A. 32.—Not tried. In our neighbourhood it would be almost impossible.

A. 33.—No; would not answer our purpose on account of the liability to the water.

A. 35.—No night-work. We think it very injurious to the health and morals of young people.

A. 36.—We have none; it would be better if all night-work was done away.

(APP.—D.1.)

E 3

A. 37.

Thomas Barnes & Co.



Cheshire.

*Thomas Barnes & Co.*

A. 37.—The effects, whenever the reduction is made in time for labour from the present Bill, will inevitably fall in proportion to the reduction of the hours of labour upon the operatives as well as the manufacturer. Wages are generally not paid by day-work, but quantity produced in a given time. Competition in cotton-spinning and manufacturing in different parts of the Continent is now becoming so extensive that it is a question which will require serious and due consideration to legislate upon.

A. 38.—Sixty-five.

A. 39.—Seventy-eight.

A. 40.—All employed.

A. 50.—Lamps and candles.

A. 51.—By sashes.

A. 52.—We have no night-work except regular hours.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—Would not affect ourselves; but would be a great inconvenience to those hands who come from a distance.

A. 57.—If we cannot get the hands to do their work without corporal punishment we dismiss them from under our employment.

A. 58.—None.

A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishment.

A. 65.—A part of the hands live in our houses, and we see that their houses are white-washed, cleaned, and painted yearly.

A. 66.—Those from infancy are preferable.

A. 67.—In general they have improved; and by the great improvement in machinery more attention is paid to cleanliness and the morals of the children.

A. 68.—No selection of persons.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 77.—We have not heard of an instance in our neighbourhood.

A. 78.—Our opinion is, if a few alterations in the present Bill could be made sufficiently efficient for regulating the hours of labour, by affixing the time of work upon the moving-power, with a clause, as in the present bill, for water-power, allowing the liabilities for a scarcity of water and for floods, which power cannot be exercised without such liabilities, and would tend to ruinous loss to the master as well as the operative. If a clause or provision in the Bill was introduced to bring to justice any master, manager, or foreman for ill-treatment of children, before any one or more of his Majesty's justices of the peace, and the facts proved to the satisfaction of the said magistrates, to levy such fine or penalties as the legislature think deserving of.

A. 79.—Mechanism is now making rapid progress. Machinery, no doubt, in a short time will in a great measure eventually supersede manual labour. It will require proper and judicious prudence in legislating upon labour betwixt the employer and employed, or it will defeat the object of manual labour.

THOMAS BARNES & CO.

No. 29.

*Moseley & Howard.*

## ANSWERS of MOSELEY and HOWARD, Disley, Stockport.

A. 1.—In the township of Disley, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing of cotton.

A. 3.—The factory was erected at one time, and employed for its present purpose, in 1823. There are buildings connected, (used for warehousing, store-rooms, &c.,) which are of an old erection, and formerly used for the printing business.

A. 4.—Water-power; but in consequence of the extreme irregularity of that power we have been obliged to have steam-power erected to supply the deficiency. Sometimes five, ten, fifteen, twenty, or twenty-five horses power are required from the engine.

A. 5.—The ventilation of this factory is by a slide sash.

A. 6.—The provision depends on the opening of the same.

A. 7.—It is controlled at the discretion of all.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—We have no anti-rooms for those workpeople to wash in who come a little distance, or for the changing of clothes, but there is a reservoir very near to wash at, and accommodations for hanging up clothes in the mill.

A. 10.



Cheshire.

Moseley & Howard.

A. 10.—Nine years of age is the lowest; some of them have been previously employed in the printing business.

A. 11.—Not generally.

A. 12.—The recent alterations have not materially affected that class of labour.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—All ages are worked twelve hours per day, or sixty-nine in the week.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half when time has been lost.

A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and ninety-seven hours.

A. 22.—In cases of scarcity or an excess of water, and where the steam-power has been deficient to supply that variation, then alternate changes have been made, and certain portions of the works stopped as required. No minute of such cases has been taken and kept, but lost time made good as soon as possible.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half when time has been lost.

A. 25.—In the same way and manner as the twenty-second answer.

A. 26.—There are cases when an excess beyond the regular hours of labour is absolutely unavoidable if lost time is to be made good.

A. 27 & 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—We cannot answer this correctly, having never adopted the practice; but our opinion is, that when the hours of limitation are exceeded it will reduce the cost price.

A. 30.—Yes. The increased cost applies to all branches in proportion to the diminution of hours by a less production in quantity.

A. 31.—Not been tried.

A. 32.—No. We are of opinion that the system of relays or change of hands in children under eighteen years of age makes a way to protract the labour of all those above eighteen years to an unlimited time, detrimental to the health, comfort, and spirits of every one so employed.

A. 33.—We employ only four hands in the night in one process of the business, blowing cotton, but this operation is discontinued in the day. We have recourse to this because our power is inadequate.

A. 34.—It is our interest to work the above process as stated, because power is running to waste in the night.

A. 37.—A still further reduction of the working hours would in the first place create an additional expence in the cost price of our manufacture; by a less production it would operate arithmetically upon rent, taxes, all daily labour, capital invested, sundry expences, &c.; and secondly, to the detriment of the operatives in reducing their wages.

A. 38.—Weaving, carding, and spinning, from fifty to seventy degrees; Average sixty.

A. 39.—Dressing for weaving, from eighty to ninety degrees.

A. 40.—We have only five.

A. 41.—None, the blowing of cotton excepted, which requires only four hands.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—By a slide sash.

A. 52.—No difference is perceived by lighting up at night.

A. 53.—One hour and three quarters each day.

A. 54.—Nearly all; but all may if they choose.

A. 55.—The workpeople consult their own convenience, and adopt the practice of leaving or stopping in at their own pleasure.

A. 56.—Immaterial; no particular effect would be produced.

A. 57.—By correction and fines.

A. 58 & 59.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63.—We have repeatedly given instructions to our overlookers that no person should be ill-treated.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—A part of them. No particular control is exercised; they are generally so moral, social, and domestically clean that such interference is deemed unnecessary, or otherwise it would be attended to.

A. 66.—Children are the most expert, active, and complete when taken young, and a decided preference is given to them afterwards.



Cheshire.

*Moseley & Howard.*

A. 67.—We have every reason to state that the health of our workpeople has improved and not deteriorated during the last ten years, from the following circumstances; our hands are clean and healthy, &c., for we have little or no sickness, principally owing to the cleanliness of our machinery, and the cleanliness and ventilation of our rooms.

A. 68.—No selection at all.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 73.—The nearest mill to ours is upwards of one mile. We have no knowledge to the contrary.

A. 74.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 77.—We have not the slightest reason to suppose that it is so.

A. 78.—We think the present scale of penalties under Mr. Hobhouse's Bill quite ample and sufficient; we are not aware of any means that would secure better obedience to the present laws. We beg leave to suggest that it is our opinion that an alteration in the second and third clauses of the present Act would facilitate much to promote that confidence and esteem which it is so necessary to cherish between the employer and the employed, in lieu of an unkind, hostile, and suspicious feeling which now exists in consequence of the said intended Act which has led to this inquiry. We therefore propose the introduction of power instead of ages, to consolidate all the classes of operatives into one system and time of labour, as the present laws (and the intended laws now in question) only propose a relief to the juvenile part of labour, and leaves all the rest unprotected to be worked at discretion. From experience, we are of opinion that the labour of children, especially from ten to twelve years of age, also up to eighteen, employed by us, is little more than a gentle exercise of sixty-nine hours in the week, and are quite as capable to perform it as the operative spinner, &c.

A. 79.—If the legislative power interferes too much with shortening the present scale of hours of labour, we direct your attention to the three following observations; first, a direct tax upon all property invested in factories; secondly, increase in the poor rates; thirdly, a speedy introduction of machinery which will militate much against the present, to the detriment of the operative and his family and the trade generally. We refer you to a statement given in the public papers a few weeks since on the state of trade and labour on the Continent, which will ere long affect this country very materially.

MOSELEY and HOWARD.

No. 30.

*C. J. Bayley.*

ANSWERS of C. J. BAYLEY, for Bayley & Brothers, Dukinfield, Stockport.

A. 1.—Bridge Street, township of Dukinfield, parish of Stockport and county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing of cotton goods by power.

A. 3.—Erected at three different times; near one half in 1812, one fourth part in 1821, the other fourth part in 1823; employed for their present purpose in 1813, 1822, and 1824.

A. 4.—Steam ninety horses power.

A. 5.—Only in the attics by ventilators, which draw away any dust or heat which may arise.

A. 6.—In the other rooms by the opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—No, the employment is of that nature which does not require any change of clothing or extra washing.

A. 10.—Nine years old; have not been employed at any trade previously.

A. 11.—No, but in some cases they answer better.

A. 12.—Not made any change.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Those employed the longest time in the spinning-department work thirteen hours per day for five days, and nine on a Saturday; those in the weaving-department fourteen hours, and ten and a half on a Saturday.

A. 18.—Those from eighteen to twenty-one are employed as in A. 17. All from nine to eighteen work twelve hours each day, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.

A. 21.—The spinning-department three thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine hours, the weaving department four thousand and forty-two hours.

A. 22.



A. 22.—All carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—The spinning-department twelve hours, the weaving-department thirteen hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—The usual hours never have been exceeded by children.

A. 26.—It is avoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—We should say that a reduction of the usual number of hours would certainly enhance the cost of production.

A. 29.—We should say the inducement to the manufacturer is, that an increase in the number of hours gives him a proportionate increase of production from the same capital invested.

A. 30.—Yes; but to what extent and in what proportion to the diminution of hours we are not prepared to state.

A. 31.—We are not aware of the objection, but should say, that there would be a difficulty in obtaining the number of children, and would also cause more expence.

A. 32.—No, having never supposed a necessity existed for it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—Not prepared to give an opinion.

A. 38.—From sixty-five degrees to seventy-five; sixty-five the lowest.

A. 39.—Eighty to eighty-five degrees.

A. 40.—About twenty.

A. 53.—At eight, one, and four o'clock.

A. 54.—The works are left half an hour at breakfast and one hour at dinner by all the workpeople, except the weavers, who have their breakfast carried into the mill, and who leave only at dinner-time. The meal at tea is taken into the mill to all the workpeople.

A. 55.—From the interruption to the processes of work carried on, and the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—The loss of time during which the workpeople are preparing to leave the works, and in resuming their employment.

A. 57.—Reprimanding them, and if that is of no avail discharging them.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Yes, we always positively forbid it.

A. 63.—Yes, if reprimanding them is not sufficient, to discharge them.

A. 64.—Yes, two cases, to the best of our knowledge.

A. 65.—A large proportion of them. We exercise no control over them as to their moral or social improvement; and as far as regards domestic cleanliness we require them to keep their houses in clean and good order, and furnish them with lime to whitewash as often as they think proper.

A. 66.—We consider it impossible to have good and skilful workmen in most branches of the cotton manufacture unless they have been employed in them from infancy.

A. 67.—We cannot give any satisfactory answer to this question; but from our own observation, and from inquiry from our overlookers, we should say that the general health of the factory is as good now as at any former period.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Yes, once.

A. 71.—We were not convicted.

A. 74.—We are not prepared to answer this question.

A. 75.—We have not heard of any convictions in our neighbourhood.

A. 76.—We do not know.

CHARLES JAMES BAYLEY.



## ANSWERS of JOHN BINNS, Dukinfield, Stockport.

Cheshire.

No. 31.

John Binns.

- A. 1.—Dukinfield, in the parish of Stockport, and in the county of Chester.
- A. 2.—Carding, roving, spinning, and reeling.
- A. 3.—Erected in the year 1819 in part, and the remainder in the year 1824, and has always been used for its present purpose.
- A. 4.—Steam-engine, twenty horse power.
- A. 5.—Opening the windows.
- A. 7.—Regulated by the persons employed.
- A. 8.—Fenced off.
- A. 9.—Conveniences for washing themselves, but left to their own discretion.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age; should suppose them not to have been previously employed.
- A. 11.—We think not.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours and a quarter.
- A. 18.—All the hands work alike as to time.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and fifty-six hours.
- A. 22.—All the different parts of the works have been carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and three quarters.
- A. 25.—It has seldom been the case, but when it has occurred it has been to get up lost time.
- A. 26.—Only by reducing the wages in proportion to the time lost.
- A. 27.—We believe we have exceeded the present time of working one quarter of an hour per day some years ago.
- A. 28.—The difference is too trifling to be noticed.
- A. 29.—To make his article cheaper.
- A. 30.—We believe the cost of production will be enhanced nearly in proportion to the limitation in the hours of work.
- A. 31.—We have no experience in this matter.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 37.—We believe the effect of such a measure would be to raise the cost price of the article and reduce the price of labour, and, in our opinion, would create a destructive competition in foreign countries.
- A. 38.—It is never required to exceed seventy degrees.
- A. 39.—There is no material difference required.
- A. 49.—Our works require nothing of the kind.
- A. 50.—During the winter months we light them by gas.
- A. 51.—Windows.
- A. 52.—We never employ any at night-work, and cannot speak to it.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for tea.
- A. 54.—Generally speaking, they do.
- A. 55.—The few who stop in do it for their own convenience.
- A. 56.—We consider it conducive to the health of the workpeople to have their meals out of the mill.
- A. 57.—If, after being admonished, they remain disobedient, we generally dismiss them.
- A. 58.—Very seldom.
- A. 59.—Very seldom by overlookers, but oftener by spinners, who employ them as piecers.
- A. 62.—Yes.
- A. 63.—Our general instructions are, that if children will not obey the orders given they are to be dismissed.
- A. 65.—In part they do. Generally left to their own discretion as to their morals, social improvement, and domestic cleanliness.
- A. 66.—We do not find any material difference in children, but in adults we do.
- A. 67.—We are not aware of any difference.
- A. 69.—No.
- A. 73.—They do not conform; some ineffectual steps have been taken to enforce their obedience.
- A. 74.—Some few have.
- A. 75.—In a few instances.
- A. 76.—With great difficulty.
- A. 77.—We have no doubt they are, and with great reason.
- A. 78.—If penalties are to be inflicted, we think they ought to be proportionate to the amount of business done; but in our opinion no Bill will be effective unless the restriction be put upon the moving-power.
- A. 79.—So long as the country is pressed upon so heavily by taxation, and the corn laws in particular, we deem any great alteration in the hours of labour exceedingly impolitic; at the same time we consider some regulation necessary to ensure uniformity in the time of working in cotton-mills.

JOHN BINNS.



## ANSWERS of GEORGE CHEETHAM &amp; SONS, Dukinfield, Stockport.

Cheshire.

No. 32.

G. Cheetham & Sons.

A. 1.—Parish of Stockport, township of Dukinfield, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and doubling cotton-yarn.

A. 3.—A. Mill erected 1805, commenced working 1807. B. Mill erected 1819, commenced working 1821. C. Mill erected 1827, commenced working 1828.

A. 4.—One hundred horse power; steam only.

A. 5.—Yes; each fourth window in the mill is made to be opened for the purpose of ventilation; and in the rooms where the cotton is cleaned and carded fans are employed, by which a considerable part of the dust and fly there made is carried away, and a better circulation of air also created.

A. 7.—The opening or shutting of the windows is regulated by the workpeople themselves, subject, however, to the control of the manager, should he conceive an unnecessary degree of cold air is introduced.

A. 8.—All the wheels or shafts from which danger might arise are fenced off.

A. 9.—No; there is a pump in the mill-yard to supply the workpeople with spring water, but we have no arrangements of the nature referred to in the question.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, as specified by Act of Parliament. In this township they are not employed at any other trade previous to their entering the cotton-mills, there being no such employment for them.

A. 11.—Not absolutely. There is generally here a scarcity of such children, viz. from nine to twelve years of age.

A. 12.—In the employment of children under twelve years of age, we do not think the recent alterations in machinery have made any change.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day for five days in the week, and nine hours and a half on the Saturdays, with the exception of the spinners, who cease working at the same time as the children under eighteen years of age with whom they are employed.

A. 18.—Persons under eighteen years of age work as specified by Act of Parliament, viz. twelve hours per day five days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday; persons above eighteen years of age work same hours as those do who are above twenty-one.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half when some stoppage has been working up.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven hours.

A. 22.—The carding and preparing processes, and doubling, are carried on thirteen hours per day, and the spinning twelve hours per day.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half five days in the week, and nine hours and a quarter on the Saturday.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—When any accident occurred to the steam-engines or mill-gearing, occasioning a stoppage of a few hours, such lost time was worked up; but when the lost time extends to days it is not worked up.

A. 26.—Except under the circumstances above stated we do not work over-time; and we certainly consider it not absolutely necessary, and that excess beyond the regular hours of work may be avoided.

A. 27.—No; previous to any Act of Parliament for regulating the hours of labour in factories we worked twelve hours and a half five days of the week, and nine hours and a half on Saturday, without distinction as to the ages of those employed.

A. 28.—By such comparison as this question implies, we have no data to proceed upon; but we have no hesitation in saying, that the cost would be enhanced by a reduction in the hours of working.

A. 29.—The principal inducement to the manufacturer to protract the hours of work is the greater proportion of fixed capital embarked in his business to floating capital, the return from which depends entirely upon the labour employed; a brisk state of trade and a depressed state both hold out to him inducements, but not so great as the first-mentioned cause.

A. 30.—The increased cost of production would extend to all the branches of our business nearly, if not quite, to the full extent of the diminution of hours. As a matter of calculation it appears to us, that a diminution of two hours labour per day would increase the cost charges of our production from three to five per cent., supposing the value of labour to diminish in proportion with the hours.

A. 31.—In this neighbourhood such relays or fresh sets of children could not be had; no valid objection could otherwise be made to a change of hands where extra hours are required.

A. 32.—Where night-work is followed a distinct set of hands is employed; we are not aware that for additional hours in the day a change of hands has been tried; the reason above stated may have been one cause, and the inconvenience attending a change another.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—More order and regularity are maintained, and the work is better done, where only one set of hands is employed the usual hours than if two sets were employed in the same time; the increased expence of another set of hands would prevent their employment.

A. 36.—If any effect would be produced it must be advantageous, for all manufacturers would then be on a more equal footing.

(APP.—D. 1.)

F 2

A. 37.



Cheshire.

*G. Cheetham & Sons.*

A. 37.—The probable effect of a reduction in the hours of labour as regards the workmen would, in our opinion, be beneficial, were it commenced gradually and not carried below a certain limit; that limit should be fixed after a careful investigation of the situation of the English manufacturer as compared with the foreign manufacturer, who, in the absence of corn laws and duties on raw material, enjoys advantages to the extent of twenty or thirty per cent., and is thus enabled to drive us from markets once wholly supplied by this country, and create a competition which is sensibly felt.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is seventy to seventy-two degrees; we could not go lower than seventy degrees.

A. 39.—Seventy-two degrees.

A. 40.—We have no distinct process in which any hands are employed beyond seventy-two degrees.

A. 52.—Cannot state from experience, but should think the effects would be injurious.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, tea fifteen to twenty minutes, to all classes employed.

A. 54.—All persons employed leave the works at breakfast and dinner time, but not at tea-time.

A. 55.—The leaving the works at tea-time was once tried, but abandoned as being inconvenient both to the manufactory and the workpeople, the latter having to stay half an hour later in consequence.

A. 56.—When the breakfast is taken in the mill, which is the case in some manufactories, an alteration to take it out would be advantageous; for the reasons above mentioned we do not think any advantage would arise from altering the tea-hour.

A. 67.—They are reprimanded, and if this is insufficient to enforce obedience are discharged.

A. 58.—Not with our sanction or knowledge.

A. 62.—They are strictly forbidden.

A. 63.—Yes; and they are simply these; when reprimand will not enforce obedience or correct bad work, the children are to be discharged from our employ.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—In some instances they do; ours do not; and where such is the case a few instances might be adduced where their moral and social improvement is attended to, but they are comparatively rare.

A. 66.—The difference is considerable as regards skill; as to general character we cannot state there is much difference.

A. 67.—We should think there has been little difference during the last ten years; the changes in machinery, and reduced price of labour require more work to be got through by each hand now than at former periods, but at the same time improvements in the interior regulations of mills have been gradually going forward, which with other causes lead us to think there has been little difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70 & 71.—No.

A. 73.—Steps have been taken against the proprietors of mills in this neighbourhood to enforce obedience to the Act; they were informed against.

A. 74.—Yes.

A. 75.—No.

A. 76.—It was obtained with great difficulty, arising from an unwillingness on the part of the hands employed to give evidence.

A. 77.—Yes; and such fear is natural.

A. 78.—It appears to us that any legislative provision for regulating the hours of labour in factories, to be effective, must proceed on the principle of restricting the moving-power, and to be easy and practicable in its operation must include all ages. The Bill now before Parliament recognizes neither of these principles; and the consequence is, a specimen of legislation so impracticable and absurd that were it put in force no mill-proprietor could conduct his daily business without great annoyance and vexation, and innocently exposing himself to penalties, the amount of which would eventually ruin him.

GEORGE CHEETHAM & SONS.

No. 33.

*J. Hall & Son.*

## ANSWERS of JAMES HALL &amp; SON, Dukinfield, Stockport.

A. 1.—That part of Stalybridge situate in the township of Dukinfield, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Preparing cotton, and spinning it into yarn.

A. 3.—One mill was built in the year 1815, the other in the year 1824; both ever since their erection have been employed for the purpose specified in answer to query No. 2.

A. 4.—A sixty horse power steam-engine only.

A. 5.—Nothing but doors and windows.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Under the control of all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.



Cheshire.

J. Hall & Son.

A. 8.—The hands are completely protected from any danger arising from mill-gearing, which we consider the only dangerous parts of our works.

A. 9.—No arrangements further than a provision to enable the hands to change their clothing on entering and leaving the manufactory; also all the hands have access to a good supply of pure condensed steam-water, which they use for their personal cleanliness at their own discretion; our hands have always had these privileges.

A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest age at which we employ children, though at present we have no child working under eleven years of age; none of them have been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—Our works are of such a nature as to cause us to give a decided preference to children of twelve years of age and upwards.

A. 12.—We know of no alterations that require either a greater or less proportion of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—In the carding-department, where the whole of the hands employed are twenty-one years of age and upwards, the usual number of hours worked is thirteen and a half for five days, and ten hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—In the spinning-department, where children are employed, the whole, both children and adults, are worked twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on a Saturday.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-three days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and forty-nine hours and forty minutes.

A. 22.—The only difference in this respect is that specified in answers to queries 17 and 18.

A. 23.—The average number of hours for the number of days worked is thirteen and eight minutes.

A. 24.—We employ only one set of children, and the greatest number of hours these have been worked is twelve and a half.

A. 25.—When the regular hours have been exceeded (which has very seldom been the case) it has been in consequence of lost time; the time got up has never been more than allowed by the present Act.

A. 26.—It cannot be avoided without a loss both to the hands and the employer.

A. 27.—Yes; that part of it where children are employed worked seventy-two hours per week previous to the present Act of Parliament; it is now worked sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 28.—We certainly do.

A. 29.—Various might be the inducements; but as we never practised it we do not feel qualified to give a decided opinion upon the point.

A. 30.—The enhanced cost of production will be in direct proportion to the number of hours diminished, or nearly so.

A. 31.—We are aware of no objection.

A. 32.—We require no extra hours, further than before stated, from children, consequently have required no relays or exchange of hands.

A. 33.—Never worked night-work.

A. 37.—First, the effects would be a reduction of the wages of the hands employed, as their wages are regulated generally by the quantity of labour performed; secondly, it would enhance the cost of production, as the capital invested in mills and machinery, together with rents and taxes, would be the same.

A. 38.—When our works are artificially heated the heat varies from 65 to 70 degrees; 60 degrees is the lowest temperature at which we consider our works can be well conducted.

A. 39.—We require no variation in the different processes.

A. 50.—When artificial light is required, gas.

A. 53.—All hands are allowed half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—All persons are requested to leave at meal-times, consequently if they do not it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—We can point out no particular effect any alteration of this kind could have.

A. 57.—Harsh means are very rarely taken; if they do not perform their work according to their employer's directions they are discharged.

A. 58.—No, at least not with our previous knowledge.

A. 59.—Where corporal punishments are inflicted, it is done by the spinners who are the direct employers of the children.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishments, and directed our overlooker to prevent them in all possible cases.

A. 63.—Our instructions have always been to prevent punishments where possible, and these instructions have always been verbal.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—We have no workpeople as tenants.

A. 66.—There is a material difference in skill, particularly in the spinning department, of persons who have been employed from infancy, compared with persons that have only begun at years of maturity; this difference, although material, can only be seen by an experienced person: as to character we have remarked no particular difference.

(APP.—D. 1.)

F 3

A. 67.



Cheshire.

*J. Hall & Son.*

A. 67.—We cannot say that we have observed any alteration.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Once.

A. 71.—Not convicted.

A. 73.—We are not aware of any deviation by any of our neighbours from the provisions of the present act.

A. 74.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 77.—We have reason to believe that the hands that are satisfied with their employment and employer would feel a reluctance at giving evidence against him.

JAMES HALL and SON.

No. 34.

*Nathaniel Lees.*

ANSWERS of NATHANIEL LEES, for Robert Lees and Sons, Dukinfield, Stockport.

A. 1.—Township of Dukinfield, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—First erection in 1815, second erection in 1822-23, third erection in 1827-28; sundry small erections at various times.

A. 4.—Steam-engines. One thirty-six horses power, and two fifty horses power, regularly employed.

A. 5.—We ventilate chiefly by opening of windows, but in certain rooms make use of other modes, as the nature of the operation may particularly require.

A. 7.—Mostly by the overlooker, in some instances by other operatives.

A. 8.—All that are considered dangerous are fenced off. There will always be accidents from carelessness.

A. 9.—This is for the most part left to the operatives. The personal appearance and cleanliness of our operatives is such as to give satisfaction to ourselves.

A. 10.—Nine years of age. Under ten years of age they are of little or no value. Very few previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—Does not absolutely require children under twelve years of age, but at ten years of age the wage is less.

A. 12.—No material difference with us for the last twenty years.

A. 13.—We never had but one apprentice.

A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any hands whatsoever.

A. 17.—Sixty-nine hours per week in the spinning-department, seventy-three hours and three quarters per week in the weaving-department, for those above eighteen years of age.

A. 18.—Sixty-nine hours per week in the weaving-department for those below eighteen years of age.

A. 19.—Have deviated from the above occasionally to recover lost time caused by breakdowns of shafting, &amp;c.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four or three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred and two hours in spinning-department, about three thousand seven hundred and forty-three hours in weaving department, above eighteen years of age.

A. 22.—All come and go alike, except the weavers above eighteen years of age, who work four hours and three quarters per week longer than the other hands.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half for spinners, &amp;c., and those weavers under eighteen years of age. Twelve hours and seventeen minutes for weavers above eighteen years of age.

A. 25.—Half an hour a day extra occasionally, to recover lost time caused by breakdowns.

A. 26.—If you did not fetch up lost time it would be deducted from the wages of the operative. Accidents to shafting and steam-engines causing stoppages are unavoidable.

A. 27.—Yes, the spinning-department, a little.

A. 28.—The less yarn or cloth you produce in a given time, the more it will cost per pound or per piece.

A. 29.—Two-fold; to lessen the cost price per pound or per piece, and to produce more pounds and pieces upon which to make a profit.

A. 32.—We have never tried this system, nor are we desirous to do so.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—That manufacturers would have fairer chance of producing at the same prime cost, and to sell for the same profit.

A. 37.—Some reduction in the hours of labour would not do much injury to trade, if that trade were not limited by the restriction upon foreign payments in corn, the most useful of all foreign barter.

A. 38.—Seventy to eighty degrees, and in some few instances ninety degrees; but ninety degrees are never required in any case, and in many or most cases very injurious.

A. 39.—Eighty degrees the highest necessary, and sixty degrees the lowest necessary.

A. 40.—About forty to fifty.

A. 46.—Making gas.

A. 47.—Night and day during the winter.

A. 48.—Two men, one in the night and one in the day.

A. 50.



A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Opening of windows, &c.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour or tea.

A. 54.—A great many for breakfast, nearly all for dinner, very few for tea.

A. 55.—Cannot well leave for tea on account of the time.

A. 56.—If possible to be done it would be desirable. Dinner is always taken out of the mills, and breakfast for the most part.

A. 57.—Discharge generally.

A. 58.—In some instances.

A. 59.—Seldom by any; when done at all, by overlookers or those immediately connected with them in the various operations; and it is possible that a principal may do it.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—Connived at, if not done wantonly and severely, in preference to discharging.

A. 62.—Not wholly, nor have we been called upon so to do, as we do not know that it is done but in a slight degree.

A. 63.—No general orders. If a case should come before us, which rarely happens, we caution the party if too much severity has been shown.

A. 64.—Not within the last three years.

A. 65.—A considerable number of them. We do not interfere beyond encouraging domestic cleanliness, &c.

A. 66.—Nothing very material.

A. 67.—We do not think there is much difference either one way or the other.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—It is difficult to prove any thing, except it be the hours of working of the steam-engine or water-wheel.

A. 76.—We should imagine not, on account of the difficulty.

A. 77.—It is possible they may be.

A. 78.—Put the restriction on the steam engine or first moving power; if you do not this the laws will be evaded. Sixty hours per week will not answer; sixty-six or sixty-nine hours may do very well, more especially if we should be allowed to deal freely with corn-growing foreign countries.

NATHANIEL LEES.

#### ANSWERS of S. ROBINSON and C. ARMITAGE, Dukinfield Old Mill, Stockport.

A. 1.—Dukinfield Old Mill, township of Dukinfield in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving cotton by power.

A. 3.—The works have been erected at different periods; the oldest and smallest part about 1792; the second about 1818; the third about 1824; and the fourth in 1830. We have occupied them only since 1826.

A. 4.—Both steam and water; the water is irregular. The water-power varies from about twenty horses power to eight or ten.

A. 5.—There is no particular provision, but windows, which open in every room, except in the scutch-room, where there is a fan which ventilates the room and carries away all the dust.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening of windows and doors.

A. 7.—In the card-room it is regulated by the carder, and in all the other rooms by the persons who work in them, at their own will and discretion.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of our mill-gearing are fenced off, and we have never had any accident of consequence.

A. 9.—They are at liberty to change their clothes, and generally do so on entering the mill; and there are places and hot water provided for their use whenever they choose to wash. This they have never been without.

A. 10.—We employ none knowingly under nine years of age; and if we have any suspicion we require the evidence of the parents. Generally speaking, they have done nothing before they come to us.

A. 11.—It is not absolutely necessary.

A. 12.—The recent alterations have rather tended to dispense with the labour of children under twelve, but to require a greater number above twelve.

A. 15.—We have no apprentices.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day, and nine hours on Saturdays, except the weavers, who work half an hour additional for five days in the week.

A. 18.—Only twelve, except weavers of eighteen years and upwards.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—From the 7th May 1832 to the 6th May 1833 we actually worked three hundred and four days, which with fifty-two Sundays and nine holidays make three hundred and sixty-five.

APP.—D. 1.)

F 4

A. 21

Cheshire.

Nathaniel Lees.

No. 35.

S. Robinson  
and  
C. Armitage.



Cheshire.

S. Robinson  
and  
C. Armitage.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-six.

A. 22.—All our works are carried on simultaneously, but the weavers above eighteen as we have stated above usually work half an hour longer.

A. 23.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-six hours worked, divided by three hundred and four days as above stated, gives rather more than eleven hours of actual work per day.

A. 25.—Only to make up time lost by accidents or want or excess of water.

A. 26.—It is undoubtedly avoidable, but it would be a great loss both to ourselves and our hands, whose wages would be paid according to the time they work.

A. 27.—Until about three years ago we used to work half an hour per day more than we do now.

A. 28.—Yes, certainly.

A. 29.—All contingent expences, such as rent, taxes, interest of money on capital, machinery, buildings, &c. would fall on a larger quantity of production, and if two sets of hands were employed the expence in wages would be greater.

A. 30.—Certainly, for the reasons stated in A. 29; and, generally speaking, were the labour is performed by the machine, and not by manual labour, nearly in proportion to the number of hours.

A. 31.—We never work children extra hours except when working up lost time. To employ two sets within the time we work would materially increase the expence of wages.

A. 32.—We have never tried relays for the reason mentioned in A. 31.

A. 33.—We never work in the night.

A. 36.—We do not work in the night, but we are on this account under a disadvantage compared with those that do.

A. 37.—It would certainly increase the cost of production, and would undoubtedly reduce the wages of the labourer, because he is paid by the piece, or in direct proportion to what he does.

A. 38.—From 60° to 75°. In the spinning and dressing processes it is never required higher than 72°, and in the weaving no artificial heat is required at all, nor is it used by us.

A. 39.—Not more than 68° to 72°.

A. 40.—About one half.

A. 52.—We have no precise means of judging of this as we do not work in the night, but we have no doubt that they are highly injurious.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner, and they usually take tea in the afternoon.

A. 54.—It is left entirely to themselves, but many stay, particularly at breakfast, and they are provided with hot water for tea and cooking.

A. 55.—If they stay it is solely for their own convenience.

A. 56.—To the master there would be no inconvenience.

A. 57.—Occasionally, but very rarely, fines, and for gross misconduct, dismissal.

A. 58.—Very rarely, and principally by spinners on the children engaged by themselves, and quite without our permission or sanction.

A. 59.—By none with our permission.

A. 60 & 61.—Yes, occasionally as stated above, but always contrary to our express orders.

A. 62.—Always.

A. 63.—Our instructions to our overlookers are to use no violence, but to report the children if they behave ill.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Very few of ours, and those are encouraged to great cleanliness. There is a book society in the mill, to which we subscribe, and of which every individual may become a member by paying a halfpenny per week.

A. 66.—In skill those employed from infancy are very superior, and their moral character is not, as far as we know, generally inferior. But there are so few who come to us when grown up from other employments that we can scarcely judge.

A. 67.—We think there is not much difference. The interior regulations of the mills are certainly improved within that time.

A. 68.—No; we do not consider it necessary, and it would be scarcely possible to do so, because each workman acquires a particular facility in his own process of the manufacture.

A. 69.—Undoubtedly.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—Many mills in the neighbourhood work considerably more than twelve hours per day, but as Hobhouse's Bill allows this in the case of persons above eighteen years of age, we have no means of knowing certainly whether the Bill is evaded or not.

A. 74.—We have heard of one case.

A. 75.—There was no conviction.

A. 76.—We cannot say.

A. 77.—There is reason to believe this.

A. 78.—We know of none but by laying the restriction on the moving-power, and restricting the hours for all ages to the same number, except the Bill were to be loaded with such provisions and penalties as would render it almost impossible for any manufacturer to carry on his works with safety to himself.

17th May 1833.

SAMUEL ROBINSON.  
CYRUS ARMITAGE.



## ANSWERS of EDWARD SIDEBOTTOM, Dukinfield.

Cheshire.

No. 36.

*Edward Sidebottom.*

- A. 1.—Dukinfield, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected in the year 1823, and commenced working in the year 1824.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power; forty horses.  
 A. 5.—By sashes.  
 A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—Under the control of the persons employed in the room.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—They each take that upon themselves, we only providing convenience for washing.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. Only two that have been employed in the woollen-mills.  
 A. 11.—It does not require them under twelve years of age, but we think their parents stand in need of their earnings.  
 A. 12.—Less proportion.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—The usual hours of work for persons under eighteen years are twelve hours per day for five days, and nine on Saturdays.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.  
 A. 21.—Cannot say particularly.  
 A. 22.—We consider to work our card-room hands seventy-two hours per week, of the age of eighteen years and upwards; but it sometimes happens that some part of the other hands do not work more than fifty-eight hours per week.  
 A. 23.—Cannot say particularly.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—In case of accident of steam-engine or mill-gearing, or making time good for some pastime.  
 A. 26.—We consider it unavoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity is certainly enhanced by a reduction of hours in a greater proportion than the reduction of the time.  
 A. 29.—The inducement is the less in cost of work produced, inasmuch as rents, rates, expences, and fixed capital being the same for short time as that of extra hours.  
 A. 30.—We find an increase of cost by shortening the hours of labour in a far greater ratio than the proportion of time stopped, inasmuch as we have a deal of sundry expences, which are just the same, independent of rents, rates, fixed capital, &c.  
 A. 31.—No objection.  
 A. 32.—This we consider relates to night-work, which we never tried.  
 A. 37.—We cannot give our opinion as to the effect of a reduction of the hours of labour, as it is impossible to say what would be the result.  
 A. 38.—The usual temperature is from sixty-four to seventy-four degrees.  
 A. 39.—From sixty-four to seventy-four degrees the highest required.  
 A. 40.—One hundred and seventy.  
 A. 47.—This we consider relates to night-work, in which we are not concerned.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—By sashes.  
 A. 52.—We cannot give our opinion, as we never tried night-work.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one full hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 56.—Make no difference to us.  
 A. 57.—Discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 65.—Those who live in the cottages belonging to us, we require them to keep the said cottages clean, and find them lime at any time, to wash the walls with quicklime and water.  
 A. 66.—We consider them more skilful, more active, and better subjects.  
 A. 67.—We think the health of the factory people is better and more improved in general.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 74.—Yes.  
 A. 75.—No.

EDWARD SIDEBOTTOM.

## ANSWERS of A. W. THORNELY, Stockport.

No. 37.

*A. W. Thornely.*

- A. 1.—One mill in the township of Dukinfield and parish of Stockport, and another in the township of Godley, parish of Mottram in Longdendale, both in the county of Chester.

(APP.—D. 1.)

G

A. 2.



D. 1.

Cheshire.

A. W. Thorneley.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving by power-looms.

A. 3.—Dukinfield mills erected about 1802; Godley mills at different times, say one part previous to the year 1793, another part about 1797, another about 1804, and the last about 1819. Being only tenants of these mills for the last ten years cannot vouch for the correctness of these dates, but they are to the best of our recollection correct, and as far as we know have always been used as cotton-manufactories.

A. 4.—Steam-power regular; eighty-six horses power.

A. 5.—The windows have nearly all of them a small casement that can be opened or shut at pleasure, and also some windows that can be wholly taken out, in each room.

A. 6.—On opening the windows, or taking a part of them entirely out.

A. 7.—At the control of the people employed in the room, or the overlooker if he goes into a room and thinks it too confined.

A. 8.—All that are thought dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have always had clean water in the yard, where the people in our employ can wash themselves, and have encouraged personal cleanliness as far as our influence admitted. Our works being surrounded with cottages, where the people in our employ reside, renders a change of clothing at the mill unnecessary, as it can be done more conveniently at home.

A. 10.—We do not employ any children under nine years of age, nor do not suppose that many who are admitted at that age have been in any other employment.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require children under twelve years of age; still, if they must be kept out of the mill until they attain that age, we consider it would be a great hardship upon parents who have young families.

A. 12.—We do not consider that it has made much difference.

A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.

A. 17.—Five days in the week thirteen hours per day, and on Saturday nine hours and a half. N.B.—This only applies to a part of the hands above twenty-one years of age, as spinners, mechanics, labourers, &c. work less time.

A. 18.—Five days in the week twelve hours per day, and nine hours on Saturday; difference made with those under eighteen years of age.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours, and this only for ten days.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and eighty.

A. 22.—Our works all go together, except in case of accidental stoppage of some part of the machinery.

A. 23.—Eleven hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—In February one of the steam-engines broke, which took four days to repair it, after which we exceeded our usual time of working that engine one hour per day for ten succeeding days.

A. 26.—Such an accident as happened to that engine is certainly unavoidable; but by bearing the loss it occasioned both to ourselves and the workpeople, working up time might be avoided.

A. 27.—We have not.

A. 28.—Working shorter time will increase the expence of the article produced.

A. 29.—The extra interest he may think he can make upon his capital employed.

A. 30.—We do find an increase in the cost of production in all branches in proportion as the hours of labour are limited, and also a further proportion to meet standing and regular expences, such as rent, taxes, interest on capital, and general establishments of the concern.

A. 31.—See no objection, only that the same amount of wages would have to be divided amongst more people.

A. 32.—We only employ a set of hands in the day.

A. 33.—We have not employed a night set of hands.

A. 37.—It would still further increase the cost of the article produced upon the same ground as stated in answer to No. 30. In proof, suppose the mills to stop entirely, we should still have to pay our rents and taxes and considerable other heavy expences, and the nearer we approach to that the greater are the difficulties we have to encounter.

A. 38.—From sixty-five to seventy-five degrees.

A. 39.—In the sizing-room about eighty-five degrees.

A. 40.—About twenty men.

A. 41.—Never all night, nor after half past eight o'clock.

A. 50.—We use gas when we cannot work twelve hours by day-light.

A. 51.—Opening windows.

A. 53.—Spinners, labourers, mechanics, warehousemen, and those under eighteen years of age two hours per day, other hands one hour; viz. breakfast, from eight to half past; dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; and afternoon refreshment, from four to half past four.

A. 54.—All at dinner, and those specified in answer 53 at all meals.

A. 55.—For mutual convenience of both.

A. 56.—When so many people are employed the going out and coming in of all creates considerable confusion both at the mill and at home.

A. 57.



- A. 57.—They must either do their work in a proper manner or be discharged.  
 A. 58.—Not without our knowledge.  
 A. 59.—Not even by parents while in the mill.  
 A. 60.—Not without our consent.  
 A. 61.—Neither prior or subsequent sanction.  
 A. 62.—Yes; and inflict a fine upon any person we know to use improper severity.  
 A. 63.—Overlookers have our instruction not to punish children, but if they are disobedient, either to inform some of their masters or send them home.  
 A. 64.—No, in no case whatever.  
 A. 65.—Our workpeople generally live in cottages we let to them at a weekly rent, and we exercise all our influence to make them clean and orderly in their conduct, first, by endeavouring to reform the disorderly, and in case we cannot succeed discharge them from our employ.  
 A. 66.—In the spinning-department people who have been always employed in it are decidedly preferable; and in the weaving-department persons brought up to hand-loom weaving are considered as good as those brought up in the mills: we do not perceive any difference farther than this, either in skill or in general ability or character.  
 A. 67.—We consider the health of the people in our factories improved rather than deteriorated in consequence of regulations that have been made during that period for regularity and ventilation of the mills, and having supply of food and raiment.  
 A. 68.—We do not consider any process in our manufactory particularly pernicious.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No, never  
 A. 73.—We think that generally they do, as far as children are concerned.  
 A. 77.—We think they may be in some cases, but generally we think they are not.  
 A. 79.—As our mills and other premises are held by lease, and a considerable time having to elapse before we are at liberty from our engagements in these leases, which are held subject to very heavy rent, we consider that if the time of working the mills be materially lessened, a provision ought at the same time to be made, either to exonerate us from our engagements, or to reduce the rent in proportion to the difference of the time we are allowed to work them.

A. W. THORNELY.

D. 1.

Cheshire.

W. Thornely.

## ANSWERS of EDWARD VAUDREY, Stockport.

- A. 1.—In the town of Stalybridge, township of Dukinfield, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning and weaving.  
 A. 3.—First mill erected in 1805 and 1806, for cotton-spinning; second mill erected in 1818 and 1819, for cotton spinning and weaving; third mill erected in 1824 and 1825, for cotton spinning and weaving; fourth mill erected in 1828, for a warehouse, and changed to spinning and weaving in 1832.  
 A. 4.—Six steam-engines; one hundred and fifty-eight horse power.  
 A. 5.—In the lower rooms the windows can be opened, and in the attics there are ventilators in the roof.  
 A. 6.—In the lower rooms it depends on the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—It is at the discretion of and regulated by the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Nearly all the hands employed live close to the mills, so as to render change of clothing or additional clothing unnecessary. We find them soap and water for washing whenever they please, and always did so.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age. It is unknown to us whether they have been previously employed at other trades, but believe not.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—With us they have made no difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any children.  
 A. 17.—Spinners, twelve hours each day, except Saturday, which is nine hours. Card-rooms and other weekly hands twelve hours and a half each day except Saturday which is nine hours and a half. Weavers, thirteen hours each day, except Saturday, which is nine hours and a half. Occasionally, when short of rovings, the card-room hands above eighteen years of age work the same number of hours as weavers.  
 A. 18.—All under eighteen years of age, whatever their employment, work twelve hours each day. except Saturday, which is nine hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and one days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and thirteen hours and a half.  
 A. 22.—They all commence at the same time in the morning, but the spinners and piecers leave off work one hour before the weavers each day, except Saturday, which is half an hour only; and the card-room hands (except at certain times as stated in A. 37)

(APP.—D. 1.)

G 2

leave

No. 38.

Edward Vaudrey.



Cheshire.

*Edward Vaudrey.*

leave off work half an hour before the weavers each day, except Saturday, on which day they leave off together.

A. 3.—The greatest average, or weavers time, is twelve hours and fifty-four minutes for each day, except Saturday, which has been nine hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours if under eighteen years of age.

A. 25.—On the 4th of January 1832 we lost one hour and a half through an accident happening to one of the engines; on the 4th of October half an hour; and on the 17th October one hour and a half; which lost time was made up by working half an hour per day longer on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of January, and on the 4th, 17th, 18th, and 19th of October.

A. 26.—Stoppages through accidents happening to the engines or millwright work are unavoidable; and by the present Act such lost time can only be regained by working half an hour per day longer for the remainder of the week.

A. 27.—Before the present Act was passed the weavers worked ten hours on a Saturday, or seventy-five hours per week.

A. 28.—The reduction which we have made, viz. half an hour per week in one branch, is so small that the cost of producing a given quantity would be very trifling.

A. 29.—We have never protracted our work, neither by children nor by adults, to extra hours nor through the nights, therefore cannot give an opinion as to the inducement to do so.

A. 31.—There is no objection.

A. 32.—We have a few self-acting mules, which work the same hours per week as weavers, viz. seventy-four hours and a half. For these we employ some extra hands, so that no one of them works more than twelve hours on any day, nor more than nine on a Saturday.

A. 33.—No, we never did employ a night-set of hands.

A. 36.—It would not affect us.

A. 37.—The effects would be to reduce the wages of the hands in exact proportion to the time reduced; and as the production would be reduced in the same ratio, poor rates probably increased, and all other rates and taxes, rent, and interest on capital expended, remain the same, it would increase the cost of the goods produced.

A. 38.—In the weaving-department there is no artificial heat employed; in the other departments, with the exception of dressing, the heat is only what is required to make the rooms comfortable, and varies from 50° in winter to 70° in summer.

A. 39.—Dressing is the only part which requires a greater degree of heat, and that never requires the heat to be above 76°.

A. 40.—Forty men, who regulate their own temperature.

A. 41.—None.

A. 47.—It is optional.

A. 48.—We have no such process.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Same as in the day.

A. 52.—We cannot say, as we have had no night-work.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All, except two watchmen, and ten young men who stop in during the dinner hour to clean the shafting; except on a Saturday, when the weavers stop in during the dinner-hour to clean their looms; and twice a week the piecers have their dinner-hour either before or after the others, and stop in to clean during the regular dinner-hour.

A. 56.—As our system has never been changed we are unable to say what the effect would be.

A. 57.—Speaking to and admonishing them, and if that will not answer discharging them.

A. 58.—Never with our knowledge.

A. 62.—Yes, they are strictly forbidden.

A. 63.—There has been no necessity; they all know, both children and overlookers, that corporal punishments are prohibited.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Part of them do; we cannot control, but we advise them to live peaceably, and to send their children to the Sunday-schools. Domestic cleanliness cannot be enforced, but is recommended; and lime is always provided for them to whitewash their houses whenever they choose.

A. 66.—Those who commence young will generally be more skilful than those who commence at a later period. The general character of those who have been employed from infancy is quite as good as that of those who have commenced at a later period of life.

A. 67.—We have not remarked any change.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes, it is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 71.—Never.

A. 72.—We have none to state.

A. 73.—As we are desired to set down nothing which we are not prepared to verify on oath,



oath, we cannot answer this question, as we have not sufficient knowledge of other people's concerns to enable us to answer it either way.

A. 75.—We have not heard of any one in this neighbourhood having been fined.

A. 77.—We can only answer for our own; we have no reason to believe that ours are afraid; but this is a question which they can answer themselves better than we can.

A. 78.—We think the present Act quite sufficient if applied to other trades, which it appears work much longer hours than the cotton trade. We cannot suggest any other scale of penalties; those already inflicted by the Act are sufficient to deter us from infringing it.

EDWARD VAUDREY.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. WIMPENNY and SWINDELLS, Dukinfield.

No. 39.

*Messrs. Wimpenny  
and Swindells.*

A. 1.—Township of Dukinfield, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Preparing and carding of cotton, and spinning and reeling of cotton-yarn.

A. 3.—The greater part of the buildings has been erected about forty years, and always used for the purposes of carding and spinning cotton; there are no material alterations or additions since the first erection, except such as have been required for convenience of reeling and making up, &c.

A. 4.—Steam-power of twelve horses.

A. 5 & 6.—Some of the windows in each room of the mill are made with swing frames, which, when open, allow ventilation through the room.

A. 7.—The ventilation is generally regulated at the discretion of the workpeople, to suit their own convenience.

A. 8.—No parts of the machinery are fenced off, not being considered particularly dangerous, inasmuch as no serious accident has at any time occurred in the absence of such fencing off. All dangerous parts of the mill-gearing are boxed off.

A. 9.—We have no particular arrangements to meet the circumstances mentioned in this query. The workpeople have convenience afforded for hanging up their clothes during working-hours, and those employed in the dirtiest parts of the work have the opportunity of washing previous to leaving the premises.

A. 10.—Nine years. We are not aware of any other trade in the neighbourhood employing children at an earlier age than nine years.

A. 11.—Not necessarily, for we conceive that if any benefit accrue to any party by the employment of children at an earlier age than twelve years, such benefit would be derived by the parents or guardians of the children alone.

A. 12.—In our branch of the business we are not aware of any increase or decrease in the demand for the labour of children under twelve years of age in consequence of any recent improvements in machinery.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—The usual time of working in our mill is twelve hours and a half per day for five days in the week, and nine hours on a Saturday; and we have never yet made any difference in the hours of working of any individuals employed by us of whatever age.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days in the year 1832, to the best of our knowledge.

A. 22.—It is a very rare circumstance with us to have any part of our works carried on whilst the remaining part is unemployed; so rarely does it occur, that we cannot specify particulars.

A. 25.—Any excess over and above our regular hours of working has generally occurred in making up for lost time, through misfortunes happening to the steam-engine or mill-gearing.

A. 26.—Such excess we consider as avoidable only by relinquishing the present very general practice of making good or fetching up lost time.

A. 27 to 36.—Never having varied the hours of working in our mill, and never having employed a night-set of hands, these queries are generally inapplicable to our case. We however remark, that we conceive the inducement to the manufacturer to protract the hours of labour in his works to be of a twofold nature; first, he is enabled by the same amount of expended capital or outlay to do a greater amount of business; and secondly, he materially diminishes the cost price of such increased production, inasmuch as what may be termed the general expences of his establishment (including rent, taxes of all kinds, weekly wages, managers or overlookers salaries, and various other items) vary little or none, though the works may be in operation an increased length of time.

A. 37.—Any opinion as to the probable effects of still further reduction of the working hours must be somewhat speculative, but should that reduction be considerable, say to fifty-eight hours per week, we feel no hesitation in saying that it would tend to the gradual ruin and extinction of that most important branch, viz., the export trade of this country, seeing that it would act as a direct bonus to foreign competition, the effects of which, to our present highly taxed and otherwise burthened population, we almost tremble to contemplate.

A. 38 to 40.—As we are at present circumstanced in reference to heating our mill, we cannot distinctly state the mean temperature of the different rooms, but we conceive a

(APP.—D.1.)

G 3

temperature



Cheshire.

*Messrs. Wimpenny  
and Swindells.*

temperatnre of seventy-five to eighty degrees sufficient for every process in our description of work.

A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for tea are allowed to all in our employ, with the exceptions herein-after stated.

A. 54 to 56.—All the persons employed by us are at liberty to leave the mill at breakfast and dinner times, with the exception of the piecers, who are required to remain in the mill three half hours per week out of their meal-times for the purposes of cleaning. None, with the exception of those employed in reeling, are allowed to leave at tea-time.

A. 57 to 63.—The threat of discharge we conceive as one of the most effectual means of securing proper obedience and due subordination amongst all the hands employed by us; but, considering the proverbial forgetfulness and carelessness of youth, and the mischievous disposition evinced by some children, we do consider occasional correction absolutely necessary; but in any conversation on the subject with our overlookers, we have invariably cautioned them against any wanton, undue, or unnecessary infliction of punishment.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Many of the workpeople employed by us live in cottages belonging to us; but the great facilities now afforded by the general establishment of Sunday-schools, and other institutions for the gratuitous instruction of the working population of our neighbourhood, obviate the necessity of any arrangements for such an object by us as individuals.

A. 66.—As regards our own concern we conceive that twelve months employment in any particular department will generally afford an intelligent character an opportunity of becoming an equally skilful and efficient servant with one who from early youth has been continuously employed in the same occupation.

A. 67.—Since our connection with our present concern, viz., for upwards of ten years, the health of our workpeople has been generally good; we have now several individuals in our employ of from forty to fifty years of age, who have worked in a cotton-factory from their youth, and whose present good health furnishes to us a decided refutation of the opinion so industriously and strenuously circulated through the country of the extremely unhealthy atmosphere and employment of a cotton-factory.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—No.

A. 71 & 72.—We never have been convicted, or paid any penalty.

A. 73.—Being unacquainted with the management of any concern but our own we cannot answer this query.

A. 74 to 76.—We have understood that informations in some isolated cases have been laid against mill-proprietors in the neighbourhood, but that they have fallen through for want of sufficient evidence; we state thus much merely from report, not being cognizant of the circumstances attending these cases.

A. 77.—We should certainly think that any workman must have a great reluctance in giving evidence tending to criminate a master manufacturer.

A. 78 & 79.—To these two queries we reply, that though in principle we deprecate as mischievous any legislative interference between a master and his men, yet since such interference is so clamorously called for at the present time, and is said to have become necessary for the protection of young persons employed in cotton and other manufactories, and, we would remark, equally also for the protection of the principled and considerate master manufacturer, we conceive that the utmost care ought to be exercised that whilst such legislation should, to be beneficial, be effectively practicable, yet that it should with equal care abstain from placing any unnecessary or vexatious obstacle in the way of the manufacturer, thereby preventing further investment of capital in the business, and thus most effectually counteracting any anticipated benefit to those it professedly intends to protect.

We venture to suggest the great difficulty of so wording or framing any Act of Parliament as to apply to and be efficient in the case of one part only of the hands employed in a cotton-mill. We conceive this to be sufficiently apparent in the utter inefficiency of any former enactment on the subject, illustrated by the difficulty, nay almost impossibility, of procuring a conviction under any of its clauses.

After maturely considering these difficulties, a great majority of the master manufacturers of Ashton-under-Line and its neighbourhood (at a late meeting held expressly for the purpose of petitioning parliament against a Bill recently brought into the House of Commons by Lord Ashley) came to the unanimous resolution of recommending and petitioning that the hours of labour in cotton-factories should be restricted to sixty-nine hours per week for all ages, and that such restriction should be placed upon the moving-power, without permission to fetch up or make good any time lost through accident or otherwise; thus affording easy opportunity of detecting and convicting delinquents, and, in their opinion, sufficiently balancing the comfort of the workpeople with a due regard to the general interests of the trade.

We have only further to remark, that we entirely coincide with this resolution, fully convinced that were it acted upon it would go far towards mitigating those unpleasant feelings so often found existing between the employer and the employed, inasmuch as we feel satisfied that a great portion of the more intelligent workmen would fully concur in it.

Messrs. WIMPENNY and SWINDELLS.



## ANSWERS of THOMAS TURNER, for John and Robert Ashton, Hyde.

Cheshire.

No. 40.

Thomas Turner.

- A. 1.—Hyde, in the county of Chester.
- A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing of calicoes.
- A. 3.—Erected at three different times, viz. 1802, 1805, and 1810; first employed the years following the erections.
- A. 4.—Fifty-horse steam-engine.
- A. 5.—There are ventilators placed in the windows of the mill, which have the effect of cooling the rooms when overheated.
- A. 6.—The provision depends on opening the ventilators attached to the windows.
- A. 7.—Regulated at the discretion of the persons employed.
- A. 8.—All that are considered dangerous.
- A. 9.—Arrangements are made to enable the persons employed to wash and change their clothes, such as water, soap, towels, &c., and have every opportunity of being personally clean.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age is the lowest that are employed, but cannot say whether every individual has been employed at another trade or not, but most likely not.
- A. 11.—If children of twelve years of age could be procured for the same wages as of nine years they might be substituted, but not preferred.
- A. 12.—All recent improvements in machinery have a tendency to employ a greater number of children, on account of less wages.
- A. 13.—Do not employ apprentices.
- A. 15.—Do not lodge or maintain any children, the whole being on wages, consequently their parents have no occasion to visit them.
- A. 16.—Have no such children employed.
- A. 17.—The usual hours for all of twenty-one years and upwards are thirteen hours per day.
- A. 18.—The usual number of hours for persons under twenty-one years of age is twelve hours for five successive days, and nine hours on Saturdays.
- A. 19.—The greatest number of which we can form any recollection is thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and one days and six hours.
- A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and eighteen hours.
- A. 22.—The weaving-department has been carried on one hour after the release of the rest of the hands employed.
- A. 23.—The average work per day will be as near twelve hours per day as possible.
- A. 24.—The greatest number of hours that any set of children has been employed is twelve hours per day.
- A. 25.—The circumstances under which the regular time is exceeded are in case of accidents with the engine or main shafting.
- A. 26.—Consider it unavoidable so far as accidents are concerned.
- A. 27.—Have no recollection of working longer hours for some years back than at present.
- A. 28.—Of course the cost of production upon a given quantity is enhanced by a reduction of the hours of labour; for instance, if reduced from twelve to ten hours per day the cost would be in proportion of one sixth more for each establishment, which forms a great proportion of the expence in making cotton goods.
- A. 29.—No inducement to have the work protracted beyond the time the hands have strength to work.
- A. 30.—Answer same as A. 28.
- A. 31.—The principal objection would be the decrease in the wages of the children employed, and would be detrimental to young families.
- A. 32.—The regulation of relays has never been adopted at this concern.
- A. 33.—Have never employed a night-set of hands at any time, independent of mechanics.
- A. 34.—To produce more from the same machinery, thereby reducing standing expences, increasing production, and thereby gaining more profit.
- A. 35.—Not employing any in the night, no such regulations are required.
- A. 36.—Should not be affected by any change that might take place, no such regulations being adopted at this mill.
- A. 37.—It would be attended in case of reducing the hours of labour by a consequent reduction of wages.



Caeshire.

Thomas Turner.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of the mill, with the exception of the dressing-rooms, will be from fifty to seventy-five degrees, according to the season of the year.

A. 39.—The highest degree of heat required is eighty degrees, for the dressing-department.

A. 40.—Thirteen dressers.

A. 47.—Dressing, six hours.

A. 48.—Men are invariably employed in this process, whose ages are between twenty and fifty years.

A. 49.—The process of manufacture would not be advantageously carried on in a less time.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Ventilation same at night as day.

A. 53.—Breakfast allowed at eight o'clock to half past; dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; and at four o'clock half an hour is allowed for tea.

A. 54.—All are allowed to go, except the weavers and dressers, and they go to dinner.

A. 55.—It would be productive of much evil in the process of weaving and dressing to allow these branches to absent themselves; injurious to some hands, and inconvenient to those that come a fourth of a mile and upwards, of which there are many.

A. 56.—To spoil the work in its regular process, particularly dressing by power.

A. 57.—In cases of disobedience small fines are inflicted; after which, if found to be ineffectual, they are discharged, with proper notice.

A. 58.—No corporal punishment is allowed.

A. 59.—No person allowed to punish any individual for disobedience whatsoever.

A. 60.—Corporal punishments are considered perfectly unnecessary in well-regulated establishments; do not sanction such measures; disapprove of any corporal punishment of any kind, considering it uncalled for.

A. 61.—Do not sanction any thing of the kind.

A. 62.—When complaints have been made at any time relative to the punishment of children in this establishment, the instructions that have been given to the overlookers have been to report them, in order that they might be discharged, to make room for better.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given at any time relative to the punishment of children in this establishment, as there exists no necessity for such measures; any person unnecessarily or severely beating his own child not allowed.

A. 64.—No overlooker or manager has been summoned before a magistrate for the infliction of corporal punishment.

A. 65.—Most of the workpeople do live in houses belonging to this establishment; and a school is erected where the children connected with the mill may receive instruction. In respect to cleanliness of cottages, men are kept to clean outside, and the tenants are ordered to keep clean inside, and are occasionally inspected for that purpose.

A. 66.—Generally those hands are most active that begin young, and for piecing it is almost necessary they should begin young, at eleven years of age.

A. 67.—Can say, that, during ten years, no material change has taken place in the health of the people at this factory; if any, for the better.

A. 68.—Don't find it necessary.

A. 69.—Endeavour to conform to the Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 71.—Have never been convicted or paid any penalty whatsoever.

A. 73.—It is impossible to get the hands to conform to the Act; steps have been taken by informers, and in one instance they succeeded, by the party being fined for breach of the law; but the law is so injurious to the workpeople that it is very difficult to get evidence.

A. 74 & 75.—Yes.

A. 76.—Cannot say.

A. 77.—The workpeople are about as much afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence as the electors in a borough are of displeasing the patron of it by not voting for his nominee.

A. 79.—Have an opinion, that if the proposed Bill of Lord Ashley's be carried into a law, it will reduce the condition and comforts of workpeople generally.

THOMAS TURNER.



## ANSWERS of THOMAS ASHTON, Hyde.

Cheshire.

No. 41.

Thomas Ashton.

A. 1.—Townships of Hyde, in the parish of Stockport, and Newton, in the parish of Mottram in Longdendale, both in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Carding, spinning, dressing, and weaving cotton.

A. 3.—The mill in Hyde erected in 1817, first employed in 1818; that in Newton erected in 1824, first employed in 1825.

A. 4.—Steam, six engines; aggregate power equal to one hundred and seventy-five horses.

A. 5 & 6.—The ventilation of the rooms chiefly depends on opening the windows, over which the persons therein employed have a discretionary power.

A. 7.—By the persons employed, who use it at discretion, or as suits the nature of their work.

A. 8.—We have no dangerous parts of the machinery but what are well fenced off.

A. 9.—We have ample arrangements and convenience for the work-people to wash themselves and change their clothing, if necessary; and have always had such since the commencement.

A. 10.—Nine years of age is the lowest employed; these were not employed at any of the trades before, to my knowledge.

A. 11.—There are certain descriptions of work, such as twisting, reaching-in, one branch of heald knitting, &c., that can be done by these children, and even younger ones, as well as adults, which are very easy, clean, and comfortable employments.

A. 12.—Answer to this Query given in evidence.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We have no orphans, nor any children but who remain with one parent, and associate with near kindred, who see them every day.

A. 16.—Do not know of one that has not the actual superintendence of either parent or kind relation, beside that of their master. I have given every overlooker and manager a strict charge to protect all children from ill treatment in his department.

A. 17.—From the passing of Sir John Hobhouse's bill to the 24th of August, we worked sixty-nine hours each week; and since then thirteen hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays, making seventy-four hours in each week.

A. 18.—No difference made.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-seven.

A. 22.—Have no such thing.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes.

A. 24.—We have no different sets of hands of any description.

A. 25.—From the 24th of August to the end of the year, at the special request of the operatives.

A. 26.—Any excess of working is on account of holidays; we made eleven such days in the last year, 1832.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 32.—Relays or change of hands have never been tried in my mills, nor have I any wish to try such.

A. 33.—I never employed any but a day set.

A. 35.—No working in the night, nor ever was in my establishment.

A. 36.—Having never tried working in the night, cannot say what might be the effects of a prohibition.

A. 37.—If the hours of working be reduced, we are positive it will be injurious both to masters and operatives. They, the operatives, in my mills, are perfectly satisfied with the hours now used; but are very unwilling to have the time shortened, apprehending that a proportionate reduction of their earnings or wages would be the result.

A. 38.—In the card rooms  $58^{\circ}$ , spinning  $72^{\circ}$ , dressing  $74^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$ , weaving  $65^{\circ}$  of Fahrenheit. These are the highest temperatures required in wet weather: in dry weather, a much lower temperature is sufficient.

A. 39.— $74^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$ , as above stated, for the dressing room only.

A. 40.—Forty, all adults.

A. 47.—There is no process of work in my mills subject to any maximum or minimum as to time in the operation.

A. 49.—I make no such allegation, for reasons answered in Query 47, which see.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as by day. See Queries 5, 6, & 7.

A. 52.—Not using night-work, I have no practical knowledge in this case; but a very unfavourable opinion of its effects on the persons so employed.

A. 53.—Those who go out of the mills have half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea; but the engines stop only one hour, and that for dinner.

A. 54.—Some who reside at a distance bring their meals with them, and take them at their own convenience; which practice is adopted for the sole accommodation of the operatives.

A. 55.—Those who reside in the neighbourhood go to their meals, or stop in the mill, at discretion, and have them brought by some branch of the family.



Cheshire.

Thomas Ashton.

A. 57.—If any children in my mills are refractory, we send them home to their parents for correction.

A. 58.—None, to my knowledge.

A. 62.—I have given positive orders to that effect, and this has been well known through my mills many years.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Refer to Dr. Kay's pamphlet, or that of a Lancashire Cotton Spinner, recently published, the statements in which are strictly correct so far as regards my establishment.

A. 66.—Those employed at an early age make the best work-people, and are the most orderly when grown up.

A. 67.—Refer to Dr. Kay's pamphlet, in which is a statistical account of the deaths and contributions to sick persons in my establishment, from whence general inferences may be drawn.

A. 68.—Occasionally. But these cases very seldom occur.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No, never.

A. 71.—No.

THOMAS ASHTON.

No. 42.

J. Horsfield.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH HORSFIELD, Hyde, near Stockport.

A. 1.—Township of Hyde, in the parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and weaving.

A. 3.—Spinning, 1813; spinning and weaving, 1819 and 1824.

A. 4.—Steam power, one hundred and forty-four horses.

A. 5.—Flues, windows, and regular thoroughfare by doors, &c.

A. 6.—Opening windows and flues.

A. 7.—At the discretion of any of the work-people, subject to the inspection of the over-looker.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts fenced off.

A. 9.—A reasonable time for changing clothes, and water at all times for washing.

A. 10.—From nine to ten years. No other trades.

A. 11.—Not indispensably so.

A. 12.—None whatever.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—None lodged or maintained as orphans; and others their parents visit when and how often they please.

A. 16.—Their parents.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, nine hours for one day.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a quarter.

A. 20.—Three hundred days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty.

A. 22.—All alike.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve and a quarter.

A. 25.—For repair of machinery at casual times.

A. 26.—Any hours above twelve and a quarter avoidable.

A. 27 & 28.—No.

A. 29.—No inducement.

A. 30.—No increase.

A. 31.—No extra hours required.

A. 32.—No change of hands has been required, not being necessary.

A. 33.—No night hands.

A. 37.—If less than twelve hours, the hands will be paid for so much less.

A. 38.—Some, such as weaving, at the heat of 55° to 65°; dressing, 60° to 70°; spinning, 60° to 65°.

A. 39.—From 60° to 70°, regulated by their own option.

A. 40.—Forty.

A. 41.—None.

A. 50.—Gas during winter evenings.

A. 51.—Same as day.

A. 52.—No night work after eight in the evening.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea, all hands.

A. 54.—Most of them.

A. 55.—Those that remain is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Not aware of any effect of any alteration if taken out of the manufactory.

A. 57.—By request and appeal to their parents.

A. 58.—None allowed.

A. 59.—Sent home to their parents.

A. 60 &amp; 61.



- A. 60 & 61.—Not to my knowledge, or with my sanction.  
 A. 62.—They have been forbidden in all cases.  
 A. 63.—No instructions.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Some in the houses of the employer; schooling for their moral improvement, and general request to cleanliness.  
 A. 66.—Very little difference in skill and general character.  
 A. 67.—From my own opinion generally improved; arising from greater conveniences and other facilities.  
 A. 68.—In some instances.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 72.—None.  
 A. 73.—I can only answer for my own, but I conform to the provisions of the act.  
 A. 74.—I do not know that they have.  
 A. 75.—I do not know.  
 A. 76.—I have no means of knowing.  
 A. 77.—I have no reason to believe that they have.  
 A. 78.—I am not prepared with any other means either to secure obedience, or for regulating the hours of labour.  
 A. 79.—No.

JOSEPH HORSFIELD.

Cheshire.

J. Horsfield.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. CHARLES and THOMAS HOWARD, Hyde, near Stockport.

No. 43.

C. & T. Howard.

- A. 1.—Mill situated in the township of Hyde, parish of Stockport, and county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Blowing, carding, spinning, winding, warping, dressing, and weaving.  
 A. 3.—Erected at three different times: 1818, began spinning; 1822, began weaving; 1825, its present purpose.  
 A. 4.—One hundred and sixteen horse power of steam engines.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Provision for the ventilation of the mill is by sash windows.  
 A. 7.—The overlooker, or any person employed, to suit their convenience.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have arrangements on entering, to enable them to hang up their clothes, and water conveyed into every room by pipes for personal cleanliness and other conveniences.  
 A. 10.—We never employ children under nine years of age. As to previous employment, we make no enquiry. If they have not been accustomed to mills, we have to teach them.  
 A. 11.—The nature of our work requires children at all ages, beginning at nine and continuing until you may please to call them men or women, and cannot be dispensed with.  
 A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have made no difference with respect to the employment of a greater or less proportion of children.  
 A. 13.—No; we never employed apprentices.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty.  
 A. 22.—We cannot carry on our works in different parts; they are dependent upon each other, in regular succession.  
 A. 23.—The average of hours of work each day of the week is, for five days, twelve hours and one day, nine hours.  
 A. 25.—Owing to time lost by accidents.  
 A. 26.—Quite unavoidable.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—No difference, because time has always been the same.  
 A. 29.—Avariciousness.  
 A. 30.—In as much as we reduce our time on the dotal hands would enhance the value of cost.  
 A. 31.—We never work two sets of hands.  
 A. 32.—We have always been satisfied with one set.  
 A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—We have no answer to make respecting night work or employing two sets of hands, having done no such thing.  
 A. 37.—Unless we can obtain a better price for our manufactured goods, labour must inevitably fall, which will be injurious to the workman.  
 A. 38.—Usual temperature, 75°; lowest temperature, 68°.  
 A. 39.—90°.  
 A. 40.—About one fortieth part.  
 A. 50.—With gas  
 A. 51.—Sash windows.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 53.



Cheshire.

C. & T. Howard.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, for card room hands, mechanics and winders, and all hands under eighteen years of age.

A. 54.—All; excepting spinners, dressers, and weavers, above eighteen years of age, who only stop one hour for dinner.

A. 55.—For mutual convenience.

A. 56.—None; but a lessening of their earnings.

A. 57.—Constant watchfulness over them, and reminding them when they are doing wrong by the overlookers.

A. 58.—Nothing but slight chastisement; what any parent would do to his child.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 60 & 61.—Never.

A. 62.—Yes; rather than punish, discharge.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given for punishment.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A many live in our own cottages: Sunday schools are provided for moral improvement; and where we see uncleanness, we immediately complain.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy show more activity and skill than those taken into employment at a later period.

A. 67.—We can ascribe no difference as to the health of the people during the last ten years.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—In answer to these questions, we submit for your perusal the annexed report from the Stockport Advertiser.

‘OVERWORKING A LAD.—Messrs. C. and T. Howard, cotton manufacturers, of Hyde, were charged by Thomas Foster, the informer, with working William Howard, a piecer in their employ, during the half-hour allowed for breakfast, on the morning of the 26th of June, contrary to the “Act for regulating Cotton Factories.”

‘Foster conducted the case for the conviction, and Mr. Coppock appeared for Messrs. Howard.

‘By Foster.—*Abel Howard*—is the father of William, and has been employed by Messrs. Howard, of Hyde; his son was there on the 26th of June last; he started to work at six o’clock on that morning, and did not go to his breakfast. His son has worked ten weeks at that place, and at no time did he go to his breakfast. Witness took it to him every morning, and always found him employed. His son is twelve years of age. Witness was discharged on that day, the reason why he remembers the time so well.

‘Cross-examined by Mr. Coppock.—Was discharged because he would not be reduced in his wages. Went before Captain Clarke, at Hyde, and summoned Mr. H. for wages, but lost the case; did not say he would be revenged upon Mr. H. for having lost it. His son was cleaning machinery on that morning, when he should have been at breakfast. Is sure he never said he would be revenged. Could not say at what part of the machine the lad was employed.

‘*William Howard*—is twelve years of age; can’t say the Lord’s Prayer; but goes to a Sunday school. Was employed by Mr. C. Howard; was under Wm. Naden, as a piecer; Naden often told him not to go to his breakfast; he told witness to clean drum-bottoms, bolsters, &c. at the breakfast hour—eight o’clock; has seen the master and overlookers in the room with the children at that time.

‘By the Court.—Went to work on that day at six o’clock in the morning, and did not go out to meals until a quarter before twelve. His father brought him his breakfast, and witness always finished eating it about ten minutes before the expiration of the half-hour allowed for that meal; worked immediately after; left off at a quarter before twelve at noon, and at half-past seven in the evening.

‘Cross-examined by Mr. C.—Is sure Naden told him not to go to his breakfast that morning; has worked ten weeks with him; never went to breakfast; never went in the engine-house, or any other place to it; always ate it in the room where he worked. Mr. Howard, his master, came through the room about eight o’clock on that morning; Bradley, the manager, did not come through, or witness should have seen him; both his master and Wm. Naden saw him working; his father brought him his breakfast into the factory. Mr. T. Howard told him twice before to go to his breakfast. Witness’s father told him to come before the magistrates, and no person else. Had never been told by any person what to state.

Mr. Coppock called *David Bradley*, who said he was manager to Messrs. Howard, of Hyde, and had received instructions from his masters to tell all their work-people to leave the mill at meal hours, and particularly to those under sixteen in the room where William Howard works; he might have gone if he chose, for he never was hindered to go to his meals, neither from witness nor his master. The lad had frequently been remonstrated with for not going to his breakfast; witness has often been obliged to turn him out of the factory at those times, and in some instances has beat him for hiding himself in the mill at breakfast-hours. Has for the last three months, by the orders of his masters, gone through the rooms to turn the lads out, and is confident he was through on the morning of the 26th of June.

‘Cross-examined by Foster.—Has given orders to all the people in the mill to go to their meals. It is necessary that cleaning should be done to machinery; it is not allowed to be done at breakfast-hour, but at dinner-time, for which there is a quarter of an hour allowed. It is not a practice to tell them to clean the bolsters at breakfast; did not tell William Howard

to



to do it, nor does he think Naden told him, as it is against the rules that it should be done at that time; went in that room on that morning, and saw they were all gone out; did not see William Howard there; he had to pass through the room to change his coat, and if he had been there, he should have seen him. If he did see any cleaning at breakfast-time, he checked them, and turned them out of the room, as it was contrary to the rules for the hands to clean the machinery then: there was a quarter of an hour allowed at dinner-time, which all the work-people were well acquainted with.

'William Naden—is a spinner, and in the employ of Messrs. C. and T. Howard, of Hyde. William Howard was a piecer to him on the 26th of June. Was ordered to turn them all out of the room at meal-hours, which he invariably did. Never ordered William Howard to clean his machinery during the whole time he had been under him. Has pushed him out of the room at breakfast-time very often, and many times he has actually beat him out of the room, because he would not go at meal-hours. At breakfast-time, he has generally followed him out of the room, and did not leave Wm. Howard in the room on the morning of the 26th of June.

'Cross-examined by Foster.—Has never beat him for neglecting to clean the machinery, but did it for not going to his meals. Cleaning is a necessary operation in spinning.

'William Roberts, a stretcher in the employ of Messrs. Howard, of Hyde, said he heard Abel Howard say, that if he lost the cause against his master at Hyde, he would be revenged, and fine him—he knew how to do it, and would have 20*l.* of the fine, and it should not be for want of swearing.

'At this part of the case two witnesses came forward and voluntarily stated that they had been in conversation with Roberts during the previous examination of Bradley, and that Roberts had said that "before Foster should win he would swear black was white."

'On cross-examination, they said they were both turn-outs, and an endeavour was made to show a discrepancy in their statement, but without success.

'Roberts, being re-examined, contradicted their statement, but admitted that he had said, alluding to the witness under examination, that if he was him he would swear black was white.

'Mr. Coppock said, that on this admission he could not of course avail himself of Roberts's evidence, and his defence must rest on the testimony of Bradley and Naden.

'He then proceeded to remark on the evidence of Abel Howard and his son, and contended that as the working (if any) was done entirely without the knowledge either of Messrs. Howard or their servant, (the master of the lad,) the case could not come within any of the previous decisions of this act; as in those cases the master had been convicted on the ground that the working was known to the spinner, who was the servant of the master, and consequently made the master liable. Here, however, the spinner had stated that he had no knowledge, that he had several times ordered the lad not to work during the half-hour, and that on the morning in question he did not leave the lad in the room. That the evident dispute which had arisen between Messrs. Howard and the father of the lad, and which the father had admitted, though his expressions of revenge could not, on account of the expressions made use of by Roberts, be made available in the defence, threw great discredit on the case; and Mr. C. finally put it strongly to the magistrates, whether, under all the circumstances of the case, they would convict, when the act expressly stated that the offence must be knowingly committed.

'The magistrates retired for a few minutes, and on their return said that they should convict Messrs. Howard in the lowest penalty they could possibly inflict, as they had minutely considered the fact of the boy having been so repeatedly turned out of the mill at meal-hours; and as it appeared to be a vindictive feeling which had brought the matter forward. Convicted in the mitigated penalty of 10*l.* including costs.

'A decision with which Foster appeared to be somewhat discomfited as it will not pay expenses.

'The penalty was immediately afterwards paid, and, with deductions, distributed as the law directs—one half to the informer, and the other half to the poor.'

A. 73.—We can only answer for ourselves.

A. 78.—We believe there needs no further legislative enactment for our neighbourhood.

A. 79.—No.

CHARLES and THOMAS HOWARD.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN HOWARD, Hyde, near Stockport.

A. 1.—Hyde, in the parish of Stockport, and county of Cheshire.

A. 2.—Carding, spinning, dressing, and weaving.

A. 3.—Erected in 1792, in 1805, in 1810, in 1819, in 1822. Used for carding and spinning until 1820; afterwards, for all the branches as described at No. 2.

A. 4.—Steam, eighty-four horses' power. As the building and machinery were increased, the engines became too weak to turn the machinery, and then (invariably) they were irregular in their speed, and often out of order. When the power was adequate, all went on well. From the year 1792 to 1805 I was turned by water equal to six horses' power, and witnessed the same causes (as above stated) producing the same effects.

A. 5.—Part is ventilated by hung sashes. Other part by small casements; one to each window. A third by flues proceeding from the room, above the slate.

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I

A. 6.

Cheshire.

C. & T. Howard.

No. 44.

John Howard.



Cheshire.

*John Howard.*

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the sashes and small casements; the others are constantly open.

A. 7.—Generally by the work-people. In the carding rooms it is controlled by the overlooker.

A. 8.—All parts are fenced off, which can be done, and make them less dangerous.

A. 9.—No room set apart for changing clothes. We have conveniences in the same room to enable them to make the change; and beforetime we had conveniences for washing inside also. Experience has taught us to make arrangements for washing at three long troughs outside of the mill (and in the shade), where warm steam water is conveyed from the steam pipes in the mill through the troughs, by which means the water is always clean and sweet. Introduced twelve years ago.

A. 10.—Nine years old. We avoid those who have been employed at other trades, unless they come to us very young. The habits of those coming from most other trades don't suit the cotton trade.

A. 11.—!! Our work does not require them; but past experience proves to me the necessity of children going to work young. Many a bold child is reclaimed, and many poor families are fed by early working of children.

A. 12.—!! Machinery would not require children to work it, only to save expense. It is the master's circumstances in his business which are ever prompting him to contrive machines which children can look after. Lately, those machines have been extensively adopted.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14 & 15.—None.

A. 16.—Employ none.

A. 17.—Spinners, dressers, and weavers are employed thirteen hours each day, five days in the week, and eight and a half hours on the Saturdays in winter, and nine hours on the Saturdays in summer. All other hands in the carding department under eighteen are employed twelve hours a day, five days in the week, and eight and a half hours and nine hours on the Saturdays. Above eighteen, same as spinners, dressers, and weavers.

A. 18.—All the piecers under eighteen years of age are employed twelve hours each day, five days in the week, and eight and a half hours on Saturdays through the winter season, and nine hours on Saturdays for the remainder of the year.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and thirty-two hours.

A. 22.—All parts have gone on at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve and a quarter hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—1832. October 30th and 31st, November 13th, 14th, 27th, and 28th, December 11th, 12th, and 24th, half an hour over the regular time, each of the above days. Circumstances were to work up some lost time occasioned by the engines being out of order, requiring immediate repair; another circumstance was the working up time lost by going to see Hyde New Church when the Bishop of Chester came to consecrate it.

A. 26.—It cannot be avoided unless the master must abate the work-people's wages for the time lost. Accidents do occur, and I fear always will occur, so as to cause temporary stoppages.

A. 27.—In the year 1802 I worked two sets of hands; one in the night, the other in the day. After seven weeks' trial I gave it up, finding the work-people were losing their principles and their usual regard for me: I consequently concluded to forego the profit of night working rather than lead a troubled life; afterwards I worked one set of hands fifteen hours a day as long as we could bear; then fourteen hours; and at length came to my present time. Since, the people have been healthy and comfortable, save at times when I wished them to work for less price for their labour; and giving them less, they have twice turned out; at these times changes in the machinery have been made, and these changes have invariably tended to require younger hands.

A. 28.—The cost of producing will always be in proportion to the time worked (confining myself to an original outlay). If I could make five per cent. on that outlay by working ten hours a day, I should make nine per cent. on the same amount by working ten hours in the night and ten hours in the day; and this mode of working, no doubt, will ensue if less than sixty-nine hours the week are allowed for day working. I recommend seventy-two hours on the moving power each day's work, the engine to run the time between five in the morning and eight or nine at night; afterwards, whatever time is lost in that day, let it be lost both to masters and men, and let this regulation extend to both steam and water power.

A. 29.—For the sake of profit, and sometimes to please the work-people; for oftentimes when their circumstances require extra labour, they would go to that extra labour for the extra pay: where this happens, the extra labour is extra profit to the master; and this is a sufficient answer why we mutually act against existing laws.

A. 31.—There is no objection when hands are plentiful; when they are not, relays are troublesome; the people at such times seldom work in good temper.

A. 32.—Children can work seventy-two hours a week, and keep their health. If two sets were employed, and worked eight hours each, this short time would ruin both sets; they would become careless, and idle, and useless.

A. 33.—The time I worked in the night I was twenty hours each day on duty, endeavouring to procure hands who would follow each other and do their work properly. Labour

was



was then in demand, consequently, on that account I failed; I did not, neither could I, enforce those regulations the trade required.

A. 34.—They worked alternately with me; still I had no peace: one set, mostly in the night, spoiled their work; consequently it made both sets of no value. This would not be the case now, for hands could be procured for night and day work, who would do their duty.

A. 36.—The concern would be less profitable, and the work-people more peaceable, until their wants required a change. I wish here to remark, that a ten hours bill would produce that change.

A. 37.—In my answer to No. 28, you will find my sentiments as to part of this question. The grounds of my opinion arise from a knowledge of a daily decrease in our profits. Tradesmen have no inducement to pay great wages, or employ work hands, unless they can profit from their labour: I am strongly of opinion that a reduction of working hours would reduce wages, and then you make way for night work.

A. 38.—Carding, spinning, and weaving from 68° to 75°; dressing from 75° to 85°. The temperature we strive to maintain in spinning and weaving is 70°, dressing 80°.

A. 39.—80°.

A. 40.—Twenty-two, equal to one-thirtieth part of the whole number employed.

A. 41.—None.

A. 47.—We are calculated for all processes to go together, and all other mills are the same, where the masters wish to work reasonable time.

A. 48.—None with us.

A. 50.—In the winter season, to finish the day's work. The works are lighted with gas.

A. 52.—It has a strong tendency to lower their morals.

A. 53.—Spinners, dressers, and weavers have one hour for dinner; all the card-room hands have half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and about one half of them have half an hour for afternoon lunch; the piecers and all the other hands in the mill have half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for afternoon lunch.

A. 54.—About two thirds leave at breakfast and afternoon lunch, and all leave at dinner.

A. 55.—The greater part continue at their work from choice, and the remainder for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—In bad weather the work-people are injured by leaving the mill so short a time as half an hour; the good weather would not have the effect before mentioned; but going out is the greatest evil, unless in the middle of the day.

A. 57.—In some cases we fine, in most cases we discharge, finding the disobedient for the most part of sullen temper.

A. 58.—Yes; the rod is never spared when required.

A. 59.—By overlookers and foremen generally; none others are allowed, except parents.

A. 60 & 61.—Yes.

A. 62.—I have forbidden corporal punishment being inflicted by those who have heretofore been too severe, and also by those whose passions get the better of their judgment; nevertheless, I maintain the answer made opposite No. 58.

A. 63.—I never meditate war; fathers and mothers have consulted with me, and we have mutually agreed what to do to win a refractory workman. The conduct agreed upon has been persisted in, and we have, jointly, made many bad children good members in society.

A. 64.—I never had a complaint of this kind carried before a magistrate; my overlooker and foremen have been too closely watched by the work-people's parents, whose recourse has been, to complain to me when they thought their children have been undeservingly punished, and to my knowledge I never turned a deaf ear to a charge of this kind.

A. 65.—The greatest part live in their employer's houses. Example is the control I have hitherto exercised for their moral and social improvement, and my houses are all arranged to encourage domestic cleanliness. Please to come and see them.

A. 66.—Those employed from youth are active and obliging, and their skill enables them to get more money in a given time; those coming on at later periods seldom or ever make dexterous workmen.

A. 67.—When the people avoid drinking and go regularly to rest, they are and have been healthy and strong for the last ten years. Since the beer houses have opened, it has been worse for them.

A. 68.—Yes; as often as we find their constitutions require it.

A. 69.—Certainly so. If not, what must become of our laws?

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 73.—We do not conform farther than this; — the doors have been set open, and the people under age have been desired to go out; other mill owners can answer for themselves.

A. 74.—I should prefer stopping my works, rather than go on working with people with whom I could not agree.

A. 75.—Here, never. One of my neighbours was once fined, and, from the knowledge I have of the circumstance, I think very improperly.

A. 76.—None wanted.

A. 77.—They are afraid of severe masters; and they are too kind to give evidence against those masters *who do, and have, worked in self defence.*

A. 78.—I have answered this question at 27, 28, 29, & 32, in a certain degree. A plain simple law declaring the time the moving power shall go, is all that is wanted; seventy-two hours  
(APP.—D. 1.)

Cheshire.

John Howard.



Cheshire.

*John Howard.*

hours a week are enough to be run in a given time, and a less number will entail a curse instead of a blessing.

A. 79.—Let it be decisive. Let some law be enforced which will be lasting and effective a bad law is as good, if not better, than constant agitation.

JOHN HOWARD.

No. 45.

*Thomas Adshead.*

ANSWERS of THOMAS ADSHEAD, for the Executors of the late Mr. CHARLES HOLT, Millgate, Stockport.

A. 1.—Millgate, Stockport, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Carding and spinning.

A. 3.—It was originally built by Squire Bampford as a residence; but has been converted into a cotton mill twenty years and upwards.

A. 4.—Steam, eleven horses' power.

A. 5.—We have no provision but the opening of the windows.

A. 6.—It entirely depends on the opening of the windows, for we have fifty windows in the mill and we open thirty; so that we have sufficient ventilation without any other means.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker.

A. 8.—They are fenced where they can be.

A. 9.—Almost all the females provide themselves a working dress, so that they work in one dress and go out in another; and all may wash and keep themselves clean if they will, as there are both mugs of their own providing, and buckets of ours.

A. 10.—We do not employ any under nine years of age.

A. 11.—We would rather have them above twelve years of age than under.

A. 12.—We believe they have not, but rather the reverse.

A. 13.—No, not one.

A. 15.—We do not lodge any.

A. 16.—Yes; the manager and overlooker.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours; nine on Saturdays.

A. 18.—Those under eighteen years of age, twelve hours per day; and they that are eighteen and upwards, thirteen hours per day.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours, when we have lost time by the engine stopping.

A. 20.—We have only been entered upon the mill about eight months, or two hundred and twenty-six days, up to the 11th of May.

A. 21.—During the two hundred and twenty-six working days we have occupied the mill, we have worked two thousand seven hundred and two hours forty minutes.

A. 22.—The works have been regularly carried on, and not one part going and the other part standing.

A. 23.—The average number of hours to each day is eleven hours; fifty-seven and a half, including Saturdays.

A. 24.—Those under eighteen years of age, twelve and a half hours, that is, a half hour extra when we have lost time; and those above eighteen, thirteen and a half hours, when we have lost time.

A. 25.—Instead of the mills stopping at eight o'clock at night, we run them half-past eight.

A. 26.—No, not altogether unavoidable.

A. 27.—No, never.

A. 29.—Interest, certainly.

A. 30.—We certainly find a disadvantage in turning our nonages out to their meals, by having less work done.

A. 31.—I do not consider that we work any extra hours.

A. 32.—We have not tried it, because we do not need it.

A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—We have not any night work. But my opinion with respect to night work is, that if it were put a stop to every where, it would be a general good.

A. 37.—With respect to a further reduction of hours per day lower than to twelve hours, I believe that it would for a long time bring poverty and ruin to hundreds of families.

A. 38.—With respect to temperature, it is frequently cooler in our mill than out of the mill, owing to the opening of so many windows and such a current of air passing through.

A. 39.—We require no particular heat, but our card-room to be kept dry and as free from damp as possible.

A. 40.—We employ twelve hands in that department.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The windows are a little open.

A. 52.—We have not tried it.

A. 53.—For those under eighteen years of age, the time allowed for meals is two hours in each day; and those above eighteen years of age, one hour.

A. 54.—All those under eighteen years of age leave their employ during meal times.

A. 55.—For the convenience of both.

A. 56.—If all must go to their meals, the work must be suspended, and the machinery stop.

A. 57.—Sometimes persuasive language, and sometimes sharp language, just as the nature of the case and the temper of hand requires it.

A. 58.



A. 58.—If there are any punished so it is against our orders, we do not allow it by any person.

A. 63.—Our orders are, that if they will not do their work send them home.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—There are no houses belonging to the mill, and our workpeople live in various parts of the town, where they think proper.

A. 66.—We believe, generally speaking, that those hands who have been trained in a mill are the most useful.

A. 67.—We cannot say for ten years nor ten months; but we have suffered more within the last ten days through the influenza than we have of all the time before since we came to the mill.

A. 68.—Each finish their own work.

A. 69.—Yes; it is subject to the last bill brought in by Sir John Cam Hobhouse.

A. 70.—No; we have not.

A. 73.—Some do and some do not.

A. 74.—Some have and some have not.

A. 76.—In some cases, and in others not.

A. 78.—The suggestion that I should throw out respecting an alteration, if there must be one, is a twelve hours' bill for all ages, and the moving power to be fined; and to do away with night-work in mills altogether, and not to allow it on any account whatever.

A. 79.—No.

THOMAS ADSHEAD, for the Executors of the late Mr. Charles Holt.

Cheshire.

Thomas Adshead.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. CHEETHAM and HILL, Stalybridge, Stockport.

No. 46.

Cheetham & Hill.

A. 1.—Town of Stalybridge, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in the year 1826.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5 & 6.—By openings in the windows in the card and spinning rooms, and by a fan, worked by power, in the blowing-room.

A. 7.—At the discretion of those employed.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—Our hands living contiguous to the works, provisions of this nature are not required.

A. 10.—No children are admitted under nine years of age.

A. 11.—Do not suppose children are required under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Do not suppose the recent alterations in machinery require children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—Not any.

A. 16.—Not any.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days and nine for Saturday.

A. 18.—The persons from eighteen to twenty-one years of age as those above twenty-one; those below eighteen work twelve hours for five days and nine for the Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty-four hours.

460 hands employed, as per Schedule, Forms, A, B, C, D, and

F. Total wages of which in month ending Saturday

May 4th - - - - £881 19 3

53 hands, adults, not enumerated in above returns; total

wages of which in month ending Saturday May 4th - 201 5 4

513 Total number.

Total wages for the month £1083 4 7

A. 22.—All parts of our works commence and stop together.

A. 23.—Twelve and one third hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—In no instance.

A. 26.—If time be lost, unless the same be made up, it is a loss to the proprietors.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—If he be a capitalist he does it to increase the interest of the amount laid out, and if he borrows his capital he works longer hours to realise the interest, together with some profit for the repayment of his stock; and, again, if the capital he employs is so small that it will not maintain him, he is induced to work a little longer to obtain that desirable point.

A. 30.—The limitation or lessening of hours has the effect of enhancing the cost of production in the ratio that such limitation or lessening bears to any fixed hours upon all fixed charges of merchandise.

A. 31.—Have not occasion for hands in this way.

(APP.—D. 1.)

K

A. 32.



Cheshire.

John Howard.

hours a week are enough to be run in a given time, and a less number will entail a curse instead of a blessing.

A. 79.—Let it be decisive. Let some law be enforced which will be lasting and effective a bad law is as good, if not better, than constant agitation.

JOHN HOWARD.

No. 45.

Thomas Adshead.

ANSWERS of THOMAS ADSHEAD, for the Executors of the late Mr. CHARLES HOLT, Millgate, Stockport.

A. 1.—Millgate, Stockport, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Carding and spinning.

A. 3.—It was originally built by Squire Bampford as a residence; but has been converted into a cotton mill twenty years and upwards.

A. 4.—Steam, eleven horses' power.

A. 5.—We have no provision but the opening of the windows.

A. 6.—It entirely depends on the opening of the windows, for we have fifty windows in the mill and we open thirty; so that we have sufficient ventilation without any other means.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker.

A. 8.—They are fenced where they can be.

A. 9.—Almost all the females provide themselves a working dress, so that they work in one dress and go out in another; and all may wash and keep themselves clean if they will, as there are both mugs of their own providing, and buckets of ours.

A. 10.—We do not employ any under nine years of age.

A. 11.—We would rather have them above twelve years of age than under.

A. 12.—We believe they have not, but rather the reverse.

A. 13.—No, not one.

A. 15.—We do not lodge any.

A. 16.—Yes; the manager and overlooker.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours; nine on Saturdays.

A. 18.—Those under eighteen years of age, twelve hours per day; and they that are eighteen and upwards, thirteen hours per day.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours, when we have lost time by the engine stopping.

A. 20.—We have only been entered upon the mill about eight months, or two hundred and twenty-six days, up to the 11th of May.

A. 21.—During the two hundred and twenty-six working days we have occupied the mill, we have worked two thousand seven hundred and two hours forty minutes.

A. 22.—The works have been regularly carried on, and not one part going and the other part standing.

A. 23.—The average number of hours to each day is eleven hours; fifty-seven and a half, including Saturdays.

A. 24.—Those under eighteen years of age, twelve and a half hours, that is, a half hour extra when we have lost time; and those above eighteen, thirteen and a half hours, when we have lost time.

A. 25.—Instead of the mills stopping at eight o'clock at night, we run them half-past eight.

A. 26.—No, not altogether unavoidable.

A. 27.—No, never.

A. 29.—Interest, certainly.

A. 30.—We certainly find a disadvantage in turning our nonages out to their meals, by having less work done.

A. 31.—I do not consider that we work any extra hours.

A. 32.—We have not tried it, because we do not need it.

A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—We have not any night work. But my opinion with respect to night work is, that if it were put a stop to every where, it would be a general good.

A. 37.—With respect to a further reduction of hours per day lower than to twelve hours, I believe that it would for a long time bring poverty and ruin to hundreds of families.

A. 38.—With respect to temperature, it is frequently cooler in our mill than out of the mill, owing to the opening of so many windows and such a current of air passing through.

A. 39.—We require no particular heat, but our card-room to be kept dry and as free from damp as possible.

A. 40.—We employ twelve hands in that department.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The windows are a little open.

A. 52.—We have not tried it.

A. 53.—For those under eighteen years of age, the time allowed for meals is two hours in each day; and those above eighteen years of age, one hour.

A. 54.—All those under eighteen years of age leave their employ during meal times.

A. 55.—For the convenience of both.

A. 56.—If all must go to their meals, the work must be suspended, and the machinery stop.

A. 57.—Sometimes persuasive language, and sometimes sharp language, just as the nature of the case and the temper of hand requires it.

A. 58.



- A. 58.—If there are any punished so it is against our orders, we do not allow it by any person.  
 A. 63.—Our orders are, that if they will not do their work send them home.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—There are no houses belonging to the mill, and our workpeople live in various parts of the town, where they think proper.  
 A. 66.—We believe, generally speaking, that those hands who have been trained in a mill are the most useful.  
 A. 67.—We cannot say for ten years nor ten months; but we have suffered more within the last ten days through the influenza than we have of all the time before since we came to the mill.  
 A. 68.—Each finish their own work.  
 A. 69.—Yes; it is subject to the last bill brought in by Sir John Cam Hobhouse.  
 A. 70.—No; we have not.  
 A. 73.—Some do and some do not.  
 A. 74.—Some have and some have not.  
 A. 76.—In some cases, and in others not.  
 A. 78.—The suggestion that I should throw out respecting an alteration, if there must be one, is a twelve hours' bill for all ages, and the moving power to be fined; and to do away with night-work in mills altogether, and not to allow it on any account whatever.  
 A. 79.—No.

Cheshire.

Thomas Adshead.

THOMAS ADSHEAD, for the Executors of the late Mr. Charles Holt.

ANSWERS of Messrs. CHEETHAM and HILL, Stalybridge, Stockport.

No. 46.

Cheetham & Hill.

- A. 1.—Town of Stalybridge, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected in the year 1826.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—By openings in the windows in the card and spinning rooms, and by a fan, worked by power, in the blowing-room.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of those employed.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Our hands living contiguous to the works, provisions of this nature are not required.  
 A. 10.—No children are admitted under nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—Do not suppose children are required under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—Do not suppose the recent alterations in machinery require children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—Not any.  
 A. 16.—Not any.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days and nine for Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The persons from eighteen to twenty-one years of age as those above twenty-one; those below eighteen work twelve hours for five days and nine for the Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty-four hours.  
 460 hands employed, as per Schedule, Forms, A, B, C, D, and  
 F. Total wages of which in month ending Saturday  
 May 4th - £881 19 3  
 53 hands, adults, not enumerated in above returns; total  
 wages of which in month ending Saturday May 4th - 201 5 4  
 513 Total number. Total wages for the month £1083 4 7

- A. 22.—All parts of our works commence and stop together.  
 A. 23.—Twelve and one third hours.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—In no instance.  
 A. 26.—If time be lost, unless the same be made up, it is a loss to the proprietors.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—If he be a capitalist he does it to increase the interest of the amount laid out, and if he borrows his capital he works longer hours to realise the interest, together with some profit for the repayment of his stock; and, again, if the capital he employs is so small that it will not maintain him, he is induced to work a little longer to obtain that desirable point.  
 A. 30.—The limitation or lessening of hours has the effect of enhancing the cost of production in the ratio that such limitation or lessening bears to any fixed hours upon all fixed charges of merchandise.  
 A. 31.—Have not occasion for hands in this way.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)



Cheshire.

*John Howard.*

hours a week are enough to be run in a given time, and a less number will entail a curse instead of a blessing.

A. 79.—Let it be decisive. Let some law be enforced which will be lasting and effective a bad law is as good, if not better, than constant agitation.

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- A. 1.—Millgate, Stockport, Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Carding and spinning.  
 A. 3.—It was originally built by Squire Bampford as a residence; but has been converted into a cotton mill twenty years and upwards.  
 A. 4.—Steam, eleven horses' power.  
 A. 5.—We have no provision but the opening of the windows.  
 A. 6.—It entirely depends on the opening of the windows, for we have fifty windows in the mill and we open thirty; so that we have sufficient ventilation without any other means.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—They are fenced where they can be.  
 A. 9.—Almost all the females provide themselves a working dress, so that they work in one dress and go out in another; and all may wash and keep themselves clean if they will, as there are both mugs of their own providing, and buckets of ours.  
 A. 10.—We do not employ any under nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—We would rather have them above twelve years of age than under.  
 A. 12.—We believe they have not, but rather the reverse.  
 A. 13.—No, not one.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge any.  
 A. 16.—Yes; the manager and overlooker.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours; nine on Saturdays.  
 A. 18.—Those under eighteen years of age, twelve hours per day; and they that are eighteen and upwards, thirteen hours per day.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours, when we have lost time by the engine stopping.  
 A. 20.—We have only been entered upon the mill about eight months, or two hundred and twenty-six days, up to the 11th of May.  
 A. 21.—During the two hundred and twenty-six working days we have occupied the mill, we have worked two thousand seven hundred and two hours forty minutes.  
 A. 22.—The works have been regularly carried on, and not one part going and the other part standing.  
 A. 23.—The average number of hours to each day is eleven hours; fifty-seven and a half, including Saturdays.  
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 A. 25.—Instead of the mills stopping at eight o'clock at night, we run them half-past eight.  
 A. 26.—No, not altogether unavoidable.  
 A. 27.—No, never.  
 A. 29.—Interest, certainly.  
 A. 30.—We certainly find a disadvantage in turning our nonages out to their meals, by having less work done.  
 A. 31.—I do not consider that we work any extra hours.  
 A. 32.—We have not tried it, because we do not need it.  
 A. 33, 34, 35, & 36.—We have not any night work. But my opinion with respect to night work is, that if it were put a stop to every where, it would be a general good.  
 A. 37.—With respect to a further reduction of hours per day lower than to twelve hours, I believe that it would for a long time bring poverty and ruin to hundreds of families.  
 A. 38.—With respect to temperature, it is frequently cooler in our mill than out of the mill, owing to the opening of so many windows and such a current of air passing through.  
 A. 39.—We require no particular heat, but our card-room to be kept dry and as free from damp as possible.  
 A. 40.—We employ twelve hands in that department.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—The windows are a little open.  
 A. 52.—We have not tried it.  
 A. 53.—For those under eighteen years of age, the time allowed for meals is two hours in each day; and those above eighteen years of age, one hour.  
 A. 54.—All those under eighteen years of age leave their employ during meal times.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of both.  
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A. 58.



A. 58.—If there are any punished so it is against our orders, we do not allow it by any person.

A. 63.—Our orders are, that if they will not do their work send them home.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—There are no houses belonging to the mill, and our workpeople live in various parts of the town, where they think proper.

A. 66.—We believe, generally speaking, that those hands who have been trained in a mill are the most useful.

A. 67.—We cannot say for ten years nor ten months; but we have suffered more within the last ten days through the influenza than we have of all the time before since we came to the mill.

A. 68.—Each finish their own work.

A. 69.—Yes; it is subject to the last bill brought in by Sir John Cam Hobhouse.

A. 70.—No; we have not.

A. 73.—Some do and some do not.

A. 74.—Some have and some have not.

A. 76.—In some cases, and in others not.

A. 78.—The suggestion that I should throw out respecting an alteration, if there must be one, is a twelve hours' bill for all ages, and the moving power to be fined; and to do away with night-work in mills altogether, and not to allow it on any account whatever.

A. 79.—No.

THOMAS ADSHEAD, for the Executors of the late Mr. Charles Holt.

Cheshire.

Thomas Adshead.

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A. 11.—Do not suppose children are required under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Do not suppose the recent alterations in machinery require children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—Not any.

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A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days and nine for Saturday.

A. 18.—The persons from eighteen to twenty-one years of age as those above twenty-one; those below eighteen work twelve hours for five days and nine for the Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

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Total wages for the month £1083 4 7

A. 22.—All parts of our works commence and stop together.

A. 23.—Twelve and one third hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—In no instance.

A. 26.—If time be lost, unless the same be made up, it is a loss to the proprietors.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—If he be a capitalist he does it to increase the interest of the amount laid out, and if he borrows his capital he works longer hours to realise the interest, together with some profit for the repayment of his stock; and, again, if the capital he employs is so small that it will not maintain him, he is induced to work a little longer to obtain that desirable point.

A. 30.—The limitation or lessening of hours has the effect of enhancing the cost of production in the ratio that such limitation or lessening bears to any fixed hours upon all fixed charges of merchandise.

A. 31.—Have not occasion for hands in this way.

(APP.—D. 1.)

K

A. 32.



Cheshire.

Cheetham & Hill.

- A. 32.—Not aware of such trials having been made.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—Have never worked in the night.  
 A. 37.—The effects of a reduction of time are as stated in answer to Question 30; and, further, if a reduction from twelve to ten hours per day does take place, it will have the effect of ruining all capital bearing five per cent. interest, together with all small capitalists, the profits of stock being so small on cotton-spinning.  
 A. 38.—76° Fahrenheit.  
 A. 39.—76° as above.  
 A. 40.—Nearly all.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour; half an hour for afternoon refreshment.  
 A. 54.—All persons.  
 A. 57.—The children are required to do what is their work, or subject to dismissal.  
 A. 58.—Not to our knowledge, as we protest against it even of the father to the child.  
 A. 59.—Not by any one.  
 A. 62.—Have forbidden such punishments, nor has any case come before us, or to our knowledge.  
 A. 63.—Not any instructions in writing.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—Not with us.  
 A. 68.—Do not make such selection.  
 A. 69.—Subject to the present act.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 78.—The present law is not efficient. We want a bill binding the moving power for sixty-nine hours per week; twelve hours for five days and nine hours for Saturday.  
 A. 79.—Only let us have an effective bill for sixty-nine hours per week.

CHEETHAM &amp; HILL.

No. 47.

T. Buckley & Co.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS BUCKLEY and Co. Stockport.

- A. 1.—Stockport, county of Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Throstle-spinning.  
 A. 3.—We commenced last September; the mill was erected several years before.  
 A. 4.—Steam and water; tolerably regular; fifteen horses power.  
 A. 5.—When warm we open the windows. The cotton does not spin so well if the rooms are too hot.  
 A. 6.—The above answer applies to this.  
 A. 7.—The workpeople open the windows when they please.  
 A. 8.—All are fenced off that are at all dangerous.  
 A. 9.—Our workpeople have clothes for working in, which they put on and off as their work requires; there is a cistern of fine fresh water in the yard, to which they all have access.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age, none under; we believe none of ours have been at any other work.  
 A. 11.—Not essentially; but they become better acquainted with their business when put to learn it early.  
 A. 12.—We believe less than formerly.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—The children we employ are for the most part with their parents.  
 A. 16.—The manager looks over them.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days, nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours for five days, nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—We commenced in September last.  
 A. 21.—Ditto.  
 A. 22.—All worked together.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours for five days each week, nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 25.—None.  
 A. 26.—None; except to repair accidents, or to make up lost time in such a case.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29. To make money: the system of night-working is very demoralizing.  
 A. 30.—In any business, if one sixth is reduced from the hours of labour the article produced will cost about one fourth more.  
 A. 31.—There would not be enough of children in this town to work in relay; the present time is not injurious to their health.  
 A. 32.—The wages would be so much less that the parents would object.  
 A. 33 & 34.—No; we disapprove of the principle, as it injures body and mind.  
 A. 36.—Such would prevent insolvent men from producing yarn at a lower price than solvent men; few solvent men work at night.

A. 37.



- A. 37.—It would increase the cost, and give a stimulant to foreign manufacture.  
 A. 38.—From 60° to 70°.  
 A. 39.—70°.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 51.—Opening the windows.  
 A. 52.—We don't know; but should think very detrimental to health as well as morals.  
 A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, one half hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—Some do and some do not; it is just as they please.  
 A. 55.—We can't tell the reason, as they go for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—None that we know of.  
 A. 57.—Abating their wages, or dismissing them.  
 A. 58.—Certainly not.  
 A. 62.—We had no occasion to give any orders on the subject, as such would not be practised by our people; they dare not.  
 A. 63.—To abate their wages and inform their parents of their neglect, or other misconduct.  
 A. 64.—None whatever.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Those employed at an early age are much better masters of their business than those employed at a later period.  
 A. 67.—We believe the health to be much better since mills have been kept cleaner.  
 A. 68.—There are no injurious effects from cotton-spinning.  
 A. 69.—It is, undoubtedly.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—Pretty generally; there are informers always ready to take advantage of any opening.  
 A. 74.—We believe not.  
 A. 78.—We think the penalties are quite sufficient; the children are well treated and perfectly satisfied: in truth there has been a great deal more said against mill and mill-owners than deserves notice.  
 A. 79.—The people in mills are generally happy, healthy, and well satisfied, old and young.

THOMAS BUCKLEY & Co.

Cheshire.

T. Buckley & Co.

ANSWERS of EDWARD HOLLINS, Stockport, Cheshire.

No. 48.  
Edward Hollins

- A. 1.—Stockport, Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and weaving.  
 A. 3.—Part in 1806, the rest several years before.  
 A. 4.—Steam and water, the latter extremely irregular, and owing to the better draining of land higher up the river, getting more so yearly: varies from twenty-five horses power to one hundred.  
 A. 5.—No; except in the dressing-room, where there are three ventilators in the roof.  
 A. 6.—Upon the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker and those employed near each window.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts of gearing are guarded.  
 A. 9.—Only for additional clothing.  
 A. 10.—None younger than nine years old.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—A fewer number.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve every day except Saturday, on which they work nine.  
 A. 18.—The same.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixty-five hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—From excess or want of water.  
 A. 26.—Not without great loss to the proprietor.  
 A. 27.—Yes, half an hour.  
 A. 28.—Certainly.  
 A. 29.—Cheapness, and the desire to have his sunken capital reproduced as speedily as possible, and this desire is further strengthened by the invention of new machinery superseding in some degree the old.  
 A. 30.—In every branch.  
 A. 32 & 33.—No.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 37.



Cheshire.

Edward Hollins.

- A. 37.—Eventually a reduction of wages more than in proportion to the reduction of time, and closely approximating to the scale of wages in the agricultural districts.
- A. 38.—Sixty to sixty-five degrees.
- A. 39.—Seventy-five to eighty-five, for dressing.
- A. 40.—Six men.
- A. 41.—None.
- A. 50.—With gas.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; they are also allowed to get their tea, but have no regular time for stopping.
- A. 54.—Most of them.
- A. 55.—The convenience of the workpeople.
- A. 57.—Dismission.
- A. 58.—No.
- A. 63.—None.
- A. 64.—Never.
- A. 65.—Not generally in the houses of their employers; all fines go to a library instituted for the improvement of the workpeople.
- A. 66.—If persons are employed not later than fifteen or sixteen years of age, not much difference.
- A. 67.—I should say that owing to improvement in machinery and other causes, most mills are cleaner and therefore more favourable to health.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 71.—No.
- A. 77.—The present mode of laying informations naturally causes ill-will and suspicion between masters and men.
- A. 78.—None but by improving their moral condition, by causing other demands for labour, lessening the weight of taxation, and supplying them with cheaper food.

EDWARD HOLLINS.

No. 49.

T. Femley, Jun.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS FEMLEY, Junior, Chestergate, Stockport.

- A. 1.—At Wear Mills, Chestergate, Stockport, in the county of Chester.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning (No. 48.) and calico-manufacturing.
- A. 3.—Old mill erected 1790, new mill erected 1828, weaving end erected 1832.
- A. 4.—Steam-power.
- A. 5.—The windows in every room are made to open at the top, and several ventilators are placed on the roof of the attic to take the hot air from the dressing-room.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of all.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have clothes racks, on which to hang hats, bonnets, cloaks, coats, and shawls, and allow the hands to wash themselves twice every day, and rules insisting on cleanliness.
- A. 10.—The lowest age is nine years.
- A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require children under twelve years of age.
- A. 12.—We think a less proportion of children under twelve years, and something more of those sixteen and upwards.
- A. 13.—No apprentices.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half five days, and nine hours on Saturday.
- A. 18.—Those above eighteen work the same hours as those above twenty-one; and those under eighteen work twelve hours in the day, or sixty-nine hours in the week.
- A. 19.—In the old mill, thirteen hours for six days, in cases of working time up; in the new mill, twelve hours and a half.
- A. 20.—In the old mill three hundred and three days, in the new three hundred and six.
- A. 21.—In the new mill three thousand six hundred and seventy-two hours, and in the old mill three thousand six hundred and thirty-six hours. The steam-engines have worked.
- A. 22.—Not at different times, but regular.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and three quarters in the new mill, eleven hours and a half in the old mill.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, and we have only one set.
- A. 25.—In case of accident in the steam-engine or geering.
- A. 26.—Unavoidable, on account of breakages in engine or geering.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—We never have exceeded the present hours.
- A. 29.—That that manufacturer may gain a greater profit than the man who works regular hours.
- A. 30.—The cost will be increased in proportion to the number of hours worked less, because of the capital laid out in mills and machinery, and of parochial and other leys, which must be paid, and some fixed wages, which would be the same for less as for the present work.

A. 31,



A. 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35.—We do not work extra or night-hours, therefore cannot state.

A. 36.—We do not work in the night.

A. 37.—The effects,—a proportionable reduction of wages, and an increased cost of yarn and cloth, because foreign nations in competition with us will have an advantage over us.

A. 38.—Weaving-room 65° to 70°; card and spinning-rooms 70°; dressing-room 84°. We have fifteen rooms in the mill, and eight of them have no artificial heat in them.

A. 39.—84° for dressing-room only.

A. 40.—Ten male adults (dressers).

A. 46.—None.

A. 49.—We have no processes indispensably continuous during twenty-four hours.

A. 50.—We have no all-night-work, but in the winter nights we work by gas-light.

A. 51.—No all-night-work.

A. 52.—The effects are bad, where persons work all night, on morals and health, and injurious to business generally.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea for all.

A. 54.—We insist on all under eighteen years of age leaving them at meal times.

A. 55.—The distance which some of the hands live from the mills renders it more convenient for them to remain than to go, but they are entirely at liberty to do either.

A. 56.—The colds which they would take in bad weather, if they were forced to leave the mills.

A. 57.—To make it for their interest by piece-work, by suitable admonitions, and by occasional small fines.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments whatever are allowed.

A. 59.—By none.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—The overlookers have frequent and express orders not to allow corporal punishments in their rooms; and when a case of such punishment has come to our knowledge, the persons inflicting it have been severely reprimanded, fined, or discharged.

A. 63.—Myself and manager have regularly forbidden beating.

A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made against myself, managers, or overlookers to the magistrates for corporal punishments.

A. 65.—We have no houses expressly for the workpeople.

A. 66.—We prefer those who have been brought up in a mill from their childhood.

A. 67.—We believe the health of the hands to have improved during the last ten years. We have now better built mills, higher rooms, iron machinery instead of wood, better ventilation, more cleanliness and good order, frequent white-washing, stone staircases instead of wood, and a general better system of government in the mills.

A. 68.—Our work does not require any change of employment.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—I have never been informed against for infringing against the present act in any way.

A. 73.—We have no particular knowledge of the regulation of other mills, but think that they attend to the provisions of the present act.

A. 78.—I think that the restriction of the moving power not to exceed seventy-two hours in the week will be the only means of securing obedience to the present law.

|                                                                       |   |   |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| A. 79.—The number of hands we employ from nine to twelve years old is | - | - | 40  |
| Number of hands from twelve to eighteen                               | - | - | 108 |
| Ditto above eighteen                                                  | - | - | 256 |

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404

THOMAS FEMLEY, Jun.

Total number of hands employed at Wear Mills is 404.

Total amount of wages paid is 250*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* weekly.

The average wage is 12*s.* 4½*d.* each weekly.

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*Rules fixed up at Wear Mills by Thomas Femley, Jun. to be observed in the Factory.*

#### GENERAL CHARACTER.

1. All persons employed here are expected to be of good moral character, and to evidence their regard for the Sabbath by attending some place of public worship or Sunday school.

2. While at work their behaviour must be commendable, avoiding all shouting, loud talking, whistling, calling foul names, all mean and vulgar language, and every kind of indecency.

3. Any person swearing, or singing profane songs, or found intoxicated, will be subject to severe reprehension, and fined five shillings for each offence.

#### OVERLOOKERS.

1. Each overlooker is to be in his department the first and the last, and never to leave his hands during working hours, except absolutely necessary, and then to return as soon as possible;

(APP.—D. 1.)

L

Cheshire.

T. Femley, Jun.



Cheshire.

T. Fernley, Jun.

possible; strictly and uniformly to adhere to the instructions given him, and to see that the hands under his care maintain the same discipline; not to give leave of absence to any of his hands without the approbation of the master; never to interfere with the department of another, but to respect every other overlooker as he wishes to be respected; on no account to send any message or order to any of the hands in another department, but only to the overlooker; never, under any pretence, to admit a stranger into his department without the presence of, or a note from, one of his employers.

2. To guard against fire, each overlooker is considered responsible for the danger arising from friction and lights in his department; he is not to allow sweepings to accumulate, nor any smoking of tobacco; he is also responsible for windows broken, the expence of replacing which he must deduct from the person's wages who did the damage, and if that person cannot be discovered, it is to be borne by equal subscription of all employed in the room.

3. Any overlooker permitting liquor to be brought into his room clandestinely shall forfeit ten shillings and sixpence; and any overlooker knowing this offence to be committed in the factory, and not giving immediate information at the counting-house, shall be considered unworthy of his place; any person so sending for liquor or bringing it into the factory shall be fined five shillings. No overlooker shall suffer any drinking parties to be formed amongst the workpeople in his room without immediately giving information of such impropriety in the counting-house.

4. No footings or changings shall be exacted from or paid by any hands under any pretence; any person claiming or asking such a thing shall forfeit five shillings; and any person paying a footing or changing shall forfeit five shillings; and any overlooker knowing this to be done in his department, and not giving information in the counting-house, shall be deemed unworthy of his place.

## GENERAL RULES.

1. Every person is responsible for the business he undertakes, and must be answerable for any deficiency, unless properly and satisfactorily explained; and any person screening or covering a fault, mistake, deficiency, or damage, whereby a loss is sustained to the concern, either by himself or another, shall be considered unworthy of confidence.

2. All persons employed here are strictly to conform to the rules laid down for their department; not to use any abusive language to their overlooker, but to pay particular attention to his directions; to be punctual in attending their work in proper time; not to sew or knit in working hours; to be careful of the property passing through their hands, not allowing any part to be wasted; to take care of the machinery at which they work, keeping it very clean, and oiling it according to the directions given; if any part thereof is injured through their neglect, such persons will be judged unworthy of their place.

3. Any hands forming conspiracies or unlawful combinations will be discharged without notice.

J. D. F.

No. 50.

William Fernley.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM FERNLEY, Stockport.

A. 1.—Stockport, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Spinning.

A. 3.—Been erected at different times; cannot say when, being a tenant.

A. 4.—Both steam and water. The water is very irregular of itself, but we have sufficient power with the engine.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—Windows that will open.

A. 7.—Overlooker, or any hand.

A. 8.—Yes; all fenced off.

A. 9.—Hands can and do go for water in the yard, to wash themselves, two or three times per day.

A. 10.—Nine years and a half. I think not at any other trades.

A. 11.—No; except one of nine years will break the cotton from the cases, which is not work, as well as older.

A. 12.—I think less.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15 &amp; 16.—I cannot say.

A. 17.—From six in the morning to eight in the evening.

A. 18.—No difference.

A. 19.—About thirteen and a half the greatest.

A. 22.—All alike.

A. 23.—From six to eight. One hour for dinner.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—Sometimes it has been till half past eight o'clock; this has not been more than three times, I think, and it has been caused through some misfortune in the moving power, either steam-engine or water-wheel.

A. 26.—Accidents will always occur where power is used.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—I am sure the cost is enhanced where you have to pay rent.

A. 29.



A. 29.—It is to reduce the cost of the workman's hours.

A. 30.—If I turn off 10,000 lbs. from 10,000 spindles, and I pay 40% in wages per week, and 1,000% for rent and hiring per year, and to produce this I must work thirteen hours per day; if I only work eleven hours I can only produce 830 lbs. for the same rent and same wages. The cost will be about one sixth more per lb.

A. 32.—Have had no night-work, consequently no occasion.

A. 36.—I think it would be a good thing to do away with night-work.

A. 37.—I should have no objection to eleven hours and a half; but if reduced lower, the cost would be so enhanced that it would injure us in our foreign competition.

A. 38.—It is comfortable.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—Windows.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—Part of the machinery goes while they are at breakfast and tea, and part stands still. They have all an opportunity to sit to their meals, and at dinner they all go home from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 56.—I think all should stop one hour to dinner; but as some hands live a good way off, it would only be wasting time to stop any other time.

A. 57.—We turn them away if they do not answer our end.

A. 58.—I am not aware of it at all.

A. 63.—I generally adopt fining a penny or two-pence if there may be any occasion.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Live any where.

A. 66.—I have not noticed; only in skill the person that has been always in it is more expert, &c.

A. 67.—I am sure hands are both cleaner and look better than what they used to do.

A. 69.—In some things.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—Not at all.

A. 78.—It is my opinion that if the restriction was on the moving power, and this was to turn no more than eleven hours and a half per day, it would be far the best thing; but if the fines and restriction are dependent on the machinery and hands, it will do no good at all. Stop night-work; and stop the engine or wheel from working more than eleven hours and a half, and it will be a good thing; let neither time nor any thing else compel the working of the engine or wheel.

WILLIAM FERNLEY.

Cheshire.

William Fernley.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. HARDY and ANDREWS, Stockport.

No. 51.

Hardy & Andrews.

A. 1.—Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Jenny, mule, and throstle-spinning.

A. 3.—August, 1823. Previous to the above date in the Cast-iron Factory, Park Street.

A. 4.—Steam. Thirty-horse engine.

A. 5 & 6.—By the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Any of the workpeople have liberty to open the windows when they please.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—The greater part of the workpeople employed have clothing they take off when they come in and put on again when they go out.

A. 10.—Nine years of age. Some previously employed in silk-mills.

A. 11.—Not absolutely; but when they commence at an early age they are more useful, and ready to be put to better employment sooner than if only commencing at twelve years.

A. 12.—Less number of children than formerly.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours five days of the week; nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—Twelve hours five days of the week; nine hours on Saturday. All hands under eighteen years.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a quarter.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and twenty-two hours.

A. 22.—Worked altogether.

A. 23.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, thirteen hours; Saturday nine hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours five days in the week; nine hours on Saturday.

A. 25.—In cases of accident from the steam-engine or mill-geering, have worked a quarter of an hour five days in the week, and one hour on the Saturday, for the ten following days.

A. 26.—Not unless by accident.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Certainly.

A. 29.—Individual interest.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 30.



Cheshire.

*Hardy & Andrews.*

A. 30.—In every branch if one sixth is reduced from the time of working, the cost of such production would be increased equal to one fourth, owing to the outlay of capital, rents, and incidental expences. If the time was farther reduced, the cost would be increased in a greater proportion.

A. 31.—We do not consider there would be a sufficient number of children in this town and neighbourhood to work relays.

A. 32.—We consider there would be an objection on the part of the parents of the children on account of less wages being paid.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—The cost of such production would be increased, and an advantage given to foreign competition, which would operate much against the British manufacturer.

A. 38 & 39.—64° to 70°.

A. 40.—All.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 50.—Gas till eight o'clock in winter.

A. 51.—Opening of the windows.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, half an hour tea, for workpeople under eighteen: above eighteen one hour for dinner; breakfast and tea various times, but not to exceed the half hour each.

A. 54.—Workpeople under eighteen. Above eighteen, with a few exceptions, do not leave the works for breakfast and tea.

A. 55.—We consider for the convenience of both the manufactory and workpeople.

A. 56.—First, we can work a part of the machinery without hands under eighteen, the breakfast half hour and tea; second, the hands residing a distance from the works would not be back in half an hour.

A. 57.—We consider children for the most part will do better with good words; those that will not we inform their parents, and if that does not answer, we in some cases turn them away.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—To inform their parents.

A. 64.—Not only for the last three years, but from the time we commenced spinning we have not had a complaint against us before the magistrates.

A. 65.—We allow them to live where they please.

A. 66.—When they begin young they are more expert than those that begin the same work at a later period: see sheet, No. 6. Thomas Gaunt; No. 4. Thomas Dobson; No. 9. Samuel Wilson, and a many others who commenced as piecers employed by the spinners.

A. 67.—We consider the health of the workpeople better than it was ten years ago, owing to the factories being kept cleaner than they were used to be; and in mills recently erected the rooms are loftier.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—The only instance we have been informed against was for not having our factories registered with the Clerk of the Peace for the county of Chester, at the Epiphany sessions in January last, not knowing but that act had been repealed in 1831.

A. 71.—No.

A. 72.—The magistrates allowed us to register at the adjourned sessions.

A. 73.—We believe they do, if not, common informers are ready.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe they are.

A. 79.—The questions not answered do not apply to us.

HARDY &amp; ANDREWS.

No. 52.  
*W. Halliwell.*

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM HALLIWELL, Stockport.

A. 1.—Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing.

A. 3.—The mill has worked a number of years.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, twenty-horse power.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows, under the control of the hands.

A. 7.—Any part of the persons employed in the rooms.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—Accommodations for washing at any time of the day.

A. 10.—Nine years; seldom employed before they work in the mill.

A. 11.—It is not absolutely necessary to employ children under twelve, but for some purposes, such as small piecers, they suit full better under twelve.

A. 12.—There are no alterations in this mill that interfere with children.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—The mill works fourteen hours a day, allowing half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea, for five days, and nine hours on a Saturday, exclusive of meals.

A. 20.—As this concern is now working under the assignees in a fiat of bankruptcy, this question cannot be answered.

A. 22.—All of them are carried on at the same time.

A. 27.



A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—The manufacturer having a fixed sum expended on machinery and buildings has an inducement to work longer than the law allows; suppose twelve hours per day left a net income of six per cent. on the outlay, then fourteen hours daily labour would increase his profits to seven per cent.

A. 31.—No system of relays will answer, except where the mill works night and day.

A. 36.—I think that night-work should be prohibited.

A. 37.—I am of opinion that ten hours per day is the extent to which persons ought to be worked. I have long been connected with a mill where the small hands have worked little more than that time, and the effects on the children have rather pleasing; instead of the sallow sickly look that children employed in mills generally have, they have (with few exceptions) appeared healthy and contented.

A. 38 & 39.—The work in this mill is coarse, and the temperature low, except in the dressing-room, where only men are employed; about one hundred.

A. 40.—One man to each machine; there are twelve machines in this mill.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, half an hour tea, to all.

A. 54.—They all leave for breakfast and dinner; but only children are at liberty to leave for tea.

A. 57.—Disobedient hands are turned away, after being cautioned.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—I have always known the greatest reluctance in workpeople giving information.

A. 78.—I think personal punishment the only means of preventing an infringement of the law.

WM. HALLIWELL.

Cheshire.

William Halliwell.

#### ANSWERS of JESSE HOWARD, New Bridge Lane, Stockport.

No. 53.

Jesse Howard.

A. 1.—At New Bridge Lane, in the township and parish of Stockport, and county of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving cotton.

A. 3.—Part erected in 1791 and 1792, part in 1797, part 1807, and part in 1823.

A. 4.—Steam, eighty horse power; water, about twenty-six horse power, but very irregular.

A. 5.—Ventilated by the windows being raised or let down, being sash windows and hung.

A. 6.—By opening the windows.

A. 7.—By the overlooker of the room.

A. 8.—All the machinery is fenced off which is considered dangerous.

A. 9.—The workpeople have water to wash with, and may change their clothes if necessary.

A. 10.—Not any under nine years old.

A. 11.—Yes; for piecing up ends and doffing throstle bobbins, &c.

A. 12.—The late alterations have produced larger mules, therefore require more children to piece ends.

A. 13.—None at all.

A. 14.—I have no children of this description.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any.

A. 16.—I have none such children.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, except on Saturdays, which are nine hours; unless time is lost by machinery breaking; then the people work half an hour longer each for a few days according to the time lost, but not above ten days together.

A. 18.—Twelve hours, except as above.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—About three hundred and nine days in last year.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred and forty hours, ditto.

A. 22.—I have all the works carried on at one time, except some gearing or machinery is out of repair.

A. 23.—Twelve hours, except on Saturdays, which are nine hours.

A. 24.—I have but one set of workpeople.

A. 25.—I never exceed the regular hours, except the gearing or machinery causes a stoppage, for which see No. 17.

A. 26.—Yes; it is avoidable.

A. 27.—Yes; I did before the last act of parliament came into force.

A. 28.—Yes; I do find the cost to be a little more than it was when the factory people worked longer each day.

(APP.—D. 1.)

M

A. 30.



Cheshire.

Jesse Howard.

A. 30.—I do in the branch of throstle-spinning and card-room hands, and on all people paid by the week, about one thirteenth.

A. 31.—I require no extra hours.

A. 32.—I have no occasion to employ above one set of workpeople, as I require no extra hours.

A. 33.—No; I have not.

A. 34.—I can have more goods manufactured by one set of hands than I can dispose of to a profit.

A. 35.—I do not employ any workpeople at night, neither do I ever intend.

A. 36.—I employ no workpeople at night.

A. 37.—A reduction of the workpeople's wages of course would be the result.

A. 38.—From 65° to 70°; the rooms are not heated in the summer season (except the dressing-room); in the winter the rooms are heated for the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 39.—75° in the dressing-room, as above.

A. 40.—Eleven adults, from thirty to fifty years old.

A. 41.—Not any.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—None.

A. 49.—I do not allege night necessary.

A. 50.—In the winter season, in regular hours, by gas.

A. 51.—From the top sashes of the windows being lowered.

A. 52.—I can't say what would be the effects of the habits of the workpeople, as I never employ any to work by night.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All leave, or may do so.

A. 55.—If they do not leave, it proceeds from their own choice; some of the adults have the victuals brought to the factory by choice.

A. 56.—They may all go out who choose so to do.

A. 57.—If they come too late to work, an abatement for time lost; if they persist in doing so discharge them.

A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 62.—Yes; I have told the overlookers that if children could not be governed without corporal punishment, to discharge them.

A. 63.—I have given instructions to overlookers not to punish them; if they were unruly, to discharge them.

A. 64.—I do not recollect any proceedings being taken within the time specified.

A. 65.—Some do; I never interfere with their domestic affairs.

A. 66.—I believe those who have been brought up to the business when young are the best workpeople, but to what extent I can't say.

A. 67.—I consider their health to be much the same in general, though there have been more workpeople indisposed at my factory from 25th April to the 9th May, 1833, than at any one period of fourteen days that I can recollect.

A. 68.—No; I do not change them at all.

A. 69.—Yes; it is subject to the present act in force.

A. 70.—I never have.

A. 73.—I cannot speak to the affairs of my neighbours.

A. 77.—They do not appear to me to be so.

A. 78.—I cannot suggest any thing to amend the existing law.

A. 79.—My opinion is, that all people employed in spinning and manufacturing concerns should begin and leave off work all at a time, and that the hours of labour should not exceed the time specified by the present law, as the adults can't follow their work in a proper manner without children; in most instances I recommend working at night to be prohibited altogether.

JESSE HOWARD.

No. 54.

Thomas Hunt.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HUNT, Stockport.

A. 1.—Stockport, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving cotton.

A. 3.—The buildings not being my own, cannot say when erected.

A. 4.—Both, and irregular from the effect of dry and wet seasons.

A. 5.—Yes; by the opening of windows.

A. 6.—By the opening of windows, and other casual means.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—Yes; there are pegs in each room to hang any clothing upon they may wish to change; water is furnished, and they are allowed to provide bowls to wash in, or any other means that may be conducive to cleanliness and comfort, before leaving the rooms.

A. 10.



Cheshire.

Thomas Hunt.

A. 10.—Nine years. I am not aware that they have been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—Not absolutely.

A. 12.—I am not aware that it has made any difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—From twelve to thirteen hours for five days, and from eight hours and a half to nine hours and a half on the Saturday.

A. 18.—All above eighteen years of age work the same number of hours as those above twenty-one years; and those under eighteen years of age work twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on the Saturday.

A. 19.—I am not aware that they have been worked more than thirteen hours and a half at any time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days is as near as I can estimate it.

A. 21.—I cannot correctly answer this question.

A. 22.—They have been all carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—About twelve hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—In working up time lost by the irregularity of turning.

A. 26.—It is only avoidable by a total loss of the operatives' wages, and the interest of the capital employed.

A. 27.—The hours of work are the same now they always have been with me.

A. 29.—I cannot give an opinion.

A. 30.—As I have not altered the hours of labour, I have found no difference in the cost of production. But there must be an increase in the cost, if the hours of labour were reduced, as the same capital would be employed for a smaller return.

A. 31.—Because I do not think there could be a sufficient number of children found for a relay.

A. 32.—I am not aware that it has ever been tried.

A. 33.—I have not employed a night set of hands.

A. 37.—A reduction of the operatives' wages, and a smaller return for the same fixed capital.

A. 38.—65°, at which all parts of the manufacture may be conducted, excepting the dressing, which requires from 70° to 80°.

A. 39.—From 70° to 80°.

A. 40.—I employ four.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—They are all allowed half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All under the age of eighteen years are allowed to leave.

A. 55.—If they do not leave, it is to suit their own convenience.

A. 57.—I am not aware of any means beyond an occasional box on the ear.

A. 58.—They are not.

A. 62.—I have never been informed of any, therefore have taken no steps to prevent them.

A. 63.—I have never given any instructions.

A. 64.—It has never occurred.

A. 65.—My work-people do not.

A. 66.—They are generally most skilful who have been employed from infancy, but cannot produce any particular instance.

A. 67.—I should think an improvement in the health of the people caused by the promotion of cleanliness in the manufactories.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe they do generally.

A. 74.—I am not aware that they have.

A. 77.—No.

THOMAS HUNT.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH LAKE, Junior, Stockport.

No. 55.

Joseph Lake, Jun.

A. 1.—Stockport, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—The manufacture of cotton goods by power.

A. 3.—The works have been erected at various times, the dates of which we cannot specify; the first part was erected in or about the year 1800, and employed for its present purpose in or about the year 1808.

A. 4.—Steam power, one hundred and twenty horses.

A. 5.—There is a distinct provision for the ventilation of some of the dressing-rooms by wooden chimneys through the roof, and others by the opening of the windows.

(APP.—D. I.)

A. 6.



Cheshire.

*Joseph Lake, Jun.*

- A. 6.—In the other rooms it depends upon the opening of the windows.
- A. 7.—Under the control of each and all the workpeople employed.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are and always have been fenced off.
- A. 9.—There is no particular room or place set apart for that purpose, but there is always a plentiful supply of fresh water, and they make a common practice of carrying into their separate rooms, and washing themselves before they go out to their meals.
- A. 10.—We employ none under nine years of age; and we don't know of any at that age who have been previously employed at other trades.
- A. 11.—It is not impossible to do without them, but it would put us to serious inconveniences.
- A. 12.—We are not aware that the recent alterations have made any difference in that respect.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 18.—Persons from eighteen to twenty-one years twelve hours and a half, and nine on Saturday; and all under eighteen years, twelve hours, and nine on Saturday.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours and three quarters.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and twelve days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and sixty-six hours.
- A. 22.—Each part of our works is so dependent upon the other, that we cannot work one part without the other.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and three quarters.
- A. 24.—Never more than twelve, and nine on Saturday.
- A. 25.—We cannot specify the different times that the hours were exceeded, but accidents with the engines and gearing have always been the cause.
- A. 26.—If any time be lost through any accident with the engines or any part of the gearing, we are compelled either to work up the time which is lost thereby, or reduce the wages in proportion to the time lost.
- A. 27.—Yes; some little.
- A. 28.—Certainly.
- A. 29.—To increase his profits.
- A. 30.—The cost is certainly increased more than in proportion to the diminution of hours.
- A. 31.—The impossibility of getting them.
- A. 32.—We never worked such extra hours as to induce us to try any thing of the sort.
- A. 33.—Never. The nature of our work does not require us to work more than one set of hands, nor do we think it would be to our interest to do so.
- A. 36.—We should be glad to see an entire prohibition of night-work, as being conducive both to the health and morals of the working classes.
- A. 37.—We are of opinion that a still further reduction in the hours of labour would in the first place be injurious to the mill-owner, as it would materially lessen the value of his property, and to the operative, as it would cause a reduction in his wages.
- A. 38.—From 60° to 70°.
- A. 39.—From 80° to 84°.
- A. 40.—Thirty-three hands.
- A. 41.—None.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.
- A. 54.—They have all the option of going out or staying in the mills, just as they think proper.
- A. 55.—Undoubtedly for the convenience of the workpeople, as it would be impossible for those who live at a distance to return within the time allowed.
- A. 56.—If they were compelled to go out, it would not only expose them to the severity of the weather, but would increase their weekly expenses, as they would be obliged to go to some house in the neighbourhood to have their meals warmed, &c.
- A. 57.—Immediate dismissal from our employ.
- A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.
- A. 63.—We have given verbal instructions to our foreman not to allow any punishments.
- A. 64.—No.
- A. 65.—No.
- A. 66.—We have every reason to believe that the younger any person begins to work in any trade, the more active and skilful an artisan he becomes.
- A. 67.—As far as we are able to judge, we think it has improved; and we attribute the cause of that improvement to the superior cleanliness and comforts observed in the manufactories of the present day.
- A. 68.—If such a case as the one here referred to should come under our notice, we should certainly do all in our power to counteract those injurious effects.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70 & 71.—Never.
- A. 73.—It is impossible for us to answer this question, as we don't interfere with each other in any way whatever.
- A. 74.—Never.
- A. 75.—No.
- A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that such is the case.
- A. 78.—No.
- A. 79.—None.

JOSEPH LAKE, Jun.



## ANSWERS of JOHN LEES, Stockport.

Cheshire.

No. 56.

*John Lees.*

- A. 1.—Stockport, Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton.  
 A. 3.—Being a tenant, I cannot say.  
 A. 4.—Being power sufficient on the engine, without the water-wheel, we have regular turning; if we were confined to water it would be irregular.  
 A. 5 & 6.—We have sufficient windows to open to make the rooms comfortable.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is water to go to; and they generally wash twice a day.  
 A. 10.—I have a few under twelve years old.  
 A. 11.—No; because it is not the age, but the wages.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 14.—Cannot say.  
 A. 17.—From six o'clock to eight o'clock.  
 A. 18.—No difference.  
 A. 19.—If any accident has occurred, we have worked till half past eight, which has not been above two or three times.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.  
 A. 22.—All alike.  
 A. 25.—Accidents.  
 A. 26.—Done away with.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—Those persons who rent mills and work night and extra hours find by working longer they produce more in quantity for the same rent, which makes the cost per pound less upon the yarn.  
 A. 30.—Considerable more cost in proportion to the quantity produced.  
 A. 31.—Because I conceive it unnecessary to have extra hours.  
 A. 32.—Have had no occasion to work extra.  
 A. 33.—Never have employed a night set, nor will I do, because it is wrong to work hands in the night.  
 A. 36.—The effects produced would be desirable.  
 A. 37.—I conceive if there was a restriction upon the moving power, for to work twelve hours per day, it would be the best thing that could be done. The grounds of my opinion are, first, it would prohibit night-work; secondly, it would prohibit unseasonable hours being worked; thirdly, it would put every person upon an equal scale of production, which would be better both for trade and the country.  
 A. 39.—About 80°.  
 A. 40.—Three hands.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Windows.  
 A. 53.—One hour for dinner, half an hour for breakfast.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—No means.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—I have, by discharging the person who has inflicted it.  
 A. 63.—My instructions have been not to punish.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Live any where.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been taken in are not so bright.  
 A. 67.—Decidedly improved.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 71.—No.  
 A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Cannot say.  
 A. 77.—No.  
 A. 78.—My opinion is, that if all penalties were taken off hands, that we might employ any hand we thought proper above nine years of age, and a penalty put upon the moving power, so as to compel it only to move twelve hours per day, it would be much better, and save a deal of trouble between the masters and hands.  
 A. 79.—It is my opinion that if the hours of labour came under twelve hours per day, that it would be an injury to the trade. First, because it would reduce the earnings of the hands so much that they could not get a sufficiency to make them comfortable. Secondly, that the cost of the manufactured goods would be so increased as to make us not able to compete with the foreign market.

JOHN LEES.



Cheshire.

ANSWERS of Messrs. PETER MARSLAND and Co. Stockport.

No. 57.

P. Marsland & Co.

- A. 1.—Stockport, Cheshire.  
 A. 2.—Woollen manufactory.  
 A. 3.—First employed about 1819.  
 A. 4.—Both steam and water, from fourteen to twenty horse power.  
 A. 5.—Yes.  
 A. 6.—By the windows.  
 A. 7.—By the foreman.  
 A. 8.—Yes, they are.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—Yes.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours, except Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The same.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixty-five hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Cheapness, the same capital employed producing a greater quantity of work.  
 A. 30.—Yes.  
 A. 31.—None; if they could be procured at the same rate of wages.  
 A. 32 & 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—A reduction of wages.  
 A. 38.—60° to 70°.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—Most of them.  
 A. 55.—Choice of the workpeople.  
 A. 57.—Dismission.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—None.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—A great difference if they enter late in life.  
 A. 67.—Little difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 71.—No.

PETER EDWARD MARSLAND.

No. 58.

T. Marsland & Co.

ANSWERS of THOMAS MARSLAND and Co. Stockport and Brinnington.

- A. 1.—Three factories or mills, in the township and parish of Stockport, in the county of Chester, and one in the township of Brinnington, in the aforesaid parish of Stockport.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and manufacturing.  
 A. 3.—The principal mill was built in 1828, and began to work in 1829; the others have been converted to their present purposes since that time.  
 A. 4.—Steam power, one hundred and thirty-two horses.  
 A. 5.—None, except in the attic where dressing is carried on, which is by ventilation through the roof, and in the blowing-rooms, by means of a fan worked by machinery.  
 A. 6.—In all other cases, ventilation depends on the opening of windows, there being an opening in every window.  
 A. 7.—The overlookers have orders to attend to the ventilation, and all the persons employed have also a discretionary power to open the windows.  
 A. 8.—All are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is no distinct apartment for these purposes, but a plentiful supply of water is furnished, which the workpeople can use at any time of the day.  
 A. 10.—Between nine and ten years of age. We presume none have been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely; but children under twelve years of age are capable of performing certain work as well as those that are older.  
 A. 12.—We do not think that any recent alteration in machinery has much affected this question.

A. 13.



- A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours for the first five days, and eight hours and a half on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The same as adults.  
 A. 19.—From the 1st of May, 1832, to the 30th of April, 1833, on one day only was the engine worked for fourteen hours, and then only twenty-six men worked more than the above time stated.  
 A. 20.—During the above period, three hundred and four days.  
 A. 21.—During the above period, three thousand two hundred and ninety-four hours, and five minutes.  
 A. 22.—The dressing department, in which twenty men are employed, worked forty-one hours and fifteen minutes more than any other department, and this time is included in the last answer.  
 A. 23.—See answer to Query 17; but the average on the total number of days worked, reckoning six days in the week alike, will be ten hours forty-two minutes per day.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—For seven days only, in the month of last September did they work more than twelve hours per day, and that was in consequence of losing that time by a stoppage of the engine.  
 A. 26.—We consider this excess unavoidable, inasmuch as casualties will occasionally happen to the engine and working gearing.  
 A. 27.—Previous to the 20th of February, 1832, we worked seventy-four hours per week with adults only.  
 A. 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—To enhance his profits.  
 A. 30.—Yes; in every branch, and in a greater proportion than to the diminution of time.  
 A. 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36.—These questions we cannot answer, not being applicable to us.  
 A. 37.—One certain consequence we can state, which is, that it would cause a reduction of wages.  
 A. 38.—From 60° to 70°; and the lowest temperature at which our works can be carried on to the greatest advantage should not be under 60°.  
 A. 39.—From 75° to 80°.  
 A. 40.—Thirty-one men.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day; see Answers 5 and 6.  
 A. 52.—We employ none in the night.  
 A. 53.—From eight till half past eight in the morning, from twelve to one at noon, and from four till half past four in the afternoon.  
 A. 54.—All may, and nearly all do.  
 A. 55.—If they do not, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—A general improvement in the comfort of the workpeople.  
 A. 57.—We have no system of coercion.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—The difference in skill is in favour of those who have been early employed, but we have no particular instance to adduce.  
 A. 67.—Our works not having been established more than four years, we cannot answer this question.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—We do conform to the present act.  
 A. 70 & 71.—Never.  
 A. 72.—None.  
 A. 73.—We believe they do.  
 A. 74.—Not to our knowledge.  
 A. 77.—No.

THOMAS MARSLAND & Co.

Cheshire.

T. Marsland & Co.

ANSWERS of MESSRS. JOHN LEE NEWTON and Co. Stockport.

No. 59.

J. Lee Newton & Co.

- A. 1.—Stockport, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Silk waste spinning.  
 A. 3.—The works were erected between thirty and forty years ago; a part has been occupied by us in the above trade since Nov. 1st, 1830.  
 A. 3.—Steam, four horse power.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 6.—Opening windows.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 7.



Cheshire.

J. Lee Newton & Co.

- A. 7.—Regulated by the persons employed, at their discretion.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—We allow our workpeople to change their clothes, wash their hands, &c. at their own pleasure, in their own departments. From the commencement, Nov. 1st, 1830.  
 A. 10.—From ten to eleven years of age. None have been previously employed.  
 A. 11.—Yes; because they can do it better.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—No orphans. We allow their parents to visit them when they think proper.  
 A. 16.—Their overlookers.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-six hours.  
 A. 22.—They have not.  
 A. 23.—Not quite eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—Never exceeded.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—The probable effects would be that wages would be lowered, because there is the same capital employed in machinery, same rent paid, and less work produced.  
 A. 38.—There is no heat attending the work, except in winter time, when the rooms are heated by steam for the comfort of the workpeople, and that at their own choice.  
 A. 39.—60°.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 41.—Never.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 49.—None.  
 A. 50.—Mould candles  
 A. 51.—Opening windows.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—All, if they think proper.  
 A. 55.—If they do not, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—A little gentle correction; and if that fails, we discharge them.  
 A. 58.—Yes; only when they deserve it.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Yes.  
 A. 62.—Occasionally we have, as we don't wish it to be carried to any extreme.  
 A. 63, 64, & 65.—No.  
 A. 26.—It all depends on their dispositions.  
 A. 67.—We cannot tell.  
 A. 68.—There are no injurious effects from our business.  
 A. 69.—No.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 72.—Nothing.  
 A. 73.—We cannot tell.  
 A. 77.—We believe not.  
 A. 78.—We believe all our work people are satisfied with their present hours of labour and general treatment.  
 A. 79.—No.

JOHN LEE NEWTON &amp; Co.

No. 60.

Thomas Robinson.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS ROBINSON, Stockport.

- A. 1.—Township of Stockport, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and weaving cotton.  
 A. 3.—The mill was erected in 1824, and an addition made to it in 1831.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power.  
 A. 5.—In the card-room there is ventilation by a fan, which likewise clears out the dust. The dressing-room has likewise ventilation out of the roof; the other part of the mill is ventilated by the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—The opening of windows is at the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery and mill-gearing are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople usually change their upper garments on entering the mill, putting on a lighter dress to work in; and generally wash before leaving it; there is an ample supply of spring water both for eating and washing. The hands in general (and the females in particular) are neat and clean.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age; I should think few have been previously employed.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely. Children are necessary as piecers, and are much better hands and more expert by going to work early; their work is not labour, only attention, and their high



high wages enable them to be well clothed and fed. I think ten or eleven years might be substituted for nine. A man (and particularly a widow woman) with five or six children, looks forward with great anxiety to the time the children will be taken to work.

A. 12.—Less.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours is the longest time the engine runs, and nine on a Saturday, out of which time is allowed for breakfast, and tea in the afternoon (except when an accident has happened); persons under twenty-one, and above eighteen, may work thirteen hours, those under eighteen never above twelve hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours; the half hour to work up lost time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six.

A. 22.—The works commence and terminate at the same time, only that children under eighteen leave their work so as to comply with Mr. Hobhouse's act.

A. 23.—About twelve hours and an eighth per day.

A. 24.—Twelve only about three days in the course of the year, half an hour extra on an accident with the engine.

A. 26.—Accidents to engine and mill geering often occur, and after such it is lawful to work up lost time by half an hour per day for ten days.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Certainly, the loss of rent and interest on capital will increase the cost of production.

A. 29.—Individual interest can be the only motive. Work a mill all night, and a person will save the rent and outlay of a second mill.

A. 30.—If the hours of labour were reduced to ten, to compensate for the loss of rent, interest on capital, and the cost of production would be increased equal to one fifth of the wages paid.

A. 31.—Children could not be procured to have two sets of hands, and the increase of wages would be insurmountable.

A. 32.—No.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 36.—Loss of profit and a great increase in the morality of the people.

A. 37.—The rate of wages must be reduced in a greater proportion than the time to compensate for the loss of rent and interest on capital, or if not, the price of goods would be enhanced, which would give the trade of foreign nations a boon, and where labour is so much cheaper than in England.

A. 38.—Card room 50° to 60°, spinning 50° to 60°, weaving 45° to 60°, dressing 70° to 80°.

A. 39.—80° in one room only (the dressing-room), which is ventilated and cooled at the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 40.—Eleven adults.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53 & 54.—One hour for dinner to all; breakfast not more than half an hour to adults, as much less as they like; their breakfast and tea is usually brought to them, and they take it as they like; the children are invariably sent out of the mill at all times, for fear they should employ themselves in cleaning or any other act that would leave me open to an information.

A. 55.—In the country, where hands live at a distance, it is a cruel act to be forced to send children to eat their meals under a wall or hedge in the wet, for fear of suffering them to remain in a comfortable room and involving an information. Hot water is provided on the premises for making tea.

A. 57.—If any of the hands are refractory, I punish them by dismissing them from my employ.

A. 60.—No corporal punishment has been inflicted with my knowledge or sanction.

A. 62.—Parents have several times complained at my dismissing their children instead of allowing them to be punished.

A. 63 & 64.—None.

A. 65.—My workpeople live where and as they like; if I hear of any very immoral or improper conduct I take the first opportunity to dismiss them.

A. 66.—Those who have been early employed in a cotton mill are much more active and better hands than those who come to work later, they are more orderly, and conduct themselves better; when children are not sent to work early, they get into bad company and idle habits which they seldom get rid of.

A. 67.—The cleanliness of modern mills, and the improvements in their construction and the machinery, has certainly contributed to improve the health of the workpeople; but the change of hands in large towns is so frequent it is difficult to state particulars.

A. 68.—The operative selects his own employment; he applies for a certain description of work; if there is a vacancy, and his character is approved, it is given him.

A. 69.—Strictly so.

A. 70.—No.

A. 71.—Never.

A. 72.—None.

A. 73.—They are forced.

(APP.—D. 1.)

O

A. 74.

Cheshire.

Thomas Robinson



Cheshire.

Thomas Robinson.

A. 74.—No.

A. 76.—Evidence is readily obtained.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—I am of opinion that the only effectual way to have the law complied with would be to put the restriction on the moving power; I should say, let children from ten to twelve years of age work six hours per day; from twelve years upwards, twelve hours per day; one hour and a half for meals. To serve water, give each mill the option of working its time between five in the morning and nine in the evening, the working hours to be registered at the sessions.

THOMAS ROBINSON.

Mill spinning above 50°, to work one hour less time, on account of the extra heat.

No. 61.

Sampson, Lloyd,  
& Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SAMPSON, LLOYD, &amp; Co. Stockport.

A. 1.—Parish of Stockport, county Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing of cotton.

A. 3.—The works appear to have been erected at same time, but are not modern.

A. 4.—The power employed is steam.

A. 5.—There is a specific provision for ventilation in many of the windows being made to open.

A. 6.—The provision depends on opening of windows, or other casual means.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated at the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Not considering any of the machinery dangerous with common care, we have none fenced off.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Nine is the lowest age; none have previously been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—It is customary to employ children to assist in cleaning spinning frames, but I am of opinion we could do without any under twelve.

A. 12.—In this mill there has been no material alteration for several years, but I believe not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15 &amp; 16.—No such children.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours, except Saturdays, when they work nine hours.

A. 18.—All persons under eighteen years work twelve hours a day, except Saturdays, when they work nine hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen and a half hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.

A. 21.—Three thousand eight hundred and six hours.

A. 22.—All parts have been carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve and a quarter hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When a stoppage or break down has occurred, we have worked half an hour later in an evening to regain the time lost.

A. 26.—Avoidable, if the time lost is deducted from the wages of the workpeople; not avoidable, if they are paid full wages, because work to be paid for must be done.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—The inducement is, the greater the quantity of work turned off the less is the average cost, consequently the greater the profits.

A. 30.—Know no limitation.

A. 31 &amp; 32.—Cannot state, not knowing circumstances.

A. 33.—No.

A. 34.—Interest has never been considered with regard to working two sets of hands, it not being customary in the trade in Stockport.

A. 37.—It would injure the workpeople inasmuch as their wages would be reduced in proportion. It would injure the master, inasmuch as his works would be less productive.

A. 38.—80° to 90° for dressing; all other processes do not require and are not kept higher than from 60° to 65°.

A. 39.—80° to 90° for dressing.

A. 40.—In this mill I have fourteen; every twenty-four to thirty looms require one; none but grown-up men are employed.

A. 41.—At no time.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner for all persons, half an hour for breakfast and tea for all under eighteen years; all above eighteen years are expected to attend to their work while taking those meals.

A. 54.—All are at liberty, except as stated in No. 53. to leave.

A. 56.—If persons above eighteen years old left the manufactory, it would lose them nearly one hour a day and a thirteenth part of their wages, and increase the average expence of manufacturing in the same proportion.

A. 57.—If they do not obey orders they are dismissed.

A. 58.—Not with my knowledge or sanction.

A. 60.



- A. 60.—They have.  
 A. 61.—Never with my prior or subsequent sanction.  
 A. 62.—Corporal punishment is forbidden, and when a case has occurred the parties have been reprimanded.  
 A. 63.—The instructions are, that if children do not obey orders at once to dismiss them.  
 A. 64.—Never at any time.  
 A. 65.—Not with me.  
 A. 66.—No difference is perceptible after a person has been a short time employed, provided they are attentive.  
 A. 67.—The factory has not been in my hands so long a period.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—I know of none acting contrary to the provisions of the act.  
 A. 77.—Know no facts.  
 A. 78.—I am of opinion, that if the present system of informing was abolished, and in place thereof persons were employed whose sole duty and business it was to inspect factories, the law would be more likely to be strictly observed.  
 A. 79.—None.

SAMPSON, LLOYD, &amp; Co.

Cheshire.

Sampson, Lloyd,  
& Co.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS STEEL &amp; SON, Stockport.

No. 62.

T. Steel &amp; Son.

- A. 1.—Township of Stockport, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Carding, spinning, and weaving cotton; carding, spinning, and doubling silk.  
 A. 3.—Mill erected in 1831, having occupied one for eighteen years previous; removed in 1832.  
 A. 4.—Steam power.  
 A. 5.—Half of the windows in every room are formed to open for the admission of air.  
 A. 6.—Windows.  
 A. 7.—The windows are accessible to all persons employed, who open them at any time when requisite.  
 A. 8.—All the geering, &c., considered dangerous, is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No rooms are set apart purposely for dressing rooms; it is the common practice for the workpeople to take off their outer garments, say, the males will take off their coats, the females their cloaks, exchange their shoes for slippers, and resume them on leaving their employment. Water for washing is accessible to such as choose to use it. Privies are attached to every room outside the square of the mill, with flues into the open air.  
 A. 10. Nine years of age is the lowest; some few may have been employed at other trades.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely; children from nine to twelve are quite competent to perform certain parts of the employment in mills; when employed young they are more expert, but the principal reason of their employment is the anxiety of their parents to benefit by their labour; take for a case a widow with one or more children, when they are nine years of age they can earn three shillings a week.  
 A. 12.—No recent alterations have made any material difference; the change from spinning-jennies worked by manual labour, to jennies or mules worked by power, reduced the number of small children employed, whilst the introduction of power-looms has a tendency to increase them.  
 A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours is the highest, twelve hours the remainder; on Saturday nine hours, all.  
 A. 18.—Under eighteen years of age twelve hours; eighteen to twenty-one, some twelve, others thirteen, and on Saturday nine hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and thirty minutes.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and nine.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand eight hundred.  
 A. 22.—The works all commence and terminate at the same time; the only difference arising from those under eighteen and some others leaving their machines one hour in the day longer than those who choose to remain at work.  
 A. 23.—All under eighteen twelve hours for five days, nine for one.  
 A. 24.—Twelve and a half hours, or ten days.  
 A. 25.—April 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 30th, and May 4th, 7th, 8th, 16th, 17th. Accidents to the main geering, whereby time was lost.  
 A. 26.—Accidents will occasionally happen whereby time is lost in repairs; it is of course at the option of the master to work up the lost time or deduct a proportion of the wages for such deficiency.  
 A. 27.—Occasionally.  
 A. 28.—It must be obvious, that the greater the quantity of goods produced by a fixed outlay of capital, the less will be the cost of production, and vice versa.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 29.



Cheshire.

*T. Steel & Son.*

A. 29.—Individual interest can be the only motive.

A. 30.—The increase in the cost of production will be in a much greater proportion than the limitation of the hours of labour, in consequence of the immense amount of fixed capital in mills and machinery, if wages are reduced exactly in proportion to the time curtailed, the interest of capital would form the loss.

A. 31.—The expence in wages would form a considerable obstacle to employing two sets of children for one of adults; in most places it would be impossible to procure a sufficient number.

A. 32.—No; see above, moreover the work is light, and one set of children quite adequate to perform it.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—Do not work in the night.

A. 37.—The wages of the operatives would be diminished. The cost of production being increased, would act as a bonus to our foreign rivals, and the trade and commerce of this country would be materially injured.

A. 38.—60° to 70°; it is not requisite above 60°, except in the dressing room. April 30th, weaving rooms 66°, card rooms 65°, spinning rooms 64°, ditto 67°, ditto 65°.

A. 39.—About 75° to 80° in the attic, or dressing room.

A. 40.—Six dressers, adults.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, half an hour afternoon refreshment.

A. 54.—The doors are thrown open, and all leave who think proper.

A. 55.—Those who remain do so for their own convenience.

A. 56.—The only effect of compelling them to leave the premises during meal hours, would be to expose them to the weather at times when they preferred to remain in doors.

A. 57.—Children who are obstinately disobedient and inattentive are discharged.

A. 58.—If by corporal punishment is understood severe flogging, it is not inflicted.

A. 59.—Refractory children may occasionally have been chastised, either by overlookers or by adult operatives, whose assistants they are, as a parent would correct an unruly child, but never beyond to our knowledge.

A. 62.—We do not recognise corporal punishment in any case, but discharge those who do not attend to their work, or otherwise conduct themselves disorderly; we have never known of any punishment inflicted that required our interference, and consider it our duty to discharge any one guilty of such abuse.

A. 63.—None to punish children.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—A few; there is no control; they reside where best suits their convenience.

A. 66.—There can be no doubt that persons employed from infancy are more expert and skilful at any occupation. In factories the employment of children is generally different to adults; for instance, a child may be a piecer for seven or eight years, and is then old enough to become a spinner, which his previous employment enables him to undertake without further instruction.

A. 67.—In large towns the operatives are constantly changing from one mill to another; it is impossible to make a comparison of the same parties; generally speaking, their health is improved, arising partly from the better regulation and cleanliness of the mills, and partly from the more regular habits inculcated by the influence of education.

A. 68.—No; the particular employment is selected by the operative generally, and they seldom change, except when age or capacity enables them to take a higher situation; say a child will go to work as a piecer, in seven or eight years they are old enough for spinners, or they go as helper to a weaver who has four looms; in time they can manage two looms themselves, afterwards four, and have a helper.

A. 69.—Yes, it is.

A. 70.—Yes; once.

A. 71.—No. The 42 Geo. 3. cap. 73. requires that every master of a cotton mill shall, at every Epiphany sessions, enter his name with the clerk of the peace for the county; last year we forgot it until after the sessions, not so the common informers; we were summoned, but having tendered our names to the clerk of the peace before the informations were laid, and the sessions being adjourned, the case was dismissed. The above regulation is very absurd.

A. 73.—We believe they do to the best of their power.

A. 74.—Many were summoned as above when we were, but no convictions ensued.

A. 76.—Evidence would readily be obtained when any infringement of the law took place; there are a set of men who endeavour to obtain a livelihood by laying informations against the masters; and many cases have occurred in some places where it was believed informers and operatives had conspired together to obtain a conviction.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe they are afraid, employment being abundant.

A. 78.—No legislative enactment will be effectual so long as persons of different ages, working at the same employ, in the same rooms, are required or allowed to work different periods of time; if persons of all ages were prohibited working more than a certain number of hours, say eleven or twelve, it would be effectual. If adult operatives were made liable to a penalty for employing children contrary to the provisions of the act, it would be a great improvement



improvement of the present law; children are principally employed by the older operatives who pay them their wages and have the entire control over them; the proprietor of the mill, being the employer of the adult, and the child working on his premises, is liable to the penalties as the law now stands, whilst it is the obvious interest of the elder operative to employ the younger as long as he himself works.

A. 79.—It is very desirable to prevent night-work even for adults. The legislature would effect a good object if they would prohibit all persons working in mills after eight o'clock, P. M., or before half-past five, A. M.; as far as cotton is concerned, it would perfect the present law, and let the woollen branch be brought under the same regulations.

THOMAS STEEL & SON.

Cheshire.

T. Steel & Son.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM WAREING, Stockport.

No. 63.

William Wareing.

- A. 1.—The parish of Stockport, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Carding, stretching and spinning cotton.  
 A. 3.—Erected at two different times, the first part, 1819; second, 1825. Cotton from the time finished.  
 A. 4.—Steam power only, twelve horses power.  
 A. 5.—Sash windows, six in a room of thirty yards long.  
 A. 6.—The opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—They are.  
 A. 9.—Discretionary with the hands, some wash others do not; they almost all put on additional clothing when they leave the mill.  
 A. 10.—We have none under ten years, and only three at that out of ninety-three; not employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve and a half hours for five days, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—Twelve and a half hours for five days, and nine on Saturday, and those under eighteen years, twelve hours per day five days, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve and a half hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and three days; we allow nine days in each year for holidays.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and ten hours and three quarters.  
 A. 22.—They have not.  
 A. 23.—No. 18. applies.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—The hours have been the same during the last year; when exceeded, it is through a break down of the steam engine or shafting.  
 A. 26.—It is avoidable by deducting wages for time lost.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The inducement is producing the article cheaper.  
 A. 30.—A limitation of hours will certainly increase the cost of production, but it will be more or less according to the number of weekly wages employed.  
 A. 31.—I see no objections, but have never known it tried.  
 A. 32.—I have not known it tried, therefore cannot speak to it.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—I think it would have a good effect on the trade generally, as none but the avaricious have ever attempted it.  
 A. 37.—I think the hours as allowed by Sir John Hobhouse's act, if made binding to all, might answer; but I am of opinion that a further reduction in time would throw our trade into the hands of foreigners.  
 A. 38.—From sixty to seventy.  
 A. 39.—Seventy.  
 A. 40.—The heat required is equal in all.  
 A. 41 & 42.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast, eight o'clock; dinner, one o'clock; half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Threatening to discharge them.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—I have not taken notice.  
 A. 67.—I should think improved from the improved management of cotton mills; they are kept much cleaner than they formerly were.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70 & 71.—No.  
 A. 73.—The spinning mills I think do, the others I take no notice of.

WILLIAM WAREING.



Cheshire.

No. 64.

C. Wood Brogs.

## ANSWERS of C. Wood Brogs, Sutton.

- A. 1.—Township of Sutton, county of Chester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing of cotton.  
 A. 3.—Two mills built at different times, one about thirty years ago, the other about forty.  
 A. 4.—Steam engines and water-wheels about eighty-six horse power of steam, and fifty of water.  
 A. 5.—No, except in the dressing room where the foul air is exhausted.  
 A. 6.—Opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker of each room.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—They have opportunity for changing their clothes. Water is provided for washing.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. Some have been formerly employed in the silk trade and in husbandry.  
 A. 11.—Yes; because the work at which they are employed does not admit of high wages being paid.  
 A. 12.—Not in our establishment.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours on five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours as above.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours, except when lost time by accident has been made up, and then the act has been strictly observed.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five.  
 A. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven.  
 A. 22.—We have no means of answering this question.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours from Monday to Friday, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours, and occasionally an extra hour to make up for lost time as allowed by the act.  
 A. 25.—Answered by the last.  
 A. 26.—It is not avoidable, if the proprietor is not to be subjected to loss.  
 A. 27.—Not since the act now in force was passed.  
 A. 28.—In all cases the cost of production will be enhanced by a reduction of the hours of working.  
 A. 29.—To make the cost of production cheaper.  
 A. 30.—Not when the number of hours remains fixed, as at present to twelve.  
 A. 31.—It would not be practicable.  
 A. 32.—No; we have never extended the hours so as to require it.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—Because the work is more regularly and better done by the same hands.  
 A. 35.—Don't work by night.  
 A. 37.—A further reduction of the hours of work will enhance the cost of the manufacture, and will, of course, lower wages.  
 A. 38.—60°; this is the heat at which our mills usually work, no greater degree of heat is necessary for us.  
 A. 39.—For dressing 75° and 80°.  
 A. 40.—Sixteen.  
 A. 41.—Two or three rooms have occasionally been worked at night, being short of water in a dry season. In those cases they were not at work in the day.  
 A. 42.—None.  
 A. 44.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—Yes; except that a very few who reside at a distance bring their meals with them.  
 A. 56.—They are generally so taken, and we prefer it.  
 A. 57.—In some instances fines, but for repeated disobedience they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—In very few instances with us.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been employed from youth must of necessity be better trained in the knowledge of their duty, and will do it better.  
 A. 67.—We are not aware of any difference; we consider our people to be as healthy as those in other employments.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Once; in the case of a young person having worked half an hour on Saturday beyond the time prescribed, though contrary to our orders.  
 A. 71.—Yes, ten pounds.  
 A. 73.—We believe the mills in this immediate neighbourhood do conform.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.



A. 78.—A much higher penalty might probably enforce obedience to the law as to the hours of labour. At present, the penalty is so small that in some places it is totally disregarded.

A. 79.—No.

CHARLES WOOD BROGS.

Cheshire.

C. Wood Brogs.

ANSWERS of RALPH SIDEBOTTOM, Tintwistle and Hollingworth, Mottram.

No. 65.  
Ralph Sidebottom.

A. 1.—In the townships of Tintwistle and Hollingworth, in the parish of Mottram-in-Longdendale, County of Chester.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving.

A. 3.—One part erected 1789, another part in 1816, and another part in 1832, and each part were employed for their present purposes as soon as built.

A. 4.—At the old part of the works two ten horse water wheels, but the water being irregular, I have a twelve horse engine to assist when the water fails, so that there is no time lost from its irregularity. At the new part of the works a twenty horse engine.

A. 5.—Yes, at one of them, in the dressing room, where there are ventilators which carry away the damp foul air and admit cold air.

A. 6.—The remainder of the works are ventilated by the windows being opened.

A. 7.—The person who works next to the window or ventilator has the control of it.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts fenced off.

A. 9.—Yes, places to hang their clothes, and spring water near the door of the works for washing. They were introduced at the time the first part of the works was erected, or the year following, viz. 1789 or 1790.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age, neither have any children that have been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—They have not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours fifty minutes, except Saturday, on which day nine hours and a half.

A. 18.—All above eighteen years of age the above time; those under eighteen years of age twelve hours, and nine on the Saturday.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours, December 3. 1832.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and ninety-one hours.

A. 22.—They have been all going at once, and stopped at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours nine nineteenths.

A. 24.—Children under eighteen years of age have not worked more than twelve hours.

A. 26.—Yes; but it would cause great inconvenience.

A. 27.—I have not.

A. 29.—I never knew a mill carried on night and day without change of hands. But at the present time know of none that are worked in the night. Mine never has been worked in the night.

A. 30.—I never worked my mill any other length of time than what is stated in the answers to preceding questions, and cannot therefore give an opinion with precision.

A. 31.—The greatest objection is, that if such a course became general there could not be a sufficient number of hands procured in this district.

A. 32.—I have not worked extra hours (that is night work), and cannot form a correct opinion.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—I am of opinion if the hours of labour were shortened, that the same value of manufactured goods could not be produced for as little money as now. That the operative would not be able to earn as great wages as at present, and therefore not be so well provided for. The case would be simply this, that the rent of premises (those who pay no rent should consider something in the shape of rent for interest of money) and all incumbrances of different sorts, such as poor rates, &c., would be as much as before, and the cost of production on a given quantity be more than at present, and this in my opinion would give foreigners a better chance of competing with us, and might eventually shut us out of their markets.

A. 38.—In the weaving rooms 70° (natural heat without steam), in the dressing room 89°, in the spinning rooms 80°, in the card room 80°. I consider none of these would do less.

A. 39.—89° or 90°.

A. 40.—Two men.

A. 41.—Not any time last year.

A. 50.—After it is dark (in the winter season) by gas light.

A. 51.—The same after dark as in the day-time. See answers to Nos. 5 & 6.

A. 52.—I cannot say.

A. 53.—Persons above eighteen years of age, half an hour at breakfast and one hour for

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Cheshire.

*Ralph Sidebottom.*

for dinner. Under eighteen years of age, half an hour at breakfast and one hour and twenty minutes for dinner.

A. 54.—All leave them under eighteen years of age, and nearly all the others.

A. 55.—The few who stop in do so for their own convenience.

A. 56.—It would make no difference to me.

A. 57.—Fines on the persons who employ them.

A. 58.—Yes; but very seldom indeed.

A. 59.—Nearly all the children at my works are employed by persons who work by the piece, and they pay them their wages; and, if any correction is necessary, they or their parents do it, as I interfere very little with them; the greatest part of the parents in these cases employ their own children; and if work is spoiled or neglected, I look to the person whom I employ for compensation, and not the children.

A. 60.—Yes; but that does not happen very often.

A. 61.—No.

A. 62.—In some cases I have, in others I have not.

A. 63.—Any person correcting any child that is not employed by him, is subject to a fine of one shilling; or throwing small parts of the machinery at any one a fine of one shilling also.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—This varies, and just depends on the person's natural activity, though generally those are the best workmen who are brought up in the business.

A. 67.—To the best of my knowledge I can see no difference either for better or worse.

A. 68.—No, I do not consider that I have any process injurious to health.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70 & 71.—No.

A. 73.—From good information I believe they do, but cannot say positively.

A. 74.—I have heard of several being taken before a magistrate, but not for the last two years.

A. 75.—I have heard of two being fined.

A. 76.—I do not know.

A. 77.—I believe they are not in one of the before mentioned cases, I heard they were witnesses against their master, but cannot speak positively about this matter, as I had nothing to do with the cases myself, and know nothing but what I heard at the time.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—Yes; the questions I have left blank I do not consider apply in any manner to my works, such as employing apprentices, night-work, &c.

RALPH SIDEBOTTOM.

No. 66.

*J. Winterbottom.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN WINTERBOTTOM, Tintwistle, Mottram.

A. 1.—Township of Tintwistle, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Spinning cotton.

A. 3.—Erected in the year 1799, and has been employed in spinning ever since.

A. 4.—Water; irregular in a dry season or frost; about thirty horse power.

A. 5.—The windows opening opposite each other cause a thorough draft.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Any one working in the room may open or close the windows as they think best.

A. 8.—None but what are.

A. 9.—There is a tap of clear spring water in the stair-case, brought in about the year 1823 for the workpeople to wash themselves at.

A. 10.—Nine, but not more than two or three so young.

A. 11.—Children from nine to twelve years of age are best for cleaning under the mules and rovers, which is not laborious work.

A. 12.—I am not aware of any difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—From thirteen hours and a quarter to thirteen hours and a half for five days, and on Saturday ten hours.

A. 18.—None under eighteen work more than twelve hours for five days or nine hours on a Saturday.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and twenty-two hours.

A. 22.—In scarcity of water, have been obliged to work part of the machinery at once, but in no one instance have exceeded thirteen hours and a half for persons above eighteen, or twelve hours for those under.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and three quarters for those above eighteen years of age, and eleven hours and a half for persons under eighteen.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—In consequence of the water wheel arm breaking at different times, stopped the whole of the works, making up the time according to the present Act.

A. 26.



A. 26.—Having water power on an irregular stream, if we had not an opportunity of working part at once and taking advantage when the water comes, we should not be able some parts of the year to do more than two thirds of the work we ought.

A. 27.—Not since I came in possession, which was in November, 1831.

A. 29.—To increase the production with the same capital.

A. 30.—A decrease in production must increase the cost price with the same capital, and more particularly in the hands paid by the day.

A. 31.—There would be no objection; but in a country situation, hands of this description could not be obtained.

A. 32.—Not been tried, as the hours worked by children were not considered too long.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—In water power we labour under very great disadvantage with respect to working time, and although we may appear to work longer in many instances, we are really less, owing to the irregularity of the stream, and the mills above retaining the water during dry seasons; we cannot at any time produce an equal quantity to what they can by steam power. If the hours were reduced without a considerable allowance for water power, it would make it almost valueless.

A. 38.—From 65° to 72°, which is about the heat required for spinning up to No. 60.

A. 39.—72° is sufficient for spinning to No. 60.

A. 40.—Eighty-three.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 56.—In this situation I have many hands come from a considerable distance, and if they might please themselves, they would prefer staying in the rooms where they are warm and comfortable, to eat their meals.

A. 57.—In some instances the parents are informed, in others they are discharged.

A. 58.—Strictly forbidden.

A. 63.—The instructions given to the overlookers are, on no account to strike a child, nor allow them to be struck by others, but if they will not do their work, send them home.

A. 64.—Only in one instance, in consequence of which the overlooker left my employ.

A. 65.—A part live in my houses; I consider no control necessary, as there are two good schools supported by subscription in the immediate neighbourhood.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are in general the most perfect.

A. 67.—Can only speak to it from November, 1831, but during that time the people have been very healthy.

A. 68.—Not necessary.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—I have not an opportunity of knowing.

A. 77, 78, & 79.—No.

JOHN WINTERBOTTOM.

Cheshire.

*J. Winterbottom.*

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. E. and I. ANDREW, Werneth and Romiley.

No. 67.

*E. & I. Andrew.*

A. 1.—In the townships of Werneth and Romiley, county of Cheshire.

A. 2.—Calico printing and dyeing, and bleaching.

A. 3.—Erected at one time, and have been employed twelve years.

A. 4.—Water power, and tolerably regular, about twenty horse power.

A. 8.—All the dangerous machinery are fenced off.

A. 11.—It does, because the employment the children first are put to requires so little labour, and the wages so low, that when the children become twelve years old they are fit for more laborious employ.

A. 12.—A less proportion.

A. 13.—A few.

A. 14.—All I employ have been apprenticed by their parents.

A. 15.—None orphans, and the whole of the children live with their parents, or are under their immediate control.

A. 16.—Yes.

A. 17.—Ten and a half working hours.

A. 18.—In the block-printing department, ten hours and a half in the summer, and in winter from light to dark; in the other parts of the business ten hours and a half per day.

A. 27.—I have not.

A. 33.—I never employed two sets of hands.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All have liberty to leave the works at meal times.

A. 55.—Some few that live at a distance bring their meals with them for their own convenience.

A. 57.—Abatement is made from their wages for any spoiled work.

A. 58.—Very rarely.

A. 59.—By no one but myself, or the manager of my works.

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Q

A. 60.



Cheshire.

*E. & I. Andrew.*

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—Prior sanction.

A. 62.—I have not, when inflicted by my manager; and if done by any one else, I discharge the person so offending.

A. 63 &amp; 64.—None.

A. 65.—They do not live in my houses.

A. 66.—A very great difference; those that have been brought up to the business from their infancy being much more skilful.

A. 67.—It has continued about the same.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—Not subject.

A. 70 &amp; 71.—Never.

A. 73.—I cannot answer this question, not being in the same trade.

E. &amp; I. ANDREW.

No. 68.

*A. Bruckshaw & Co.*

## ANSWERS of Messrs. ANDREW BRUCKSHAW &amp; Co., Werneth, Stockport.

A. 1.—Township of Werneth, parish of Stockport, county of Chester.

A. 2.—Carding, spinning, and weaving of cotton.

A. 3.—One part built 1802, and the remainder in 1823 and 1824, and the whole employed for its present purpose since 1824.

A. 4.—Water power, assisted by steam in dry weather; one hundred and forty horse power.

A. 5.—None, except windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the hands.

A. 8.—All.

A. 9.—For the last three years a room with oven, boiler, &amp;c. has been appropriated to the hands for eating their meals, changing their clothes, and washing themselves.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—Not absolutely.

A. 12.—A less proportion.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14.—We employ no apprentices.

A. 17.—In carding and spinning twelve hours, in weaving thirteen hours, except on Saturdays nine hours in each department.

A. 18.—Same as above. We, for a considerable time after the present act of parliament passed, turned out the weavers under sixteen years of age the breakfast half hour, but afterwards found the trade generally did not do so; we therefore discontinued it also.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—In spinning and carding three thousand five hundred and seven hours and a half, weaving three thousand seven hundred and sixty-five hours.

A. 22.—Altogether, except when accidents have occurred to the geering, or being short of water.

A. 23.—In carding and spinning eleven hours and a half; weaving, twelve hours and one third.

A. 24.—We employ but one set of hands.

A. 25.—When working up lost time for accidents and short of water.

A. 26.—If we are not allowed to work up lost time, the loss to us as lessees would be great.

A. 27.—Yes; before the present act of parliament passed.

A. 28.—Certainly.

A. 29.—We do not work in the night.

A. 30.—Certainly, in all the branches, but we cannot exactly state the proportion or extent.

A. 31.—If hands could be obtained there would be no objection.

A. 32.—It has never been tried or found necessary by us.

A. 37.—The hands would not get so much money, consequently their comforts would be abridged.

A. 38.—Carding 60° to 70°, spinning 70° to 75°, dressing 75° to 80°. No artificial heat introduced into the weaving rooms except in the winter months.

A. 39.—80°.

A. 40.—Twenty-nine.

A. 50.—By gas in winter season for regular day hours.

A. 51.—Same as by day for regular day hours.

A. 52.—We never worked in the night.

A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner for all hands except weavers, who have one hour for dinner, having their breakfast and afternoon meals in the mill.

A. 54.—All except weavers who leave at dinner.

A. 55.



- A. 55.—For the convenience of both.  
 A. 56.—The hands would suffer great inconvenience in bad weather.  
 A. 57.—For neglect of duty are reprimanded, and for repeated neglect they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—Never allowed.  
 A. 62.—Yes; they have been positively forbidden, and the parties so offending have been discharged.  
 A. 63.—The instructions not to inflict corporal punishment have been most positive.  
 A. 64.—Never since the commencement of our establishments.  
 A. 65.—Part of them in our houses, and the remainder in the neighbourhood. There are three day and evening schools, also two Sunday schools well supported. In our houses, lime and brushes are provided whenever the tenants want for the purpose of whitewashing, and when requisite we insist upon the use of them.  
 A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are generally the best hands.  
 A. 67.—No perceptible difference.  
 A. 68.—When necessary we do.  
 A. 69.—Yes, with the exception of the weaving department.  
 A. 70.—No, never.  
 A. 73, 74, 75, 76, & 77.—There is only one mill in our immediate neighbourhood. The proprietor of which is now a bankrupt, and has been fined once and paid the penalty.  
 A. 78 & 79.—No.

ANDREW BRUCKSHAW & Co.

Cheshire.

*A. Bruckshaw & Co.*

## DERBYSHIRE.

ANSWERS of THOMAS BRIDGETT & Co., St. Aulkmund's, Derby.

Derbyshire.

No. 69.

*T. Bridgett & Co.*

- A. 1.—St. Aulkmund's parish, Derby, in the county of Derby.  
 A. 2.—Throwing, dyeing, and manufacturing silk.  
 A. 3.—At various times. Dates unknown. A considerable part in 1825. Never used for any other purpose.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5.—Yes; casements that open.  
 A. 7.—By the overlookers, of whom there is one in each room. Checked by the general manager of the whole.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—The greater part of our business is as cleanly as the most fastidious could desire; in a small part in which it is otherwise, from the use of a small quantity of sperm oil, there are and always have been utensils and soap, &c. to wash with.  
 A. 10.—We have seldom made any enquiry respecting age of the children; when brought, appeared of sufficient size, but we believe the usual age to begin is between eight and nine.  
 A. 11.—Most assuredly, while wages and profits are at their present rate.  
 A. 12.—Neither.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—A great part of our hands are actually at work ten hours and a half daily; exceptions occur occasionally, but are not regulated by age. None work more, but many less. See the scale.  
 A. 19.—Cannot tell exactly; see above.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and one, which is the usual number. The holidays being eleven or twelve.  
 A. 21.—Cannot tell.  
 A. 22.—Our works are actually all going together.  
 A. 25 & 26. The only reason we ever work one part of our machinery longer than another is to enable one process to keep pace with another, which is a thing which cannot always be accomplished in the silk trade without either working some part more or some less than the usual hours.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 29, 30, 31, & 32.—The subject has never come under our consideration.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 36.—Never heard of its being tried in the silk trade.  
 A. 37.—The immediate effect would be to lower wages, because the manufacturer cannot afford to pay more for the quantity of work done than he does at present. Or if wages were not permanently reduced, as long as profits are at their present low rates, masters must find out some plan of not increasing the cost of their manufacture. There are many little arrangements which are in use now for the convenience of the workpeople, which would no doubt be done away with. To instance one; it is the usual practice to pay the workpeople on the afternoon before market-day, and during the time the machinery is going, which, of course, is so much time lost to the master, and where there is a large number of hands this time is considerable. In the event of any curtailment of the hours of working, there is reason to suppose masters would adopt the plan of paying on the Saturday evening,  
 (APP.—D. 1.) which,



Derbyshire.

T. Bridgett & Co.

which, where the market is in the middle of the week, would be a serious inconvenience and loss to the people employed.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—Temperature is not of much, if any, consequence in our manufacture; in winter, for the convenience of the persons employed, we warm by steam, and in the summer there is nothing to affect our factory more than a dwelling-house.

A. 53.—Half an hour each for breakfast and tea, and one hour for dinner, with a quarter of an hour to go and come at the last-named meal; the same for all.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—With very trifling exceptions all leave to dinner; most of the women at tea and breakfast; the rest take these two meals in their rooms. The convenience is mutual, many living at a distance: the only convenience to the master is, that it might be difficult to get so many together in half an hour if allowed to go out.

A. 57.—Rewards for good conduct, and dismissal for the contrary.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—We cannot say that an overlooker does not ever box a child on the ear, or inflict such slight corporal punishment; but even that has never had our sanction, though we have not forbidden it. Whenever any case of any thing like severity has come to our knowledge, it has always had our strongest reprehension.

A. 64.—One of our overlookers was once summoned for beating a child; we have no particular recollection of the circumstance, nor of any other case.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Those who are not put to work early seldom attain sufficient quickness to enable them to get wages equal to those who come at the earliest period.

A. 67.—We see no alteration; all our people appear as healthy and happy as any we see any where; and the children are as playful.

A. 68.—There is no part of our manufactory which can be considered at all injurious.

A. 69.—No.

A. 78 & 79.—We believe no penalties will enforce obedience where the parties are inclined, and find it their interest to evade the law; nor do we think any legislative enactments will be found to answer the proposed end. Where there is not a redundancy of labour, which is not the case here, there will not be found any complaints of overworking. Instead of harassing manufacturers with enactments respecting matters which only themselves and their workpeople can properly settle, give the people cheap bread, as cheap as our competitors can get it, and the time of their working may be safely left to themselves.

THOMAS BRIDGETT & Co.

No. 70.

Walter Evans & Co.

## ANSWERS of WALTER EVANS &amp; Co., St. Aulkmund, Derby.

A. 1.—Liberty of Darley Abbey, parish of St. Aulkmund, and county of Derby.

A. 2.—Spinning, twisting, and finishing cotton threads.

A. 3.—At four different periods; old mill burnt down in November, 1788, and rebuilt in 1789; the first addition we do not find the date of, the second addition was in 1818, and the third and last in 1821.

A. 4.—Water power alone; do not know the extent of it, but suppose it may be one hundred horse; supply of water irregular; we have been stopped a week at a time by floods, and have occasionally been stopped a part of every day for many weeks together by short water in dry seasons.

A. 5.—There are sash windows which open half the full size of the windows, in the whole of the three additions to the mill; and part of the old mill has now sash windows, and most of the other windows have casements which open.

A. 6.—Chiefly on opening the windows; we have also large fans which draw the air and dust out of two of the most dusty rooms, and which keep these rooms in a comfortable state.

A. 7.—By the overlookers, and we usually find the workpeople would not have them opened sufficiently, and we have occasion sometimes to oblige them to open more windows.

A. 8.—The shafting, many of the wheels, and other parts of the work which we consider dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—No compulsory arrangements, but a great proportion of our people change their clothes on entering the mill, and there is water in each room which they use to wash themselves; and this has always been the case here.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; but, for the first year or two they are generally employed in light work connected with spinning or finishing bleached threads, in the out-buildings, in which there is no machinery.

A. 11.—Children from nine to twelve years of age are very suitable for the light work above mentioned, and many families could not maintain themselves here without the wages of these young children, as it is found to be the most trying time for poor families when their children are of an age to be just beginning to work.

A. 12.—In our case, we think neither more nor less.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours the first five days in the week, and nine hours on the Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours, except in cases of lost time by accidents, short water or floods,  
only



only a part of which has been worked up, never exceeding half an hour per day to make up lost time by short supply or excess of water, nor more than an hour per day to make up time lost by accidents by breakages, and this never exceeding ten days for any one accident, and never extended to the Saturday.

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*Walter Evans & Co.*

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days or parts of days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and six hours.

A. 22.—Work all alike, where there is machinery.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and thirty-four minutes, excluding holidays.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours for some few days, to make up time lost by accidents.

A. 25.—Only in cases of accidental breakage, or lost time by floods or short water, when a part of the lost time has been worked up, as explained No. 19.

A. 26.—Water power mills with irregular supply of water would be under serious disadvantage, and their hands sometimes be greatly distressed, if not allowed to work up a reasonable proportion of lost time.

A. 27.—Previous to 1828, varied from seventy-two to seventy-five hours per week.

A. 28.—The cost of production is, of course, increased by the quantity produced being decreased.

A. 29.—To lessen the cost of production, and to obtain the profit on the additional quantity produced also at the less cost.

A. 30.—The cost in our case would be increased perhaps nearly in proportion to the diminution of hours, as far as machinery and all fixed capital and charges are concerned, the wages being reduced according to the hours worked; and if the trade pays a small profit working twelve hours per day, there would be a considerable loss on working ten hours per day, paying the same wages per hour, and selling at the same prices.

A. 31.—It would be attended with great inconvenience, and when work was ill done or spoiled, we could not tell by which hand it was done.

A. 32.—We have not tried it, for the reasons stated in the last answer.

A. 33.—We have no night work.

A. 36.—If the hours are not shortened we have no intention to introduce nightwork, and have a great objection to it.

A. 37.—It would increase the cost of production, and consequently extend foreign competition, which is already greatly increasing.

A. 38.—We have no work requiring any particular temperature, and we regulate our temperature as well as we can for the comfort of the hands.

A. 39 & 40.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner; tea in the afternoon is taken without stopping the works; all ages alike.

A. 54.—All allowed to do so, except the overlookers of each room, and there are a few persons employed half the dinner hour in cleaning machinery; but these are all above eighteen years of age.

A. 57.—Reprimanded; if this not sufficient, forfeited twopence to threepence to a sick fund, the whole of which fund is again given to the hands, with some additions from the firm, in cases of temporary illness. When much in fault, the hands are sent home for a quarter or half a day, and if they become unmanageable they are dismissed.

A. 58.—Forbidden in all cases.

A. 63.—Our instructions are never to strike the children, but to send them to be reprimanded by a partner, in cases when they do not properly attend to the master of the room.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A great proportion of the workpeople do live in our houses. Nothing is done absolutely to enforce domestic cleanliness, but much pains are taken to encourage it; and when any families continue very dirty, we have sent them away from the place. We also regularly white-wash the cottages at our own expense, at least once, and generally or twice a year, throughout the insides of the cottages.

A. 66.—For a great part of our work those who have been early brought up to the trade are much more skilful than those taken at much later periods.

A. 67.—We believe, certainly improved: perhaps partly from the reduced price of food and clothing as compared with their wages, and from greater attention to cleanliness, and better bedding.

A. 68.—Occasionally, but this is not often necessary.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We do not know, but we have ourselves conformed to the Act.

A. 74.—We have not heard of any informations.

A. 77.—We do not know.

A. 78 & 79.—No.

WALTER EVANS &amp; Co.



Derbyshire.

No. 71.

J. H. S. Peet.

## ANSWERS of J. H. S. PEET, St. Aulkmund's, Derby.

- A. 1.—St. Aulkmund's parish, Derby.
- A. 2.—Weaving ribands, galloons, and doubles.
- A. 3.—All erected at the same time, nine years ago.
- A. 4.—Steam.
- A. 5.—The lower rooms are ventilated by the windows, and likewise open to the staircase, the upper rooms by sliding doors in the floor above into the roof in addition to the windows.
- A. 6.—Depends upon the opening of the windows and slides in part, but is constantly ventilated by the staircase.
- A. 7.—Partly by the workpeople themselves and partly by the overlooker.
- A. 8.—All are fenced off that are considered dangerous.
- A. 9.—No arrangements respecting a change of clothes. Water is provided to wash themselves when necessary.
- A. 10.—Eight years of age. Are employed by the workpeople themselves, and are their own children.
- A. 11.—No.
- A. 12.—Not as respects ourselves.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Eleven hours at most after deducting meal times; for in the morning fifteen minutes grace is allowed, the same at dinner, and half that time at breakfast and tea; therefore we do not work more than ten hours and a quarter or ten hours and a half.
- A. 18.—All work the same time in our manufactory both under and above twenty-one.
- A. 19.—Eleven hours.
- A. 20.—Say two hundred and ninety-four days, when holidays are taken off and time lost repairing the steam engine.
- A. 21.—We have never kept a correct account, but never more than eleven hours per day.
- A. 22.—All parts begin and leave off at the same time.
- A. 23.—All days are alike, excepting Saturday, when we stop the engine one hour sooner in the summer and from one to two hours in the winter.
- A. 24.—Eleven hours.
- A. 25.—At no time.
- A. 26.—We have never tried it, and are very unwilling to do so.
- A. 27.—Never.
- A. 29.—The large capital invested and the extreme small profits may induce some manufacturers to adopt the plan of extra hours, or even through the night, but we consider seldom to much advantage when worked by steam; there is more inducements when worked by water.
- A. 30.—We have never tried a greater length of time to work.
- A. 31.—We consider the objection would be great in our business, for in that case there would want two sets of overlookers, to which there is a decided objection. And the workpeople being paid by the piece, it would take several hours between each relay of hands to measure the quantity of work done before the others could commence, and would give rise to constant disputes.
- A. 32.—We have never tried it.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 36.—We are not aware that any manufacturer in our business employs night hands.
- A. 37.—To reduce the working hours to less than the above stated would be attended with bad consequences, without at the same time the obnoxious corn laws were done away with, for without that the working classes would have less money to purchase food with, but by doing away with that unjust monopoly some reduction in the hours of labour might take place.
- A. 38.—About fifty-five or sixty in winter, and sixty to seventy-five in summer.
- A. 39.—Only sufficient to keep the people warm.
- A. 50.—With gas.
- A. 51.—Same as by day, as stated before.
- A. 52.—Don't know, for never had any.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, with ten minutes grace; one hour dinner and fifteen minutes grace; half an hour tea, with ten minutes grace.
- A. 54.—All leave at dinner by compulsion, at breakfast and tea some few of the grown up people stay in the factory for their own convenience.
- A. 55.—Those that do not leave the factory stay from choice and to suit themselves.
- A. 56.—We consider it much better for all meals to be taken out of the factory, being more conducive to health by going backwards and forwards in the open air.
- A. 57.—Scolding them, and reporting them to the employer.
- A. 58.—Not allowed.
- A. 63.—The instructions have been not to inflict punishment, but if idle turn them away.
- A. 64.—None.

A. 65.



A. 65.—None of them live in houses of their employers, excepting the overlookers.

A. 66.—Those that commence at an early period of life generally make greater proficient and better workmen than those who learn later in life.

A. 67.—We are not aware that there is any difference in the general health during last year compared with any former years, and we consider there is no more sickness than there was nine years ago.

A. 68.—None, as consider no part of it is injurious to health, more than the same confinement in any other business.

A. 69.—We consider not.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We know nothing of what other mills do in that respect.

A. 74.—Cannot tell.

A. 77.—Should think they are not afraid of offending their employers by giving evidence by any means.

A. 79.—We would beg to state that the hours of labour for children cannot be lessened without causing a greater evil. Give them cheaper bread, by abolishing the present corn laws, so that they can obtain their present quantity of food for less money, then the hours of labour may be lessened; but lessening their labour and pinching their bellies would be legislation of the worst description.

J. H. S. PEET.

Derbyshire.

J. H. S. Peet.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. STEVENSON & FROST, Saint Aulkmund's, Derby.

No. 72.

Stevenson & Frost.

A. 1.—Saint Aulkmund's parish, in the borough of Derby.

A. 2.—Silk throwing and riband weaving.

A. 3.—Part in 1817, and part in 1827; commenced to be employed for its present purposes in 1827.

A. 4.—Steam power sixteen to eighteen horse power.

A. 5.—The top rooms have ventilators in the roofs, and are always open.

A. 6.—All the rooms have windows to open.

A. 7.—The ventilation is at the discretion of all, except the ventilators in the top rooms, which are always open, and in the summer time the overlooker has orders to see that all the windows are left open during meal times.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have not any place on purpose, they change their clothes in their respective rooms.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; some have been employed at the same trade before; some we learn who have not been employed at all; it is not often that we take any who have been employed at other trades; they do not make so good hands, neither do they often apply to us for work.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not positively require children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—The alterations in silk machinery have not rendered it necessary, but the competition in the trade does, because children under twelve years of age can be maintained for less than those above twelve; therefore their parents will send them to work for less wages, and many children at nine years of age can do as much as others who are twelve or fourteen, at the same kind of work.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—About three hundred and fifty-six days and a half.

A. 21.—About three thousand nine hundred and forty-eight hours and a half.

A. 22.—They never vary, with the exception of sometimes being obliged to stand while repairs are being done.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and about four minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When the winding and throwing have been behind the weaving.

A. 26.—It is possible to avoid it, but some of the weavers would be obliged to wait off work in consequence, sometimes for two or three days.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 28.—We do not vary our time of working, only on very urgent occasions, and therefore have not made any calculations.

A. 29.—We never have been induced by any circumstances to work our hands during the night; do not know what are the reasons other manufacturers do so.

A. 30.—Do not know, never having made any calculation.

A. 31.—We should suppose there can be no objection, providing as good a set can be procured for the same amount of wages, in which case the employer would be a gainer by having a fresh set at night, because they would do more work in the same time than those who have been at work during the day could do, when obliged to continue at work late at night.

(APP.—D.1.)

A. 32.



Derbyshire.

Stevenson &amp; Frost.

- A. 32.—Never, because our hours of working are always moderate.
- A. 33.—Never.
- A. 36.—It would not affect us at all.
- A. 37.—Do not know what would be the effects of a still further reduction of the hours of working, never having worked (only upon urgent occasions) more than eleven hours per day.
- A. 38.—From 40° to 60° usual, 40° the lowest.
- A. 39.—50°.
- A. 40.—All of them.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—By gas in the evening.
- A. 51.—Same as the day in the evening.
- A. 52.—Do not know, never having employed any after eight o'clock.
- A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.
- A. 54.—They all leave at breakfast time, except two men in the throwing room, and some of the weavers, but cannot say how many, as it is optional with them; at dinner-time they all go out except four boys, who stay to clean the throwing mills.
- A. 55.—It is for the convenience of both; those who stay to clean, do so to prevent the necessity of the machinery standing during the regular hours of work, and the weavers stay to suit their own purposes, to enable them to get more work done; they are paid by the piece.
- A. 56.—It would affect us but little, as our hands may get their meals either in or out of the manufactory.
- A. 57.—By some one being present with them as much as possible, sometimes by rewards, and sometimes we discharge them as examples to the rest; if they make wilful waste, we stop a part of their earnings to pay for it.
- A. 58.—If it is done, it is not with our knowledge or approbation.
- A. 59.—The weavers sometimes beat their own children, but it is a rare occurrence.
- A. 61.—We do not sanction it at all.
- A. 64 & 65.—No.
- A. 66.—A manifest difference in some of the branches; a child of nine years of age will learn to wind silk quite as soon as one who is twelve, fourteen, or even much older; therefore when they are twelve or fourteen, they will be as good hands as those who learned at twelve or fourteen are at fifteen or seventeen, and most probably better.
- A. 68.—We do not change their employment in consequence of any particular processes being injurious, because we do not consider any of the processes injurious.
- A. 69.—Ours is a silk mill, not a cotton mill, and therefore does not come under the act.
- A. 70.—No.
- A. 77.—In most cases it is likely to be so.
- A. 78 & 79.—No.

RALPH FROST.  
THOMAS STEVENSON.

No. 73.  
J. Strutt.

## ANSWERS of J. STRUTT, Belper and Milford, parish of Duffield.

- A. 1.—Belper and Milford, parish of Duffield, county of Derby.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning, bleaching and dyeing. Average number of hands employed about two thousand.
- A. 3.—The first cotton mill was begun to be built in 1776, and began to work in 1778, other mills and buildings added at various times down to the present.
- A. 4.—Water power only, do not know the extent of it, probably from two to three hundred horse power; supply of water irregular, liable to have the works stopped by floods, sometimes for a day or more at once, and also occasionally from too short a supply of water.
- A. 5.—Yes; each room has a large inlet for the purpose of admitting warm air from stoves in winter, and cool air in summer, and there is also a corresponding outlet into a tunnel, so that even without any windows being opened, there would be a constant current of fresh air passing through the rooms, of at least two gallons per minute for each person employed.
- A. 6.—All the windows can be opened at the pleasure of the hands or the overlooker.
- A. 7.—The inlets for air into the different rooms as well as the outlets are always open, and it is at the manager's discretion whether there is a fire in the stove or not.
- A. 8.—Yes.
- A. 9.—Yes; the female hands all put on a working dress when they enter the mills; they can wash themselves and put on or take off clothing as they please. They are required to come to work clean and tidy. There is an excellent water closet in each room. This has been done since the commencement of the works.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age. Many, indeed most of the females, have been previously employed, some even from five years old, at lace running, or tambouring. A list of one hundred and fifty children employed in Belper, at the above, from five to nine years of age, delivered to Dr. Hawkins, 7th June, 1833.

A. 11.



Derbyshire.

J. Strutt.

A. 11.—Having a great deal of very light work, such as winding, reeling, &c. &c. children from nine years old to twelve are very suitable for it, as they can do it quite as well as older hands, and at less cost. If parents were to be deprived of the labour of their children under twelve years of age, pauperism would be greatly increased, as the most difficult and distressing time is, when a working man has four or five children, the eldest, say nine, just fit for work. The best proof of this is, the parents not being allowed by act of parliament to send their children to a cotton factory under nine years of age, send them to lace-running or tambouring at a much earlier age, where numbers are shut up in small ill-ventilated rooms for twelve or thirteen hours a day, or even longer, at an employment more injurious to health, and particularly so to eye-sight, than any employment they would be put to in a well regulated cotton factory.

A. 12.—Having more light work than we formerly had, a greater number of children are desirable.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

A. 18.—Twelve hours, except those under sixteen work only nine hours on a Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and eighty-four hours.

A. 22.—Some departments, more particularly of the lighter kinds of work, are not always in full employ, and as nearly all the hands work by the piece, the lesser ones are allowed to give over when they have done a certain quantity; but no precise account can be given of this lesser time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—Loss of time by floods or shortness of water, accidental breakage of machinery. In one instance, wishing to have a third day's holiday at the wake in July, 1832, to celebrate the passing of the reform bill, and not wishing to distress their families by losing so much time, they previously worked up twelve hours, by an hour a day.

A. 26.—It would be a great loss to the master, and produce great distress to the hands of water power mills with an irregular supply of water, were they not allowed to work up a reasonable proportion of lost time.

A. 27.—Not regularly. Many years ago we worked twelve hours and a half a day for a short time.

A. 28.—No doubt the cost of production is enhanced by a reduction in the hours of working.

A. 29.—To lessen the cost of production.

A. 30.—Supposing the price of yarns to be the same, and the wages reduced according to the hours worked, then the increase in the cost of production upon all fixed capital and charges would be in the proportion of the diminution of hours.

A. 31.—In our particular instance we should not object to children under twelve years of age working only ten hours a day, and going to school two hours, which might be done by having a certain number of extra ones; but if the age were too much extended, or the hours of work too much diminished, then the inconvenience of employing them at all would be greater than the benefit, and they would be thrown out of work altogether.

A. 32.—Not been necessary, and therefore not tried.

A. 33.—From ten to twenty hands only, all adults.

A. 35.—Same set work uniformly by night.

A. 36.—It would be very injurious to us, ours being a business of manufacture as well as spinning. The demand for some descriptions of yarns varies very much at different times, and as we are very dependent upon foreign trade, we could not execute the orders we sometimes have were we not allowed to run some part of our machinery night and day; it is, however, that description of machinery which requires but few hands, and those may always be adults.

A. 37.—An increased cost of production to us, acting as a bounty to foreign spinners, who now compete very closely with us; distress and deprivation of many of the comforts of life which the working class now here enjoy; and the reduction of wages from twelve hours to ten would oblige many to have relief from their parishes who now maintain themselves.

A. 38.—The comfort of the hands is the only guide as to temperature; the rooms in winter vary from 58° to 64°, and in summer we keep them as cool as the external temperature will allow.

A. 41.—A small portion during the whole of the past year.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—Not indispensably continuous, but a great convenience.

A. 48.—Adults.

A. 50.—By coal gas.

A. 51.—The same as by day, but more pains taken to make it perfect.

A. 52.—No bad effect, they receive rather better wages, and work only eleven hours.

A. 53.—Reasonable time for breakfast, not exceeding half an hour, to which they can sit down in the mills, and the same for tea, and an hour at dinner.

A. 54.—All at dinner, and about one-fourth at breakfast and tea.

A. 55.—The people much prefer not going out at breakfast and tea to working the time they would be out later in an evening. Most of them also live too far off to go home and get their



Derbyshire.

J. Strutt.

their breakfast and tea in comfort, and they had rather sit down in their work rooms and eat leisurely. Tea and coffee are made in the mills, a pint of which they can have morning and evening for six days for 6d.

A. 56.—Less comfort than they now have, and longer hours of work; ours being principally piece-work, the hands can make up for any little time they lose at the meals, which are taken in the mills. All do not breakfast quite at the same time, and they can assist each other to keep the work going when necessary. It was the wish of the hands to do as we have hitherto done.

A. 57.—Remonstrances first, sometimes small fines and application to parents to punish them; if these do not succeed, dismissal.

A. 58.—They are forbidden.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Mostly in our own houses. There are large day schools, evening schools, and Sunday schools, and great pains is taken to promote cleanliness, morality, and good order.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from infancy are, most decidedly, the quickest and cleverest hands, and can earn more wages than those who began later, and they are, in all respects, superior as a class.

A. 67.—No apparent variation; the greatest change is when food is dear: when well fed and clothed, they will bear a comparison with any other description of hands at any other employment.

A. 68.—Occasionally.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—Should suppose not.

A. 78.—Consider the present restrictions on cotton factories quite sufficient, and that the defect is not in the number of hours which people are employed, but in many mills not being in a fit state, i. e. not sufficiently cleanly and well ventilated for people to work in.

A. 79.—The reduction of time from twelve hours to ten, and the consequent reduction of wages, would have a most serious and lamentable effect on the working class, as well as being a great injury to the master. Every thing should be done to enable the working class to procure sufficient food and clothing, and the comforts of life, and then there is some chance of making some moral improvement, but it is very difficult to instruct and improve the hungry and the naked, and those who are degraded (against their own will too) into pauperism.

J. STRUTT.

No. 74.

James Hackell

## ANSWERS of JAMES HACKELL, Tansley, Crik.

A. 1.—Tansley, in the parish of Crik, county Derby.

A. 2.—Tapes, ferrets, bobbins, lace, &c.

A. 3.—Employed for the present purpose, 1819.

A. 4.—Water power.

A. 5.—By opening windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—We have not any.

A. 10.—Nine years the very lowest; not previously employed in any other trade to our knowledge.

A. 11.—It does not necessarily require the employment of children under twelve years of age; but have been induced to take them under that age at request of the parents.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 19.—From six to seven, allowing one hour and a half for meals.

A. 20.—Cannot say.

A. 21.—Having worked short time all the winter (from light to dark) we cannot tell.

A. 22.—Our works are regular, all parts carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Cannot tell.

A. 24.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 25.—Not any.

A. 26.—We never work one set of hands more than eleven hours and a half.

A. 27.—Some years back we worked night and day, employing two sets of hands.

A. 28.—Yes, in proportion; so far as concerns the rent, taxes, and poor rates.

A. 29.—No inducement whatever.

A. 31.—We have no objections.

A. 32.—It has been tried, and will answer when the demand for goods requires it.

A. 33.—We have employed a night set of hands some years back; we then worked the day hands from six in the morning until seven in the evening, night from seven to six in the morning.

A. 34.



A. 34.—We don't think it needful to work more than one set of hands except in an extraordinary demand for goods, which rarely occurs.

A. 35.—They changed weekly when we worked night and day.

A. 37.—Unless a reduction of rents, taxes, &c. it would be an injury to the manufacturer and his workmen, as wages must lower in proportion.

A. 38.—The hands have the option to make either cool or warm as they like.

A. 39.—No particular degree, a moderate heat is best.

A. 40 & 41.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—The same as day.

A. 52.—Not any.

A. 53.—One hour and a half per day.

A. 54.—All that like.

A. 55.—Workpeople, for their own convenience.

A. 56.—None.

A. 57.—We complain to their parents, and request them to correct them.

A. 58.—Not at the works.

A. 59.—Parents.

A. 60 & 61.—No.

A. 62.—Yes.

A. 63 & 64.—No.

A. 65.—Some do, but no control is exercised over them.

A. 66.—Generally those who have been brought up from children at the work.

A. 67.—No difference to our knowledge.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—None at all.

A. 78 & 79.—No.

JAMES HACKELL.

Derbyshire.

James Hackell.

#### ANSWERS of EDWARD TURNER, Borough of Derby.

No. 75.

Edward Turner.

A. 1.—In the borough of Derby.

A. 2.—Silk throwing.

A. 3.—Begun and completed in 1823.

A. 4.—Steam only.

A. 5.—The ventilation is from the windows only, but no place is more airy than this mill; it is outside the town, no buildings near it, and in an elevated situation.

A. 7.—There is an overlooker in each room, and the ventilation is controlled by him.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—We have no arrangement for changing the clothing of the workpeople, it is left to themselves; they generally bring additional clothes with them to put on when necessary; there is a water closet to each room, and plenty of water and towels; our people are generally clean.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—Silk throwing does require children under twelve years of age; the reason is, that government has reduced the duty on foreign thrown silk so low that we cannot afford to pay a high price for labour.

A. 12.—There has been no alteration of silk machinery affecting this question.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—The usual number of hours is eleven; we make no difference between those who are above and those who are under twenty-one. It would be very inconvenient in a silk mill to make any distinctions.

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and thirteen.

A. 23.—Eleven hours.

A. 25 & 26.—In silk throwing it is impossible to keep all the different processes in exact pace or time with each other, and this makes it absolutely necessary to work occasionally some one apartment longer than the others to overtake them. If silk mills are to be worked only ten hours, or be tied strictly to eleven hours, it will be in vain to expect English silk mills to compete with the mills of the Continent.

A. 27.—Since our mill commenced, ten years ago, we have varied very little as to time.

A. 28.—If the hours of working are abridged, the cost of production will be materially enhanced, and this mill, for one, cannot possibly continue working, for on the average of the last five years it has not paid its expences.

A. 31.—If a mill is to be worked all night as well as all day, fresh sets are necessary, but for short periods children could not be had at sufficiently low wages, besides the hinderance arising from changing.

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A. 33.



Derbyshire.

Edward Turner.

A. 33.—We have never worked in the night, nor any length of time that has been injurious to the children.

A. 37.—It would enhance the cost, and would ruin the silk mills of this country, which now, with all their exertions, can but just maintain themselves against foreign competition.

A. 38.—That which is most comfortable to the hands employed, generally about 50°. (See 39.)

A. 39.—Silk throwing requires not heat; the rooms are warmed by steam pipes, and only for the comfort of the people employed.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—No other than in the day-time.

A. 53.—For breakfast, twenty minutes: for dinner, one hour; for tea, twenty minutes.

A. 54.—Breakfast and tea are had in the mill, the hands go away to dinner.

A. 55.—It is for the convenience of both parties, the hands do not go away at breakfast and tea, fully as much for the hands as the manufactory.

A. 56.—Loss of time, and frequent unnecessary walks through wet and cold weather.

A. 57.—Constant watchfulness, rewards for good, fines for bad conduct.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—We forbid corporal punishment, and have dismissed overlookers who have inflicted it.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Our hands do not reside in any houses of ours; we have nothing to do with them except in working hours.

A. 66.—Those brought into the work by the time they are nine or ten, are much more dexterous than those who learn later in life.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any alteration, the health of our hands has always been very good. The mill is a very spacious airy building, and the employment is a very cleanly and wholesome one.

A. 68.—There is no injurious process in silk throwing.

A. 69.—No.

A. 77.—Not the least in the world.

A. 78.—In such works as ours, that is in silk mills, we know of no practices requiring legislative interference. The great evil the hands suffer is the low rate of wages, arising from foreign competition, and which evil will be enhanced by curtailing the hours of labour.

EDWARD TURNER.

No. 76.

William Bancroft.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM BANCROFT, Devonshire Street, Derby.

A. 1.—Devonshire Street, and Traffick Street.

A. 2.—Winding and weaving silk.

A. 3.—Traffick Street shop raised one story higher, and finished for its present purpose in March, 1831. Devonshire Street shop used for its present purpose about seven years ago, and raised one story higher, April, 1833.

A. 4.—By hand; quite regular.

A. 6.—Yes; Devonshire Street shop is ventilated by the opening of windows; Traffick Street shop by ventilators fixed in the middle of the windows, and opening windows.

A. 7.—The ventilating and opening of the windows is attended to by the hands themselves.

A. 8.—A fly-wheel, but protected.

A. 9.—No; our work does not require it.

A. 10.—About ten years of age.—No.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require children under twelve years of age, although we employ them under the above age. The reason we employ them under the above age is, because their parents cannot afford to keep them; and, as we employ older branches of their family, they have some claim on us to employ the younger.

A. 12.—Neither.

A. 13.—We employ apprentices.

A. 14.—We have none apprenticed from parishes.

A. 15.—We neither lodge nor maintain any of the children.

A. 16.—Yes.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

A. 18.—Eleven hours in summer, and ten and a half in winter.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—About three hundred and two days.

A. 21.—About three thousand two hundred and forty-six.

A. 22.—They have not.

A. 23.—Ten hours and about twenty minutes.

A. 24.—About twelve hours.

A. 25.—At the latter end of the year, against stock-taking.

A. 26.—I consider any excess beyond the regular hours avoidable, except as stated in the 25th query.

A. 27.



A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—For the want of a greater demand for goods; if the demand were greater, the manufacturer would certainly be able to pay a higher rate of wages, as well as employ more hands; as it now is, they have to compete with other countries that are less taxed than this; therefore the manufacturer has to grind down his workpeople, and make them do as much work as possible for a little money, to enable him to sell at all.

A. 30.—We have not experienced it.

A. 31.—Cannot say, as our work does not require two sets.

A. 32.—We are not in the habit of working extra hours, therefore we have no occasion for a change of hands.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—I think the hours we work is quite as much as any children ought to work, more is injurious.

A. 38.—According to the weather.

A. 39.—Sufficient fire for the hands to warm themselves by in winter, and none in summer.

A. 40.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Candles.

A. 51.—No need of any.

A. 52.—No experience.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Give them a good talking to.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—No experience.

A. 67.—During the last eight years we have had very little sickness amongst the workpeople, having had no farther experience.

A. 68.—We consider no process at all injurious.

A. 69.—No.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—I have no reason whatever.

A. 78.—I cannot suggest any other scale of penalties, or any other means which would secure obedience to the present law; but I think the regulation of labour will never be regulated without legislative interference.

A. 79.—No.

WILLIAM BANCROFT.

Derbyshire.

William Bancroft.

#### ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM ADCOCK, St. Michael, Derby.

No. 77.

William Adcock.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Michael, in the borough of Derby and county of Derby.

A. 2.—Silk throwing.

A. 3.—Erected at one time; not known when first employed.

A. 4.—Worked by blind men.

A. 5 & 6.—By common windows.

A. 7.—Ventilation regulated by any one.

A. 8.—No dangerous parts.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Three children under twelve years of age; not been employed elsewhere.

A. 11.—Yes.

A. 12.—No alteration in machinery.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—No orphans; visited by parents as often as they like.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—About ten hours a day.

A. 18.—None.

A. 19.—Ten hours a day, and not more.

A. 20.—About two hundred days or thereabouts.

A. 21.—About two thousand hours.

A. 22.—Only one part of works carried on.

A. 23.—About five hours a day.

A. 24.—Not above ten hours a day.

A. 25.—None.

A. 26.—Not any overtime.

A. 27.—Not any.

A. 29.—Nothing to do with working at nights.

A. 31.—But one set of workpeople.

A. 32.—No necessity for a change.

A. 33.—No night hands.

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T

A. 37.



Derbyshire.

William Adcock.

- A. 37.—If there are a reduction in hours they will reduce their wages in proportion.  
 A. 38 & 39.—None.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—Oil lamps when wanted.  
 A. 51.—Common casements.  
 A. 52.—None, therefore unable to state.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and tea-time, one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54 & 55.—All at one time.  
 A. 56.—The master would be a loser by the men taking their meal times out of his time.  
 A. 57 & 58.—None.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Nothing to do with them after they leave the manufactory.  
 A. 66.—Persons brought up at the manufactory from their infancy understand their work better than they that learn after a certain age.  
 A. 67.—Not any alteration any way.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Do not know that it is.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—For any thing I know they do.  
 A. 77.—Not in the least.  
 A. 78 & 79.—No.

WILLIAM ADCOCK.

No. 78.

William Taylor.

## ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM TAYLOR, St. Michael's, Derby.

- A. 1.—St. Michael's parish, borough of Derby.  
 A. 2.—Manufacture of sewing silks, &c.  
 A. 3.—Erected by John Lombe, in 1718; the first of the kind in Great Britain; always employed for the throwing or manufacturing of silk.  
 A. 4.—Water only; about three horse power; very irregular.  
 A. 5.—Well ventilated by the opening of windows, &c.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—Securely fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is free access to water, and a stove to dry their clothes if requisite  
 A. 10.—The lowest age nine years; not previously employed.  
 A. 11.—The work being light and easy, I consider children from nine to twelve years quite competent to the employment, and as useful as those of any age.  
 A. 12.—I am not aware of any difference.  
 A. 13.—No apprentices.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours per day, the regular time of work, and two hours per day for meals, viz. half an hour at breakfast and at tea, and an hour at dinner. Twenty minutes grace allowed at morning and dinner, and five minutes each at breakfast and tea, therefore I consider the time of work about ten hours and a quarter.  
 A. 18.—No difference with respect to age.  
 A. 19.—On one or two particular occasions, one hour per day longer, when time has been lost from the irregular supply of water.  
 A. 20.—About two hundred and eighty-nine days. Having made twelve days holidays, and lost about twelve for want of water.  
 A. 21.—About two thousand nine hundred and sixty-two hours.  
 A. 22.—The different parts are carried on simultaneously.  
 A. 23.—About nine hours and one-third per day, allowing for lost time.  
 A. 24.—Nearly twelve hours.  
 A. 26.—Unavoidable in my case, without injury to the parties employed, in consequence of the irregular supply of water.  
 A. 27.—No alteration in this respect.  
 A. 29 & 30.—In my opinion, eleven hours daily labour is quite as long as is profitable to the manufacturer.  
 A. 33.—I have six or seven men employed during the night, commencing at seven, when the day-hands leave, and finishing at 6, when the day hands come to work.  
 A. 34.—Want of power, combined with its irregularity, obliges me to keep a small part of the machinery working by night, to keep all the departments of work proceeding uniformly.  
 A. 35.—They change occasionally.  
 A. 36.—The effect would be to diminish the quantity of work, and the number of hands employed to one half, or the necessity of creating additional power, which would materially increase the cost of production. So that by the employment of those few men nightly I am submitting to the least evil.  
 A. 37.—While the present pernicious system of the corn laws operates in enhancing the price of the common necessities of life, I consider that a reduction of our present working hours



hours would only tend to increase the privations and distresses of the labouring classes, by diminishing their means of obtaining subsistence.

A. 38 & 39.—Neither a greater or less temperature is required than that which is necessary to the comfort of those employed.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—In the few men we employ I have perceived no ill effect.

A. 54.—All are compelled to leave at dinner. Breakfast and tea optional.

A. 55.—If any stay at breakfast or tea it is for their own convenience.

A. 57.—Rewards and reprimand; if incorrigible, dismissal.

A. 58.—Corporal punishment not practised.

A. 64 & 65.—Not any.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from early age attain much greater skill and proficiency than others.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any material difference.

A. 68.—It is unnecessary, having no injurious processes in our manufactory.

A. 69.—I believe it is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—My attention is sufficiently occupied with my own concerns.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—If labour is to be regulated by law, I would suggest eleven hours per day, and ten hours on Saturdays.

A. 79.—If the object of the present inquiry be to improve the condition of the labouring classes, I would strongly recommend, as the most effectual measure of relief, the abolition of the odious system of the corn laws, the most grievous evil that can oppress an industrious community.

WILLIAM TAYLOR.

Derbyshire.

William Taylor.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. BODEN & MORLEY, St. Peter, Derby.

No. 79.

Boden & Morley.

A. 1.—Parish of St. Peter, Derby.

A. 2.—Manufacture of bobbin net.

A. 3.—At one time 1824 and 1825, and employed ever since for its present purpose.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5.—No; it depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Discretion of all.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—No dressing rooms. Plenty of clean water to be used by the workpeople if they choose.

A. 10.—Between ten and eleven years old; believe not previously employed.

A. 11 & 12.—No.

A. 13, 14, & 15.—Not in the manufacture of bobbin net, but we have two as machine-makers.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half, exclusive of one hour and a half for meals.

A. 18.—Under fourteen years, ten hours and a half, exclusive of one hour and a half for meals; from fifteen to twenty-one years old, twelve hours and a half, exclusive of one hour and a half for meals.

A. 19.—Sixteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days and three quarters.

A. 21.—About three thousand nine hundred and forty-three hours, but cannot state precisely.

A. 22.—Smiths from six o'clock in the morning to half past six in the evening. Children under fourteen years from six in the morning to six in the evening. Winders from five in the morning to seven in the evening. Machine hands part five in the morning to six in the evening, and part from eight in the morning to nine in the evening.

A. 23.—About fourteen hours each day, except Saturday twelve hours and a half.

A. 24.—If under fourteen years of age ten hours and a half, exclusive of one hour and a half for meals.

A. 25.—They are never kept to work more than the hours stated above, but at times when they wish.

A. 26.—Not avoidable always, because the workpeople lose time from obstructions in the machines and various causes, which at other times they wish to make up to get their usual wages, as they are paid by the piece.

A. 27.—Yes.

A. 28.—To a certain extent this has been the case; nevertheless, we consider that entire night-work is unsuitable for bobbin net machinery.

A. 29.—There can be no rational inducement to the manufacturer to continue his works to a period inconsistent with the health of his workpeople, excepting under particular circumstances

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Derbyshire.

Boden & Morley.

cumstances which have not occurred to us; but we conceive it possible for a manufacturer to be so straitened for time in the completing of an order as to lie under a strong inducement to exceed that period, although it may operate to his disadvantage afterwards.

A. 30.—Any limitation of hours below what is found by experience to be the most convenient and profitable must, of course, in any branch of trade, increase the cost of production, but in the manufacture of bobbin net this is peculiarly the case, owing partly to the expensive nature of the machinery in the first instance, but more particularly to its rapid depreciation, which is much greater, we believe, than in any other branch of manufacture, so great, indeed, as to possess this extraordinary feature, namely, that when added to 5 per cent. interest upon capital, and the other standing expences of the establishment, although working sixteen hours per day, it exceeds the whole amount of wages paid of every description. It is, therefore, quite obvious, that a limitation of hours, any thing like that contemplated in Lord Ashley's bill, would operate as a ruinous tax upon this description of machinery.

A. 31.—It is difficult to explain to persons unacquainted with the business the objections to having two sets of hands. The objections are various; one reason for not employing two sets will, probably, be sufficient, because, generally, one set under proper arrangements, that is, by one part coming at five o'clock in the morning and leaving at six o'clock in the evening, and the other part coming at eight o'clock in the morning and leaving at nine in the evening, one part being out at meal times whilst the other is at work: the machinery is kept at work sixteen hours.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—Not applicable.

A. 36.—We believe it would not have the effect of raising the price, as many advocates for restriction suppose, because the machinery in France as well as the greater part of it in this country (being worked by hand) would not come under any legislative restrictions.

A. 37.—Any material reduction of the working hours by legislative restriction in this branch of manufacture would have the certain effect, at no distant period, of causing its entire removal to foreign countries. It cannot be otherwise. How, we would ask, is it possible for the English manufacturer to compete successfully with the foreigner under the operation of that most unjust and impolitic of all legislative enactments the corn laws, by means of which the whole pressure of our enormous taxation is most unfairly placed upon him, excepting by the exercise of superior skill and the application of additional labour, but more particularly the latter. Surely the British parliament will not be so unreasonable as to require impossibilities, to expect the end without the means; are the members aware that at least three-fourths of this manufacture is made for exportation; and are they aware that as the law now stands the foreigner has every facility afforded him of providing himself with the very best machinery this country can produce, and that he does regularly avail himself of those facilities? At this moment a great portion of the machine-makers in Nottingham and the neighbourhood are employed in making bobbin net machinery of the most improved description for the French market. In this state of the case we could wish to know by what process we are to carry on our business under a restriction of hours against parties who are unrestricted, and using the same kind of machinery in countries where the necessities of life and the price of labour are not more than one-half what they are in England.

A. 38 & 39.—Comfortable warmth for the workpeople.

A. 40.—All.

A. 41.—Not at all.

A. 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, & 49.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51 & 52.—Not applicable.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner to all.

A. 54.—All leave at breakfast and dinner; tea in the manufactory.

A. 55.—For both.

A. 56.—Bad.

A. 57.—Fines and dismissal are the only general means used.

A. 58.—Sometimes.

A. 59.—By foremen.

A. 60 & 61.—Yes, in particular cases.

A. 62.—It is forbidden, except in cases of gross, improper conduct.

A. 63.—No particular instruction has been given either in writing or otherwise, except what has been stated before.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—We have none that have been employed from infancy, thirteen or fourteen years of age is quite young enough to insure their making good workmen.

A. 67.—We have not observed any alteration in the general health of the persons employed until the last fortnight; a great many have suffered from influenza.

A. 68.—No injurious effects from any process.

A. 69.—Not subject.

A. 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, & 77.—Not applicable: no factories in this neighbourhood that we know of are subject to the present act.

A. 78.—We cannot suggest any legislative provisions for regulating the hours of labour of any persons above the age of twelve years in justice either to them or to the manufacturers. Under that age we do not wish to employ them at all, or at any rate not longer than ten hours and a half.

A. 79.



A. 79.—We wish to state that the people employed in this manufacture are more healthy than they could be in almost any other employment. The work is principally for the fingers, and the greater part set to it when they choose, and the rooms are more healthy and comfortable than their own habitations. We do trust that the fullest investigation may be made into this business, and that our property may not be sacrificed by an act of the legislature. No case of injury or hardship either has or can be brought against us; and considering that the great bulk of lace machinery is not worked by power, and the rapid increase of it abroad, neither of which would come under any legislative restriction, we are surely entitled to exemption, without which we cannot compete with the rest of the trade, and must inevitably be ruined.

Derbyshire.

Boden & Morley.

BODEN &amp; MORLEY.

## ANSWERS of Mr. THOMAS DALLISON, Borough of Derby.

No. 80.

Thomas Dallison.

- A. 1.—Borough of Derby, St. Peter's parish.
- A. 2.—Making of bobbin net.
- A. 3.—Erected about eighteen years since; employed as at present about nine years.
- A. 4.—Hand labour.
- A. 5 & 6.—By the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—By the persons employed.
- A. 8.—No dangerous machinery.
- A. 9.—None needed.
- A. 10.—Nine or ten years.
- A. 11.—Merely one child of nine or ten years old to put the bobbins in the carriages.
- A. 12.—Neither.
- A. 13 & 14.—Yes; but not from any parish.
- A. 15.—No orphans; they live with their parents.
- A. 16.—No.
- A. 17.—Ten or twelve hours.
- A. 18.—Ten or eleven hours.
- A. 19.—Seventeen hours, by two sets of workmen.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.
- A. 21.—Four thousand eight hundred hours about.
- A. 22.—The working of the machines which make the net is continued about the whole time, the winding of the bobbins and preparing of them by the children ten or eleven hours daily about.
- A. 23.—About fifteen hours and a half, making net; the children work about nine hours.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 25.—Scarcely ever, when the winding of the bobbins was not done.
- A. 26.—Not avoidable; cannot prevent the occurrence of the circumstances which occasionally require it.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 29.—Covetousness, and home competition.
- A. 30.—We pay by the piece, and no practicable limitation or extension would affect us.
- A. 31.—No objection, except increased expence in wages.
- A. 32.—We don't know.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 34.—We are obliged, by the nature of our work.
- A. 35.—Our hands change weekly.
- A. 36.—We have no night-work beyond eleven o'clock.
- A. 37.—It will lessen home competition, and do nothing but real good.
- A. 38.—Moderately and comfortably, except in the heat of summer.
- A. 39.—No heat.
- A. 40.—Nine.
- A. 41.—We have no variation.
- A. 42.—None.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 47.—Have no such process.
- A. 48.—None.
- A. 50.—By the burning of mutton fat.
- A. 51.—Windows.
- A. 52.—No experience; but cannot be good.
- A. 53.—Our men work four or five hours, and then rest three or four hours; our children have two hours for meals daily.
- A. 54.—All.
- A. 55.—They do.
- A. 56.—It must be better than being confined all day.
- A. 57.—None necessary.
- A. 58.—Very rarely.

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U

A. 59.



Derbyshire.

Thomas Dallison.

- A. 59.—By master only.  
 A. 60.—Scarcely ever.  
 A. 61.—Only by ourselves.  
 A. 62.—No.  
 A. 63.—Have no foreman or overlooker.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—We have none who have been employed from infancy.  
 A. 67.—Neither.  
 A. 68.—No necessity.  
 A. 69 & 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—We are not acquainted with any mills in our neighbourhood.  
 A. 78.—No.  
 A. 79.—We think the time of labour for factory children ought to be confined to not more than ten hours daily, which can only be done by legislative enactment, because the demand for employment in this country nearly always considerably exceeds the supply, and that is partly occasioned by the great number of hours that children and men are very generally employed.

THOMAS DALLISON.

No. 81.

Spencer & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN SPENCER &amp; Co, St. Peter and St. Nichols.

- A. 1.—St. Peter and St. Nichols.  
 A. 2.—Dressing lace.  
 A. 3.—First building, 1828, second building, 1829, and third building, 1831; two of them in St. Nichol's parish; and one in St. Peter's.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Yes; by opening windows and ventilations in the ceilings.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all.  
 A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—A large private room for each factory, with plenty of soft water, soap, towels, and every necessary convenience.  
 A. 10.—Nine years the lowest.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—No alteration.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—Two.  
 A. 16.—An overlooker occasionally.  
 A. 17.—Nine.  
 A. 18.—The younger hands are sent home earlier than the older ones.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Six days per week.  
 A. 21.—Nine hours per day upon an average.  
 A. 22.—Regular.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours.  
 A. 24.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When orders are on hand.  
 A. 26.—No; because orders are very urgent.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 32.—No; because we think it would not answer.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—Because it would lower their wages.  
 A. 38.—About 75°, but it entirely depends upon the atmosphere, sometimes higher and sometimes lower.  
 A. 39.—About 88°.  
 A. 40.—They are employed alike in the same heat.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas and oil.  
 A. 51.—Same as day.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, fifteen minutes for lunch, one hour for dinner, half an hour for tea, and fifteen minutes more when worked extra hours.  
 A. 54.—All at full liberty.  
 A. 57.—Excluded.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—We do not interfere.  
 A. 66.—E. Warren, S. Douglass, H. Dry, M. Spencer, E. Wroughton, M. Milton, H. Moore, E. Stones, M. Hynes, and E. Wroughton, and several others.  
 A. 67.—Improved in consequence of the exercise, and the rooms being well ventilated.  
 A. 79.—Where the questions are not answered, they have no reference to us. When orders



orders are on hand, the girls work sometimes ten, twelve, and fourteen hours per day; for each extra hour they are paid for in proportion to their wages. Except in cases of orders the hours are from eight until six o'clock.

JOHN SPENCER,—EDWARD HARRISON,—S. SPENCER.

Derbyshire.

Spencer & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. J. JOHNSON & Co., St. Peter.

No. 82.

Johnson & Co.

A. 1.—In the parish of St. Peter, Derby.

A. 2.—Manufacture bobbin lace.

A. 3.—Part of the buildings about twelve years, and part in 1824; the oldest part was formerly used for throwing silk, the new part for lace machines. The whole has been altered or repaired, and used solely in the manufacture of lace since 1826.

A. 4.—The machinery is propelled by a steam-engine.

A. 5.—Ventilators were put up in some of the rooms, but they were seldom used, as the workpeople preferred opening the windows. Good light is required in making lace, consequently perfect ventilation, by opening the windows.

A. 7.—Either at the discretion of the overlookers or workpeople.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off and well secured.

A. 9.—Those who choose may wash themselves previous to leaving the manufactory, and many do so when they have finished their work for the day.

A. 10.—Some few from twelve to fourteen, but the great majority of those employed in the manufactory are males from fourteen to twenty-one. Under that age they are of very little service in making lace.

A. 11.—None under twelve, and very few under fourteen; but one half the hands dependent upon lace manufactory are females employed in mending the imperfect parts of the net, which is done at their own homes.

A. 12.—None are employed under twelve.

A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—I believe there are no orphans in my manufactory.

A. 17 & 18.—From eleven to twelve and a half, according to their employment.

A. 19.—Twelve and a half working hours for any one person.

A. 20.—About three hundred.

A. 21.—About three thousand six hundred for the lace-makers, and about three thousand for the smiths.

A. 22.—The smiths, in building machines, work eleven hours per day, and generally between the hours of six A. M. to seven P. M. The persons employed in making lace from 1st of April to 1st of October, commence at five A. M. and work to seven P. M.; from 1st of October to 1st of April, they work from six A. M. to eight P. M.; from one and a half to two hours are employed in meals.

A. 23.—About ten for smiths, and twelve and a half each person making lace.

A. 24.—The working hours have not been more than stated in Answer 22.

A. 25.—None.

A. 27.—For a short time in 1829 and 1830, we worked one hour per day more than at present; but, from improvements in the machinery, we are now making about the same quantity of work in twelve hours and a half as we did then in thirteen and a half.

A. 28.—Improvements in my machinery have made up for the reduction in time.

A. 29.—I do not believe it possible to continue working through the night without a change of hands, or any greater number of hours than twelve to thirteen, with advantage to the masters or the persons employed.

A. 30.—Not having decreased the hours of working, I can give no answer to this question.

A. 31.—I have not worked lace machines extra hours by power.

A. 34.—I employ only one set of hands.

A. 37.—By a reduction to less than twelve working hours for each person, I should not be enabled to compete with the hand machines, which are now worked by two sets of hands eighteen, twenty, and, in some cases, twenty-two hours; and the number of hand machines are about three-fifths of the whole number in this country. The fixed charges, such as interest of capital, rents and taxes, engine-power, overlookers, and depreciation in the value of machinery, is considerably more than the wages paid to the young persons now employed in making lace. Machines worked by hand are worked twenty-five to thirty per cent. quicker than those worked by power; consequently, they will make as much lace in nine hours as a power machine will in twelve. This arises from the workman having the sense of feeling as well as seeing called into action in his employment; whereas, in power machines, the sense of seeing only can be constantly employed, and a machine may be gradually getting out of repair, and the injury would not be discovered until the piece of lace was spoiled. Hence the necessity of working power machines slower than those worked by hand. Greater outlay of capital is required for power-machines; the buildings must be firmer, and the erection of a steam-engine or water-power, with a greater quantity of very expensive gearing, is necessary. A considerable quantity of lace machinery, of the very best description, with all the modern improvements, is now making in Nottingham, Loughborough, and other places, for exportation to France, Belgium, Germany, and other parts of the continents of

(APP.—D. 1.)

Europe



Derbyshire.

Johnson & Co.

Europe and America; of course these machines will not be liable to any restriction of hours, and being sent to countries where provisions and labour are lower than in England, the difficulty of successful competition will be rapidly increased; and as full three fifths of the lace made in this kingdom is exported, any unnecessary interference with the free employment of labour will injure the employers and those employed to a serious and ruinous extent; and, considering that the persons employed in power lace-factories are males above the age of fourteen years, whose wages are nearly equal to the wages of adults, a restriction below twelve hours I believe would compel manufacturers either to discharge all their present hands below the age of twenty-one years, and work their machines in the day by adults for thirteen or fourteen hours, or by their present workpeople such hours in the daytime as the legislature might determine, and by others during the night above the age of twenty-one years. Most probably the first course would be generally followed, and the present workpeople thrown out of employment. Where the second plan was pursued, the wages of the day hands I believe would be diminished twenty-five per cent. from their present amount, in consequence of the reduced number of hours they would work, and so make up for a part of the additional expense of night-working.

A. 38.—40° to 50° Fahrenheit. No warmth is required beyond what is necessary to keep the rooms proper for the workpeople.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas and candles.

A. 51.—Same as day.

A. 52.—None employed.

A. 53.—The smiths have half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner. The lace-makers have their breakfast in the factory, or leave half an hour, as they may choose; half of them leave at twelve for dinner, and return by one o'clock, the other half leave at one, and return at two o'clock. Tea is brought to the factory.

A. 55.—Many choose to have their breakfast brought to the factory, in preference to going home.

A. 57.—If any of the young persons will not attend properly to their work, I send for their parents, who either correct them or request the overlooker to do so properly; but most of those I employ are beyond the age where correction is of much use, and it is seldom tried. Fines are paid for loss of time, and deductions made for bad work.

A. 58.—Answered in 57.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—In different parts of the town. I have no control over them except in the manufactory.

A. 66.—Those who commence lace-making early, generally make the most expert hands; so much so, that I always prefer employing at first youths from thirteen to fourteen, who have had some previous working in a silk or cotton manufactory.

A. 67.—The age of the persons employed, and being generally males. So trifling has been the time lost from illness, that no account has been kept; on the average, I do not think one day in the year has been lost by each hand.

A. 68.—We have no process that is injurious.

A. 69.—It is not.

A. 73.—There are no cotton-mills in the immediate neighbourhood of Derby, except Darley cotton-mills, where I believe they work according to the provisions of the act.

A. 77.—I believe the workpeople are sufficiently independent of their employers to give any evidence fully where their interest is concerned.

A. 78.—By making the law strictly a protection for infants, and not an interference with those persons who from their age are free agents, (by free agents, I mean all persons above the age of fourteen years,) every humane object would be answered, and the co-operation of the manufacturers would be also secured; by these means a beneficial law might be carried into effect; but the provisions of the present bill are of such an unnecessary and vexatious nature, that it is impossible they can be carried into effect. The majority of persons employed in lace-factories like mine are free agents, and consequently require no other regulations than what are made by their employers, and agreed to by themselves; and I am certain no regulation of an unfair or vexatious nature can ever be carried into effect in works where the workpeople are almost all above the age of fourteen years.

A. 79.—The non-employment of children under nine years of age is a humane object, and judicious regulations for hours of working and discipline for children from nine to fourteen years I think may be necessary, and would meet with general support; but the neglect of parents, I believe, is generally a greater injury to the working classes than cruelty or over-working in factories. If it was made compulsory upon parents to send their children to school from the age of five to nine years, it would be conferring the greatest boon upon the working classes they could receive, and where the parents are too poor to pay the expence of such education the public should provide the means.

The present bill provides that no person under eighteen years of age shall work more than ten hours per day, and eight hours on Saturday. To carry this into effect is impossible; the pressure of foreign competition makes it so. By the present corn laws wheat is virtually excluded until the price reaches about sixty-five shillings per quarter; and, taking the inferior wheat, which forms a part of the average, really brings good wheat at from seventy to seventy-five shillings before any great importations can take place; consequently every other commodity is raised in the same proportion; and as three fourths of the lace made, and one half



half of our manufactures generally, are exported, and have to compete with goods made where provisions are from thirty to forty per cent., and, in some instances, fifty per cent. lower, *how are the manufacturers in this country to make goods and sell with such competitors?* The supporters of the present bill are generally the supporters of the corn laws, and have been the supporters of all those measures that have added six hundred millions to the debt of this country, and thirty millions per annum to the taxes, which they say makes this protection to the agriculturist necessary. These persons virtually contend that the working classes in this country, who pay *one hundred per cent. tax upon tea, one hundred and twenty per cent. tax upon sugar, and forty per cent. higher for every other description of food, are to labour only ten hours per day, while foreigners, who are under no restrictions, are now working twelve to thirteen hours per day, and we must sell similar manufactures in foreign markets at the same price.* The absurdity of such a system is equalled only by its injustice. The present bill would, I believe, in a very short time ruin our foreign trade, by which we export at the present time nearly fifty millions annually, forty millions of which are wages, profit, interest of capital, &c., and which provides employment to nearly one fourth of the labouring classes in this kingdom: it would give increased stimulus and encouragement to foreign manufacturers, to the ultimate decay of our own. Pressed as this country is by taxation, it requires the greatest labour and diligence on the part of her manufacturers and operatives to sustain the contest with foreign competition without enduring great privations. It is true that superior machinery, and the unwearied industry of the workpeople, have hitherto enabled us to maintain the unequal contest; but it is equally true that foreigners are now obtaining the very best machinery from our different manufacturing places (*one half the lace machinery now making is for foreign order*), and it only requires such an absurd crippling of our working time as proposed by the present bill, to entirely ruin British manufactures.

JOHN JOHNSON.

Derbyshire.

Johnson &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. J. &amp; T. ROBINSON, St. Peter, Derby.

No. 83.

J. &amp; T. Robinson.

- A. 1.—Parish of St. Peter, Derby.  
 A. 2.—Silk winding and weaving.  
 A. 3.—Erected at the end of the year 1830, and first employed in the following spring.  
 A. 4.—Manual labour.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The rooms are ventilated by opening the windows, which can be done on both sides of each room.  
 A. 7.—By the workpeople generally, as it suits them.  
 A. 8.—No part of our machinery is dangerous except a fly-wheel, which is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have no arrangements of this description, except convenience for washing themselves any time they please.  
 A. 10.—Not under ten years of age, and in such cases they have not generally been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—It is not necessary they should be under twelve; we seldom employ any so young.  
 A. 13, 14 & 15.—We do not employ apprentices, nor lodge or maintain any of any description.  
 A. 17.—They all work by the yard, and work what time they please. Upon an average they work about eleven hours per day.  
 A. 18.—Those employed in winding work, about ten hours and a half per day. No difference is made with regard to age.  
 A. 19.—Some of the men have at times worked thirteen hours, but it has been at their option.  
 A. 20.—Every day, Sundays excepted.  
 A. 21.—About three thousand four hundred and fifty.  
 A. 23.—About eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Ten hours and a half.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 & 33.—As we do not employ any children or workmen by night we are unable to answer these enquiries.  
 A. 37.—The present number of hours is not more than our hands are willing to work, and any reduction of that time would be a drawback from their wages.  
 A. 38 & 39.—The rooms are warmed by stoves or fire-places, and the degree of heat is regulated by the workpeople.  
 A. 53.—The winders are allowed one hour for dinner, half an hour for tea, and in summer half an hour for breakfast. The weavers are allowed their own time.  
 A. 54.—Generally all of them leave.  
 A. 55.—If they do not, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—It would only be attended with additional trouble to those hands who live at a distance from the works.  
 A. 57.—The only means adopted in cases of disobedience is to discharge them from our service.  
 A. 58.—No.
- (APP.—D. 1.)



Derbyshire.

J. & T. Robinson.

A. 64 &amp; 65.—No.

A. 66 &amp; 67.—Not having been in business more than three or four years, we cannot reply to these questions.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—We believe not.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73, 74, 75, 76, 77 &amp; 78.—We don't know, not having heard any thing in reference to mills or factories in the neighbourhood, therefore cannot state an answer to these questions.

A. 79.—No.

J. &amp; T. ROBINSON.

No. 84.

John Greaves.

## ANSWERS of JOHN GREAVES, for Mr. UNSWORTH, St. Peter.

A. 1.—Derby, St. Peter's parish.

A. 2.—Lace-making and dyeing.

A. 3.—Entered upon for the present purpose, May, 1832.

A. 4.—Hand labour.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Discretionary.

A. 8.—Nothing dangerous.

A. 9.—Not necessary.

A. 11.—Yes, because adults could not do the work.

A. 13.—Yes.

A. 17.—My hands should work ten hours a day ; it is scarcely ever the case that they do, but never exceed ten hours.

A. 19.—Never more than ten.

A. 20.—Cannot tell exactly.

A. 21.—Don't know.

A. 23.—Not more than eight.

A. 24.—Never exceed ten.

A. 27.—No !!!

A. 29.—The same inducement as the gentlemen who appear to be fond of working at night in St. Stephen's—emolument.

A. 30.—Never studied the question.

A. 31.—Don't know.

A. 32.—Can't tell.

A. 33.—No !!!

A. 39.—When the copper is filled with water and in a boiling state, suppose its heat to be 230°.

A. 40.—Two.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Winter nights by candles.

A. 51.—Windows.

A. 53.—Three quarters of an hour at breakfast, one hour and a quarter at dinner, three quarters of an hour at tea.

A. 54.—Optional.

A. 57.—By giving them pocket money and persuasion.

A. 58.—Scarcely ever.

A. 59.—By the foreman, if ever.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 62.—No person ill used in my factory.

A. 64.—No !!!

A. 65.—Do as they like with their own.

A. 68.—Nothing injurious.

A. 69.—Don't know.

A. 70 to 79.—No.

JOHN GREAVES, per WILLIAM UNSWORTH.

No. 85.

John Wright.

## ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN WRIGHT, St. Peter's.

A. 1.—St. Peter's parish, Derby.

A. 2.—Manufactory of bobbin net.

A. 3.—Building not originally erected for the purpose ; has the appearance of having all been built at one time.

A. 4.



Derbyshire.

John Wright.

- A. 4.—Hand power.  
 A. 5.—Doors and windows.  
 A. 6.—All the windows open.  
 A. 7.—The workpeople regulate the ventilation at their own discretion.  
 A. 8.—No danger to be apprehended from the machinery.  
 A. 9.—No necessity for the workpeople changing their apparel.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years.  
 A. 11.—None.  
 A. 12.—Not in my manufactory.  
 A. 13 & 14.—No apprentices employed.  
 A. 15.—Children hired by the week, and live with their parents.  
 A. 17.—The machines are worked double-handed; each individual works eight hours and a half per day.  
 A. 18.—Children work from seven in the morning to the same hour in the evening, having half an hour to breakfast, one hour to dinner, and half an hour at four o'clock: they go home each time.  
 A. 19.—Seventeen hours for men, there being two sets; each works eight hours and a half per day.  
 A. 20.—Every working day, unless from idleness or other causes the men absent themselves.  
 A. 22.—The same work goes on all the day.  
 A. 24.—Ten hours work and two hours refreshment, together twelve hours. Vide answer to Question 18.  
 A. 25.—Not any, to my knowledge.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 29.—Do not apply to my manufacture, and I do not feel myself capable to answer them.  
 A. 33.—No night set employed.  
 A. 35.—Each set change twice to three times per day; in no case does a man work more than four hours at a time.  
 A. 37.—As the men work by the piece, they would earn but little money if they worked less than eight hours and a half per day.  
 A. 38 & 39.—Heat is not required for their work, so it is sufficient to keep the people warm.  
 A. 56.—Both men and children go home to their meals.  
 A. 57.—No corporal punishment is inflicted; if they behave improperly, they are discharged.  
 A. 65.—They all board and lodge at their respective houses.  
 A. 66.—I have not brought any up, so cannot answer this question.  
 A. 67.—The employment is not injurious to health.  
 A. 68.—No change is made in the employment.  
 A. 70 & 71.—I have not been summoned before any magistrate, or had any information lodged against me, or any penalty inflicted, neither am I conscious that I deserve it.  
 A. 77.—My workpeople are quite at liberty to give any evidence they please against me.

JOHN WRIGHT.

## ANSWERS of Mr. JOHN BAKER, All Saints.

No. 86.

John Baker.

- A. 1.—All Saints' parish, Derby.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-doubling and a few lace machines.  
 A. 3.—Erected about seven years.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Of all.  
 A. 8.—Not any.  
 A. 9.—Plenty.  
 A. 10.—One at ten years, and has been employed before at same work.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 16, 17, & 18.—Commence at half past five until half past seven, and on Saturdays two hours less; meal times out of that.  
 A. 19.—Don't know.  
 A. 33.—No; make as much by day as we can dispose of.  
 A. 37.—Shorter time, less wages; that would be the effect.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 58.—No.

JOHN BAKER.



Derbyshire:

No. 87.

Robert Ward.

## ANSWERS of Mr. ROBERT WARD, All Saints, Derby.

- A. 1.—Parish of All Saints, in the borough of Derby.  
 A. 2.—The manufactory of silk, and a few lace machines.  
 A. 3.—Building erected fifty-five years or upwards; employed as a manufactory for throwing raw silk for hosiery.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine now; the impetus was given by horse till about five years ago.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Ventilated by the windows, and by a steam apparatus in the tunnel.  
 A. 7.—Regulated chiefly by the foreman, but the hands have discretionary power, according to the weather.  
 A. 8.—No part of the machinery is highly dangerous but which is fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The hands can wash themselves, or change their clothes in the place.  
 A. 10.—Lowest age ten years.  
 A. 11.—No, it does not.  
 A. 12.—No.  
 A. 13.—No, I don't.  
 A. 15.—Not any that I employ live with me, but with their parents.  
 A. 16.—A foreman.  
 A. 17.—I employ all my hands from six until seven, excepting Saturday, and that from six till five.  
 A. 18.—I make no difference.  
 A. 19.—Not any more than thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.  
 A. 22.—All alike.  
 A. 23.—Five days twelve hours, and one ten.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—Not at all.  
 A. 26.—I work no irregular hours.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—The more hours I work, if I can sell my goods, the greater my profit.  
 A. 29.—I cannot think working one set of hands more than twelve or thirteen hours a day is any advantage to a master.  
 A. 31.—I should have no objection to having a fresh set of hands if the hours be necessary, to work day and night if business calls for it.  
 A. 32.—I never work more than six days.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—I can manufacture as much by day as I can dispose of.  
 A. 37.—If I must work less than twelve hours, I must give less wages.  
 A. 38.—From 50° to 60°.  
 A. 39.—My work does not require any extra heat.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 52.—No good effect.  
 A. 53.—Some one hour, some two hours.  
 A. 54.—Most of the hands leave work at meal-times.  
 A. 55.—Both.  
 A. 56.—Cannot answer.  
 A. 57.—If disobedient I turn them away.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—The longer hands have been employed the better they understand their work.  
 A. 67.—I don't find any difference.  
 A. 68.—No part of the works are injurious.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—I believe all conform to the act.  
 A. 77.—I believe not.  
 A. 78.—No.  
 A. 79.—No, I have not.

ROBERT WARD.

No. 88.

Mark Booth.

## ANSWERS of Mr. MARK BOOTH, St. Werburgh, Derby.

- A. 1.—Parish of St. Werburgh, in Derby, in the county of Derby.  
 A. 2.—Silk-throwing.  
 A. 3.—These works were erected long before I became the occupier, and which I have held three years.  
 A. 4.—Steam only; four horse-power, with no irregularity.

[A. 5 &amp; 6.]



Derbyshire.

Mark Booth.

- A. 5 & 6.—Opening windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—The overlooker of each room.  
 A. 8.—Fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None for change of clothes, but find plenty of soap and pure water for washing.  
 A. 10.—Eight years of age. Some mending lace and chevening.  
 A. 11.—Not particularly.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—I do not lodge and maintain any; I know nothing about them after they leave the factory.  
 A. 16.—Yes.  
 A. 17.—Ten hours and fifty minutes.  
 A. 18.—Ten hours and fifty minutes; no difference in ages.  
 A. 19.—Eighteen hours, and those four men only.  
 A. 20.—The whole number of days in a year, except Sundays, holydays, and times of accidents.  
 A. 21.—Cannot say.  
 A. 22.—No difference.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Children never more than eleven hours.  
 A. 25.—To make up lost time, in consequence of accidents to any part of the works.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable, but would be a loss to the hands employed.  
 A. 27 & 28.—No.  
 A. 29.—Because if he works night and day, he does double the quantity of work, paying the same rent and taxes as those who only work in the day.  
 A. 30.—Certainly.  
 A. 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35.—I only employ day hands; and, in consequence of the number of hours before stated, there is no necessity for any relays or changes.  
 A. 36.—If night-work were prohibited, I should have the same chance as those who now work day and night.  
 A. 37.—I do not think any reduction in the hours necessary, except where they work day and night.  
 A. 38.—Sixty, except in very hot weather. Any temperature.  
 A. 39.—No particular heat required, except to keep the hands employed warm.  
 A. 40.—Not necessary to answer. (See 38 & 39.)  
 A. 46 & 47.—Not at all.  
 A. 50.—Gas and candles.  
 A. 51.—Same as in day.  
 A. 53.—Twenty minutes breakfast, one hour and fifteen minutes dinner, twenty minutes tea; all are alike.  
 A. 54 & 55.—All leave at dinner-time except the engineer, who stops to look after the machinery.  
 A. 56.—It would no doubt be more conducive to health.  
 A. 57.—If they do not do as directed, after the third time they are discharged.  
 A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—None whatever.  
 A. 63.—My directions are, if they do not obey after the third time to be discharged.  
 A. 64.—None at any time.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—I have no particular instances.  
 A. 67.—As before stated (A. 3.), I have been in possession of the factory but three years.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Do not know what act this is.  
 A. 70, 71, 72.—No.  
 A. 78, 79.—No.

MARK BOOTH.

## ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM BROWN, St. Werburgh.

No. 89.

William Brown.

- A. 1.—Parish of St. Werburgh, and county of Derby.  
 A. 2.—Silk throwing and making laces.  
 A. 3.—Don't know whether the building was erected at different times, but was employed for the present business about a year ago.  
 A. 4.—I employ neither steam nor water. My works are put and kept in motion by a wheel, which is turned by a man and a boy.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Open windows on each side the room.  
 A. 7.—It is regulated by the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—There are no dangerous parts in my machinery.  
 A. 9.—I have not any such arrangements.  
 A. 10.—I never employ a child under eight years of age. I cannot say whether they have been employed at any other trade.

(APP.—D. 1.)

Y

A. 11.



Derbyshire.

William Brown.

- A. 11.—Yes; because I give them less wages, and the price at which the manufactured article sells will not enable me to employ hands all above twelve years of age.
- A. 12.—There has been no alterations in my machinery, and therefore I cannot say.
- A. 13.—I do not.
- A. 15.—None of them are orphans. Their parents visit them only when they bring some refreshment for them in the afternoon.
- A. 16.—Some are superintended by myself, others by my workmen, and some by women employed in the manufactory.
- A. 17, 18, & 19.—Eleven hours. No difference on account of age.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.
- A. 21.—About two thousand two hundred and sixty-five hours.
- A. 22.—They have; but cannot specify the time during which any department has been carried on.
- A. 23.—About seven hours and a half.
- A. 24.—Eleven hours.
- A. 25.—Not at any time, nor under any circumstances.
- A. 26.—I never exceed eleven hours, and think others might avoid exceeding that time.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—I never exceed eleven hours.
- A. 29.—To get a greater quantity of work done in a certain time: being able to manufacture a greater quantity of goods in the same time than those manufacturers who employ the same number of hands, but who work them only eleven hours, consequently their profits must be greater in proportion to the extra quantity of work they produce.
- A. 30.—I do not.
- A. 31.—No objection.
- A. 32.—I never employ them extra hours, and therefore cannot tell how it has answered.
- A. 33.—I never employed a night set of hands.
- A. 37.—It would extend the manufacture, and relieve the persons employed.
- A. 38.—I cannot say what is the usual temperature in my manufactory, not having a thermometer. There are no parts of my work which require any particular degree of heat.
- A. 39.—There is no particular heat required.
- A. 40.—Not any.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—By candles.
- A. 51.—The same as by day.
- A. 52.—I can't say, not employing any at night.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—All of them.
- A. 55.—They all leave at meal-times.
- A. 56.—The meals of the persons whom I employ are taken out of the factory.
- A. 57.—Threaten to discharge them.
- A. 58.—They are not.
- A. 64.—There have been no such complaints made against either me, my overlooker, nor foreman.
- A. 65.—Mine do not; and I cannot answer for others.
- A. 66.—I have not found any material difference.
- A. 67.—I consider my workpeople to be in a healthy state, because only one of them has lost any time from sickness during the last twelve months, and that one only two weeks.
- A. 68.—I do not.
- A. 69.—I cannot say, never having seen the act.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—I am not aware whether they conform to the provisions of the act or not, nor whether any steps have been taken to enforce their obedience.
- A. 77.—Yes.
- A. 78.—I cannot.
- A. 79.—Not any.

WILLIAM BROWN.

No. 90.  
Thomas Foster.

## ANSWERS of Mr. THOMAS FOSTER, St. Werburgh.

- A. 1.—St. Werburgh's, Derby.
- A. 2.—Hosiery silk.
- A. 3.—Forty-three years.
- A. 4.—Turned by hand.
- A. 6.—Windows and one large ventilator.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of all.
- A. 8.—All.
- A. 9.—No necessity for the change of clothes.

A. 10.



- A. 10.—Nine years. Not any.  
 A. 11.—No; because their parents are unable to provide for them.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Seven to nine hours each day.  
 A. 18 & 19.—Eleven per day.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and fifty-five days.  
 A. 23.—Seven to eleven hours.  
 A. 24.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 27 & 33.—No.  
 A. 53.—Each class have half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—All who like.  
 A. 55.—For their convenience.  
 A. 57.—Good words.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 70 & 79.—No.

Derbyshire.

Thomas Foster.

THOMAS FOSTER.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. RILEY &amp; Co. Wirksworth.

No. 91.  
Riley & Co.

- A. 1.—Miller's Green, parish of Wirksworth, county of Derby.  
 A. 2.—Tapes, bobbin, ferret, laces, &c.  
 A. 3.—First part erected 1730, for the purpose of a cotton factory for spinning; second part seven years ago. Both now employed as a tape factory.  
 A. 4.—Water power; irregular: in winter, over supply of one half; in summer, deficiency one third.  
 A. 5.—Ventilation by opening of windows. The top story is ventilated by the belfry, which regulates the heat of the rooms.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the hands employed.  
 A. 8.—The most dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have no arrangement at all; every man does that which is right in his own eyes, as in ancient times.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age; at no other trade to our knowledge.  
 A. 11.—Does not necessarily; but, owing to the wants and necessity of the parents, and constant application of the parents, we have been induced to take them at an earlier age.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 16.—An overlooker.  
 A. 17.—Our usual time is from six o'clock in the morning to seven o'clock in the evening, allowing half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.  
 A. 18.—No difference, as above stated.  
 A. 19.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—We can't positively say the exact number of days worked: having worked short time, owing to the badness of trade.  
 A. 21.—Can't say.  
 A. 22.—All parts carried on at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Will not exceed ten hours a day.  
 A. 24.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—Not at any time.  
 A. 26.—It is avoidable with us.  
 A. 27.—Some time ago we worked at night with a relay of hands; small children not employed in nights.  
 A. 28.—Yes; so far as it relates to rent, poor rates, and taxes.  
 A. 29.—When an extra demand for goods take place, which is very seldom with us: when such occasion does take place, we work night and day, employing two sets of hands.  
 A. 30.—In proportion, so far as relates to rent, taxes, poor rates, and overlookers, and capital lying dead for want of a market.  
 A. 31.—We have no objection, but always act upon that system.  
 A. 32.—It has been tried, and will answer for us when necessary.  
 A. 33.—We have. The day hands from six till seven o'clock, with stoppages as stated No. 17. The night hands work from seven till six o'clock. Allowed one hour stoppage, from twelve until one.  
 A. 34.—We do not consider it any advantage to work night and day with one set of hands; we consider it wrong to do so, and in no case have done it.  
 A. 35.—When we have worked night and day, they change every other week: the day hands taking the night hands' places.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 36.



Derbyshire.

Riley & Co.

A. 36.—In case of any extra demand for goods, it would be a great disadvantage to us not to be allowed to work night-work.

A. 37.—It would be a serious loss to all parties if the hours of working were reduced, as wages must lower in proportion unless a reduction take place in rents, taxes, and poor rates.

A. 38.—A moderate degree of heat suits our manufactory the best.

A. 39.—Not particular; various.

A. 41.—Not any.

A. 42.—Not any children.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 49.—We do not allege the continuance of the work to be indispensable.

A. 50.—Candles.

A. 51.—Same as the day, by opening windows.

A. 52.—We have not perceived any sensible difference in their habits when employed on nights, as we did not continue it long together.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner.

A. 54.—They are at liberty either to go to meals or stay on the premises.

A. 55.—When they stay on the premises, it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—We allow them to take them out if they choose.

A. 57.—Advice first; if they continue refractory, dismiss them.

A. 58.—Not allowed.

A. 63.—We have given instructions to our overlookers not to inflict punishment by beating or otherwise.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—We do consider those persons who have been employed at our work from childhood to be our best hands.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any sensible difference in the general health of our work-people, unless what has arisen from a want of the comforts of life, which they are not able to procure, owing to the low price of labour, which arises from the badness of trade.

A. 68.—Don't change at all, as we do not consider it necessary in any departments in our work.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We do not know any thing to the contrary.

A. 77.—We believe some servants would give evidence against their masters, if there was gain attached to it, whether the master was pleased or not: such evidence should be received with great caution.

A. 78.—We cannot recommend any better plan than that which we have acted upon hitherto, as we have always endeavoured to make our people comfortable as far as we have had the means to do so.

A. 79.—We have watched the operation of the corn laws ever since their introduction, and are persuaded that the depressed state of trade, and the very great sufferings of the manufacturing and agricultural class of society, is mainly to be attributed to their general operation. A repeal of the present corn laws, and the substitution of a moderate fixed duty, we conceive, would be a general benefit.

For Robert Riley & Co., R. RILEY, Jun.

No. 92.

William Baker.

ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM BAKER, Partner in the firm of Messrs. WRIGHT and BAKER, Agard Street, St. Werburgh's.

A. 1.—St Werburgh's parish, Derby, county of Derby.

A. 2.—Silk throwing.

A. 3.—We believe the main body of the building was erected forty or fifty years ago; and additions of steam-engine and boiler-house, and a new counting-house, were made subsequent to its purchase in 1822 by the present proprietor (W. Baker), who is one of the occupiers. It has been always used as a silk-mill since its erection, with the exception of two or three years just previous to 1822, when it was used as a national school.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—Yes. Openings have been made into an old stack of chimneys (now disused for fires), near to the ceiling in each room, for the escape of the heated air; cold air is admitted in part by the windows, and in part by ventilation of a simple construction, first tried about two years ago. The openings into the old tunnels have been in use since 1822.

A. 7.—By the overlooker of each room usually; but the persons employed open and shut the windows, in some degree, at their own discretion.

A. 8.—We consider that all of them are.

A. 9.—Places in each room for bonnets, cloaks, and shawls. Seats in each room for sitting at breakfast and tea. The occupation is perfectly cleanly; but soap and water are allowed after cleaning the machinery, or when otherwise needed.

A. 10.—About nine years of age. It is usual for them to go to school previously; and we



we are not aware that any have been employed at other trades who came to us as children: some of the adults may have been.

A. 11.—We usually find that those who have learnt early, say nine or ten years of age, become more expert than those who commence at a later period; but there are some exceptions.

A. 12.—We are not aware of any alterations in machinery, having a tendency to change the proportion between children and adults: we think the passing of a "short time bill" would have that tendency, as stated in reply to query No. 37.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 14 & 15.—The children we employ live with their parents or relations, and are engaged at so much per week wages.

A. 17.—There is no difference made between those above and under twenty-one years. The usual hours of actual work are about eleven. In summer, from six o'clock, A. M., to seven o'clock, P. M., with one hour for dinner and half an hour each for breakfast and tea. In winter, from seven o'clock, A. M., to eight o'clock, P. M., with the same allowance for meals.

A. 18.—For eight weeks in the middle of winter, from eight, A. M., to eight, P. M. In this time they breakfast before coming to work; and to make up the time lost, we work a little longer after Michaelmas, and before the tenth of March.

A. 19.—The spinning and throwing machines (at which the men are employed) have, on two or three occasions, worked two hours longer than the usual hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days, viz. the year, 365 days.

|                        |   |   |   |         |            |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---------|------------|
| Deduct Sundays         | - | - | - | 52 days | } 62 days. |
| Holidays               | - | - | - | 10 days |            |
| Accidents and repairs* | - | - | - | 0       |            |

303 days.

A. 21.—Three hundred and three times eleven hours of actual work, or three thousand three hundred and thirty-three hours, with the exception noticed in reply to No. 22.

A. 22.—The men employed at the spinning and throwing machines have worked nine hours overtime, making for them three thousand three hundred and forty-two hours during the last twelve months.

A. 23.—Eleven hours, all days alike, from Monday to Saturday.

A. 24.—Nearly twelve hours for a few days just after Michaelmas; and the same, or nearly so, just before the 10th of March: this makes up the time lost in the middle of winter.

A. 25.—We cannot say that the usual or regular hours have been exceeded, because twelve hours are usual, but the average time was exceeded as stated above.

A. 26.—We think the arrangement by which we avoid the morning lighting, in winter, very beneficial, but it certainly may be changed, therefore is avoidable. The benefits are, less liability to take cold: when the people get breakfast before they leave home, they are warmer and more comfortable; and it allows time to get the factory well warmed before they arrive. Perhaps the greatest advantage is, that of doing away morning lighting, which contaminates the atmosphere of the factory for the rest of the day.

A. 27.—Never, except to make up loss of time from accidents or repairs, and on such occasions half an hour to one hour extra. The men at the spinning and throwing have, occasionally, worked overtime, but never regularly.

A. 28.—We cannot speak experimentally; but should suppose that, if a reduction in the hours of working were to take place, the cost of production would be increased, because, though wages would be reduced, rent, taxes, and rates would remain the same; as would, likewise, the interest upon capital sunk in machinery.

A. 29.—The inducements to prolong the hours of daily labour may be various, but the most obvious is a desire to lessen the cost of production by an increased return; rents, taxes, rates, interest of machinery, &c. remaining the same. Where water-power is used, there is an additional motive, because the rent of it is not increased in proportion to the time it is in operation. But we do not consider that it is to the interest of the employer to prolong, materially, the hours of labour of the same set of workpeople, except occasionally, and for periods of short duration.

A. 30.—We have not tried the experiment, but beg to refer to our replies to queries No. 28 & 29.

A. 31 & 32.—We have never tried the system of relays, nor are we acquainted with the result of any such experiment (No. 31.); but we consider that it would be impracticable, generally speaking, to meet with children in sufficient numbers, even if it were thought desirable to do so. The attempt to obtain, generally, so large an additional number of children, we conceive, would necessarily raise the scale of their wages. A factory, here and there, might do so, and especially in country places where population was large, and the demand for labour limited; but where much competition existed, the advance of wages it would occasion would render it unprofitable.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set, and trust that we shall never be driven to do so.

Derbyshire.

William Baker.

\* It appears we had no loss last year from accidents or repairs of machinery.



Derbyshire.

William Baker.

A. 36.—We conceive that it would enable us individually to compete on more equal terms with those who now practise night-work. As regards the cost of production generally, it seems to us that such a prohibition would slightly increase it. As regards the health, comfort, and morals of the people, we think it would be very advantageous.

A. 37.—The probable effect would be to cause an increase of that portion of the machinery at which children were employed, and a corresponding decrease of that at which adults were employed. The adults would then be required to work a greater number of hours, or two sets be employed to work all night, so as to counterbalance the decrease of their machinery. The result of these changes would be the obtaining of an equal or greater return, with the same fixed charges for rent, taxes, &c. This answer is, of course, given upon the supposition that the reduction of hours would apply only to children. We know that the system we have thus described is already, in some degree, in practice.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is 60° to 65°. It is not necessary in any process that it should exceed 60° of Fahrenheit, but the people prefer it rather higher.

A. 39 & 40.—We have no process requiring a greater heat than 60°. In fact, a lower temperature would be better in some respects, but would not be comfortable to the work-people.

A. 41.—None later than ten o'clock; and only a few men, some half dozen times, so late as that.

A. 46.—None.

A. 47 & 48.—The maximum is that which is rendered indispensable by competition, foreign or domestic; we have no processes in themselves requiring more than the customary hours. The processes in which an increased number of hours would be induced by an injudicious "time bill," are the spinning and throwing departments, more especially the former; and they are those to which allusion is made in reply to No. 37. We should wish to see night-work (properly so called) entirely abolished; and we think if the hours of labour were not too greatly restricted for young persons, that this might be accomplished, without injury to the silk-throwing business, and to the great benefit of all those employed at it. But we should say that, in the present state of foreign competition, it would not be safe to fix less than eleven or twelve hours. That time, we believe, would not be injurious, if the children did not commence before ten years of age.

A. 49.—As already remarked in reply to No. 34 & 37. it is not, at present, indispensable, but may become so. A certain return must be made, or rent, taxes, rates, and interest of sunk capital, would ruin us.

A. 50.—By gas, supplied by a public company.

A. 51 & 52.—We have no night-work.

A. 53.—In summer, breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, tea half an hour; in winter, the same, except during the eight weeks alluded to in reply to No. 17 & 18, when breakfast is taken before coming to work.

A. 54.—About half the workpeople go home to all their meals, the remainder go home only to dinner.

A. 55.—The practice actually adopted is found convenient equally to the workpeople and to the manufactory.

A. 56.—It would be both inconvenient and prejudicial to the health of those whose homes were distant from the factory, unless the time allowed for meals could be increased. While on this subject, we would take the liberty of recommending that an hour and a half should be allowed for dinner, at all events, in summer-time, in any bill for regulating the hours of labour.

A. 57.—Scolding and fines; turning away, if these are not effectual.

A. 58.—They are not, unless a casual box on the ears, for impertinence, may be so considered. This is not authorised, but has, occasionally, though very rarely, taken place.

A. 59 & 60.—When done at all, it has been at the moment of provocation, by master, foreman, or overlookers, and not as a system.

A. 61.—No.

A. 62.—No punishment is allowed, but fining. The foreman or overlookers place a mark against the name of any who are idle, or do their work ill; the case is then enquired into by the master, who fines the child from two pence to sixpence, according to the offence in part, and in part the fine has reference to the wages of the delinquent.

A. 63.—Yes, verbally, to the effect stated in the last answer; but, in point of fact, we find very little punishment necessary, and with one hundred and seventy persons employed, several weeks sometimes pass without any fine being inflicted.

A. 64.—Never, at any time since we have been in business, a period of nineteen years.

A. 65.—With three or four exceptions, they do not. With respect to cleanliness, we require the people to come clean to their work, and good conduct is encouraged; but nothing amounting to control or superintendence is exercised.

A. 66.—Those who commence pretty early are usually the most expert, but we have known a few exceptions. We do not think it necessary, in our business, that they should begin earlier than nine or ten years of age: there is, however, great difference between children of the same age; and some at nine are as forward as others at eleven years of age.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any change in this respect. There are, and have always been, some constitutions particularly suited to the employment, and enjoying excellent health; while others are evidently unsuited, and suffer from the confinement. We have instances



instances of the latter description now in the mill, to whose parents we have repeatedly recommended to remove their children to other employments; but it is, in such cases, frequently impossible, or only a choice of evils; poor people cannot do as they please.

A. 68.—We have only the choice of sitting-work or standing-work; we remove such as cannot bear the latter to the former.

A. 69.—Being a silk-mill, we are not aware of being subject to the provisions of any particular act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We do not know much about our neighbours, but presume they do, so far as relates to the cotton-mills conforming to the provisions of Sir John Hobhouse's act.

A. 74.—We never heard of an instance.

A. 77.—We should say, "Certainly not." There is usually a great abundance and variety of employment; so that if turned off at one place, they could readily get work at another, no certificate of character, or the cause of their leaving their last employment being required. We speak of Derby only in this reply; we know nothing of other places.

A. 78.—The only philosophical or really statesmanlike method would be by rendering it more easy for the working people to get a living, by the removal of all taxes upon the necessities of life; and, above all things, by allowing them freely to purchase food, where the greatest quantity could be bought for the smallest quantity of the fruits of their labour, in other words, by removing the corn laws. But until such changes can be accomplished, we think such legislative regulations should be enforced in all manufactures and trades, as would prevent excess in the exertions required from either children or adults. We therefore approve of a "time bill," but not of that now before parliament.

WILLIAM BAKER, Partner in the firm of Wright & Baker.

Derbyshire.

William Baker.

#### ANSWERS of Mr. S. J. WRIGHT, St. Werburgh's.

No. 93.

S. J. Wright.

A. 1.—St. Werburgh's Parish, Derby.

A. 2.—Silk-throwing.

A. 3.—Time of erection not known; but purchased for its present purpose, June 1825.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5 & 6.—Opening of windows.

A. 7.—Under the control of the foreman; but the hands generally are instructed to open the windows at meal times, or whenever they wish.

A. 8.—All that I conceive dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—Nothing but pegs to put their bonnets, &c. on, and water and soap to wash if required, which is seldom the case, except after cleaning their part of machinery.

A. 10.—Only one under nine years, and she will be nine this month.

A. 11.—Yes; on account of the rate of wages, and they learn their business better when taken young, say nine or ten.

A. 12.—No material alteration has taken place lately.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any of my workpeople.

A. 17.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes, but sometimes stay half an hour extra to clean, for which they are paid extra wages.

A. 18.—All work eleven hours and twenty minutes.

A. 19.—The spinning mills are kept on night and day by two sets of hands; men and boys by day, and men only at night.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and twenty-two hours.

A. 22.—All the same.

A. 26.—I consider it against the interest of the master to work the same set of children more than eleven or twelve hours.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 29.—I cannot tell the inducement, and consider it against the interest of any man to work the same set of hands more than eleven or twelve hours, except that men in the day may work an hour or two over occasionally, if paid extra for it.

A. 30.—I conceive this question does not apply to me, being a silk man.

A. 31.—None.

A. 32.—No extra hours have been worked by children, and the system of relays not tried.

A. 33.—My day set of hands work eleven hours and twenty minutes, then four men only come on, who work till the day set come again.

A. 34.—On account of the slowness of the process of spinning compared to the other process, and by getting more work done by the same set of machinery, the same rent, taxes, and all fixed expences.

A. 35.—The same set work every night. No change takes place, because boys will do in part during the day.

A. 36.—A serious addition to the cost of production.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 37.



Derbyshire.

S. J. Wright.

A. 37.—I think the children are quite able to bear their present work, and cannot afford to lessen their wages, which would be the case if worked a less number of hours.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is 62°. The work does not require any artificial heat; it is merely for the comfort of the hands the rooms are warmed.

A. 39.—None.

A. 40.—About one hundred and sixty or seventy.

A. 41.—Part, as stated before, all the year.

A. 42.—One, a short time, but discontinued.

A. 43.—Ten hours.

A. 46.—The process of spinning.

A. 47.—Night and day.

A. 48.—From twenty-one upwards.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—Opening windows.

A. 52.—Appear in good health, and prefer night-work.

A. 53.—All hands the same; twenty minutes for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and twenty minutes for tea.

A. 54.—All leave at dinner from twelve to one, not at any other time.

A. 55.—It is a mutual convenience, that the hands should not leave at breakfast or tea, owing to the loss of time that would ensue by going and coming.

A. 57.—Scolded or turned away.

A. 58.—Never, to my knowledge.

A. 62.—Certainly forbidden it, and never heard of its being inflicted; should discharge any one who did it.

A. 63.—Instructions have been given to foremen and overlookers to scold a child if in error; if not corrected, the overlooker to bring the offender to the foreman or myself, who would turn them away; only verbal instructions.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Those who commence early, say at nine or ten, are usually more expert at their work.

A. 67.—No change observed.

A. 68.—There is no process that requires any change.

A. 69.—I am not aware of it.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—No, my opinion is, better, much better let us alone.

A. 79.—No.

S. J. WRIGHT.

No. 94.

Allen & Sons.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JAMES ALLEN &amp; Sons, Ancoates, Manchester.

A. 1.—Ancoates, parish of Manchester.

A. 2.—Power-loom fustian weaving.

A. 3.—Erected at two separate times, — perhaps ten years ago; and also a part about two or three years.

A. 4.—Steam-engine.

A. 5.—The rooms lofty and spacious; much larger, perhaps, than any nobleman or gentleman's rooms.\*

A. 6.—The ventilation partly from windows, and partly from ventilators.

A. 7.—The ventilators are always open, and the windows at the discretion of the over-looker.

A. 8.—It would be absolutely impossible to fence off machinery so as to pronounce it not dangerous.

A. 9.—We have no arrangements whatever respecting dress. They dress as they please. It would be arbitrary on our part, indeed, were we to interfere in such trivial matters. Does a nobleman or country gentleman care a straw how his cottagers dress; or whether many have any dress at all?

A. 10.—Chiefly fourteen years of age, and upwards. Weaving by hand has been the employment of the older branches.

A. 11.—We do not like to employ children under fourteen.

A. 12.—Those of fourteen to sixteen years of age are in more general request, from the "recent alterations."

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—The young people chiefly reside with their parents; if orphans, perhaps with a relative or friend.

\* This remark will not apply to old mills; at the time Mr. Peel was a spinner, the rooms were then much lower and badly ventilated.



- A. 16.—Chiefly under the superintendence of their parents.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—There are perhaps about six days considered as holidays, besides Sundays.  
 A. 23 & 24.—Twelve.  
 A. 25.—When the engine has required repairing, the time has perhaps been partly made up by working "over hours;" not by compulsion, but voluntary, as the work-people are paid.  
 A. 26.—We think twelve hours very moderate, as compared with the time when the late Sir Robert Peel was a spinner. At that time fifteen or sixteen hours, we believe, was often employed in the mill. We care little whether ten or twelve hours is the limit; if the former, our people will earn less, and may prevent intemperance, as too many spend much of their earnings in the taverns or dram-shops.  
 A. 27.—Before the late act, half an hour more than at present.  
 A. 28.—Very little difference; yet, no doubt can be entertained that the cost is a little enhanced.  
 A. 29.—Chiefly to create capital, by producing quantity; and the effect is to undersell the respectable manufacturer, and to ruin the trade.  
 A. 30.—Some increase; but not very important.  
 A. 31.—There are so many objections, that it is difficult to specify particular cases.  
 A. 32.—It has been tried, but seldom by capitalists; generally by those in embarrassed circumstances.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 35.—They change, of course, their night and day hands, where mills are so worked.  
 A. 36.—A less production, and by more respectable producers.  
 A. 37.—To reduce the earnings of the operative; and, perhaps, relieve the over-production.  
 A. 38 & 39.—50° or thereabouts.  
 A. 40.—Most of our hands work in a healthy temperature, as above.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as the day.  
 A. 52.—Bad.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, bagging or luncheon twenty minutes.  
 A. 54.—Breakfast and dinner.  
 A. 56.—No advantage by any change.  
 A. 57.—Their own interest, and that of their parents, will conduce to industry.  
 A. 58.—No coercion.  
 A. 62.—No occasion to interfere; if they do not get through an average quantity, they are ultimately dismissed from our employ.  
 A. 64 & 65.—None.  
 A. 66.—Those brought up in mills are usually the most attentive to hours of business.  
 A. 67.—Their health generally tolerable; not so robust as ploughmen or porters.  
 A. 68.—We prefer keeping old hands.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—Generally in towns; but not so in retired country places.  
 A. 78.—We think that Sadler, and other canting hypocrites, would be better employed in Yorkshire than here. No doubt there are bad masters as well as bad men; but it appears to us that the legislature should not encourage such interference betwixt masters and operatives. Great misrepresentations have been circulated respecting factory labour; many, no doubt, from good motives, perhaps more from bad. For ourselves, we hope the matter will be fairly investigated.

JAMES ALLEN and SONS.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS BARTON for Self and Partners, Ardwick, Manchester.

No. 95.  
Thomas Barton.

- A. 1.—Ardwick, parish of Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—The mill is very old, but was enlarged about ten years ago. The weaving shed was erected in 1831.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Yes; on the opening of casements in the windows.  
 A. 7.—They are opened by the overlookers, or by the hands themselves.  
 A. 8.—They are all fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Many of our hands, especially women and girls, have a change of outer garments to work in, and they wash and clean themselves before they leave the works.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age.—We believe not.  
 A. 11.—It does not.  
 A. 12.—A less number.  
 A. 13.—We do not.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours a day for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and three quarters.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A a

A. 20.

Derbyshire.

Allen &amp; Son.



Manchester.

Thomas Barton.

- A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty hours.  
 A. 22.—There has not been any difference.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty-five minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and three quarters.  
 A. 25.—March 20. to 30.  
 A. 26.—If a few hours be lost by an accident of the steam-engine or gearing, or from any other cause, the work-people prefer working up the lost time to having their wages abated for such loss, and it is generally done by half an hour a day.  
 A. 27.—Yes; up to the period of the present act coming into operation, we worked seventy-one hours and a half a week.  
 A. 28.—We do find that the cost of producing a given quantity enhanced by such reduction.  
 A. 29.—We cannot give a correct opinion on this point.  
 A. 30.—We do find an increase of cost in all our branches, viz. of rent, parochial and other taxes, wages of those who work by the day, not having reduced them, and all contingencies attached to an establishment such as ours.  
 A. 31.—We do not know of any objection.  
 A. 32.—We are not aware that it has been tried, nor do we know why it has not.  
 A. 33.—We never have employed a set of night hands.  
 A. 37.—It would increase the cost of produce, proportionably above the increase in question No. 30.  
 A. 38.—We do not require artificial heat when the thermometer is 55°, except in the dressing-room. See next question.  
 A. 39.—66° or 68° in dressing-room.  
 A. 40.—Nine (dressers), all men upwards of twenty-one years of age.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 53.—The engine stops half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; tea is taken to all the hands in the afternoon, when they mostly stop the machinery while they take it.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all the hands leave the works at meal-times.  
 A. 55.—Those who live at too great a distance have tea provided near the works, and sometimes take it in the mill; but they generally go to their dinners. This is perfectly at their option.  
 A. 56.—It would only inconvenience those who live at a distance.  
 A. 57.—Gentle means; and if those fail, discharge them.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—We have uniformly instructed our overlookers not to flog or beat the children: we acquaint their parents of their misbehaviour or send them away; parents or friends have at all times free access to the children when at work.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been employed in the works from infancy are more skilful and orderly than those taken at later periods.  
 A. 67.—We have occupied these works only two years.  
 A. 68.—We do change the employment of the people, if we find their health suffering from their occupation.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—We believe all the mills in our neighbourhood strictly conform to the provisions of the act.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that they are afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence.  
 A. 78.—We are of opinion, that if the restrictions were laid on the moving power, any infringement of the act might easily be detected.  
 A. 79.—Our work-people have established a fund amongst themselves to support each other when sick, from which they receive from 4s. to 10s. per week while sick, according to their subscription. And also from 2l. to 5l. at the death of a subscriber. The average weekly subscription during the last (cholera) year, was 1  $\frac{9}{16}$ d. per week for each subscriber. We also subscribe to the Dispensary and Sunday Schools, where about one hundred of the children in our employ are educated.

THOMAS BARTON.

No. 96.  
Banister Eccles.

## ANSWERS of BANISTER ECCLES and Co., Blackburn.

- A. 1.—Parish of Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—The old mill built in 1822 for spinning only. The new end adjoining the same, for spinning and power-loom weaving, in 1825. The factory at Park Place, for power-loom weaving only, in 1829.

A. 4.



A. 4.—Steam-engine power: one engine of thirty, the other twenty horse power at Jubilee works, and one of eighteen horse power at Park Place.

A. 5.—There are several ventilators in each room, made by a casement to open in the windows, of eighteen by twenty inches, which clear the rooms from any unpleasant effluvia. In our card-room we have a fan, which assists in clearing the room of dust.

A. 7.—The ventilation is generally regulated by the foreman, but the work-people have easy access to them, and there is no restraint upon them respecting it.

A. 8.—They are all fenced off.

A. 9.—Each room is provided with rails on the walls, on which are hooks to hang the hats, coats, cloaks, &c. of the respective workers in such rooms. In one department of the works they are provided with water, soap, and towels for washing with, and *all* have time and liberty when disposed. The conveniences for clothing have been used in a great measure from the time the works were built.

A. 10.—Nine years. Some children before they have been admitted to work for us have been bobbin-winders, weavers, &c. &c.

A. 11.—We think it does, as it requires persons of small bulk to fluke or clean the wheels.

A. 12.—They have made no difference in this respect.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any in this sense.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day for five days in the week, and on Saturday nine hours.

A. 18.—All above twenty-one years as well as under twenty-one years of age work the same length of time with us, as stated in answer to question No. 17.

A. 19.—Never more than thirteen hours, and this very rarely; and all such cases occasioned by breakage, or stoppage of the engine.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixty-four hours.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—The average of hours in each day is the same excepting Saturday.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours, but this has been in very few instances.

A. 25.—At the general election three hours were lost, which were regained by working half an hour per day longer for six days, and on two or three other occasions only in the course of the year the same plan has been adopted.

A. 26.—This may be avoided, but when any stoppage of the moving power takes place, which is sometimes unavoidable, the hands must be paid less wages in proportion to the time lost.

A. 27.—We formerly worked twelve hours and a half in the day, but never longer. It is five years since we did so. It was previous to the passing of Hobhouse's Bill.

A. 28.—Any further reduction in the hours of labour must certainly enhance the cost of production, as a material part of the cost of production is rent and interest, as well as dilapidation of buildings, machinery and capital sunk, which, while it is not in operation, must certainly be unproductive and unprofitable.

A. 29.—The inducement which a manufacturer has to extend the hours of working is, that he can increase the amount of his production from the same amount of sunk property and at an additional expense only of a proportionate part of wages. But, in our own experience, we have not found it profitable to extend the time of working beyond twelve hours, as the physical energies of the operatives become languid and exhausted when pushed beyond twelve hours. We consider the younger hands to stand the hours of labour as well as adults, because their work is lighter and does not require the same physical efforts.

A. 31.—It is very objectionable to employ two sets of hands at one machine, as it would be difficult to find out the person who should be held responsible for the quality of work done; and if spoiled, there would be constant disputing as to who had so spoiled the work.

A. 32.—We never tried the plan of relays, because no complaint either by the children or their parents was ever made to us, of the hours being too long.

A. 33.—We have never done this except on one occasion for three or four nights, under peculiar circumstances.

A. 35.—We have no night-work whatever, and deprecate the system exceedingly.

A. 36.—We should not regard ourselves as at all injured by a total prohibition of night-work; but an effectual law to prevent it wholly would be beneficial to all.

A. 37.—From the information we have obtained of the rapid advance of manufactures on the continent of Europe and in America, where they are not restricted in the hours of labour, and where, too, the work-people can obtain the necessaries of life at a much lower price than can be obtained here, we fear the competition from them is already so great as to prohibit the reception of our manufactures in many markets, being produced by them at a lower rate; consequently, any time of working less than the present must be ruinous to our business.

A. 38.—Usually 70° to 74°, which is quite sufficient for general uses.

A. 39.—A temperature of 80° is required for dressing-rooms; more is not necessary.

A. 40.—Twenty-three dressers.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—By gas for the regular hours.

A. 51.—Same as the day.

A. 52.—We cannot tell from our own experience or observation, as there are no mills in this neighbourhood worked in the night.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 53.



Lancashire.

*Banister Eccles.*

A. 53.—For breakfast from eight to half-past eight o'clock. For dinner from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 54.—They all leave.

A. 57.—Sometimes a fine, and at others a reproof.

A. 58.—We do not allow of corporal punishments.

A. 62.—We have, and in some cases we have discharged overlookers for this fault, and on others have levied heavy fines.

A. 63.—Yes; we have told the foreman that if any child would not do his work without punishment, he was to send such person home and discharge him.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—Only partially so. The proprietors, at their own expense, whitewash and colour their houses through every spring and autumn. The children go to Sunday schools, and many of them to evening schools in the week.

A. 66.—Those children who have been accustomed to the factory from their youth are quicker in general than those who have come in at a later period.

A. 67.—We cannot answer this question, as only a very small portion of our works were erected ten years ago, and consequently we had very few work-people.

A. 68.—Occasionally, but not generally.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We fear not in all cases, and are not aware that any steps have been taken to enforce obedience latterly. Two or three years ago, several masters were informed against and fined by the magistrates.

A. 75.—Yes.

A. 77.—We do not know that this is the case from our experience or observation.

A. 78.—A public functionary of every township (overseer for instance), who should be sworn to do his duty, would be the fittest person to enforce obedience to the law, and fines levied might be applied to the poor-law rates.

A. 79.—We would suggest that all night-working be strictly prohibited, and the times of working for manufacturing purposes be put upon the moving power. Any other method will be evaded.

BANISTER ECCLES and JOSEPH ECCLES.

No. 97.

*William Townley.*

ANSWERS of WILLIAM TOWNLEY, for Messrs. Fielden, Throp, and Townley, Blackburn.

A. 1.—Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—First factory for cotton spinning erected in the year 1823, and commenced spinning in February, 1824. Second factory for ditto, erected in 1824. Shed for power-loom weaving, 1828. Another shed for ditto, 1832.

A. 4.—Steam-power; one engine 50 horse power; one ditto, 40; one ditto, 14: total, 104.

A. 5.—By swing windows; and open doors in warm weather.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening of windows and doors.

A. 7.—The ventilation is generally regulated by the overlookers, but the work-people can also control it.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have a wash-house established some years since, besides a bucket of water in each room.

A. 10.—We do not employ any at less than nine years of age; some of them have been employed at the hand-loom and winding bobbins before they came to our factories.

A. 11.—Small children from nine to twelve years of age are wanted to clean under and about the wheels, but children from twelve to thirteen years old might do the same work.

A. 12.—Not that we know of.

A. 13.—We do not employ any apprentices excepting two boys, who have been bound as apprentices by their fathers to the trade of mechanism.

A. 14.—We have none from parishes.

A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any children but our own families.

A. 17.—Twelve hours a day, excepting Saturday, which is only nine hours.

A. 18.—No difference is made; all work twelve hours per day from Monday to Friday inclusive, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half for a few days, to fetch up time lost for necessary repairs.

A. 20.—About three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—About three thousand five hundred and sixteen hours.

A. 22.—All the parts of our works are employed the same number of hours per day generally.

A. 23.—About eleven hours and a half per working day.

A. 24.—About twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When the works had been stopped for necessary repairs.

A. 26.—It might be avoided, but this would lead to a loss of part of the wages of the hands, to which they would be opposed; and also a loss to their employers.

A. 27.—Formerly, when the law permitted, we worked our factories seventy-two hours per week.

A. 28.



A. 28.—The cost of production is of course increased by any reduction of the hours of working.

A. 29.—The inducement to the manufacturer is undoubtedly extra gain ; but we think that night-work, say from eight o'clock in the evening to five o'clock in the morning, is quite unnecessary, and ought to be prohibited.

A. 30.—The cost of production is certainly increased by the limitation of the hours of work, if under sixty-nine hours per week ; but it would be impossible to answer correctly in what proportion.

A. 31.—We cannot answer this question, as we do not work with more than one set of hands, and we never work them longer than the hours prescribed by the law.

A. 32.—Not by us.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands.

A. 34.—It is the interest of spinners and manufacturers generally to work only sixty-nine hours per week, to avoid glutting the markets with their goods.

A. 36.—A prohibition of night-work would improve the demand for our goods, until the diminished supply could be made up by fresh machinery.

A. 37.—A reduction of the working hours to fifty-eight per week would increase the fixed expenses of spinning about three farthings per pound weight of No. 40 hanks. The quantity spun would be reduced nearly a sixth part, and the spinners of foreign countries would be stimulated to make up for the deficient supplies from England.

A. 38.—About 55° to 65° of Fahrenheit ; about 60° is the most suitable temperature for our factories.

A. 39.—The dressing machines require about 75° to 80° of heat, to dry the yarn before it goes upon the beam.

A. 40.—Seventeen men are employed in dressing.

A. 41.—They have never been worked later than the hours allowed by law for day-work.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half past eight o'clock in the morning ; dinner-hour, from twelve to one o'clock ; and tea is generally brought into the mill from four to five o'clock.

A. 54.—All the persons employed are allowed to go home to breakfast and dinner.

A. 57.—If they do not generally behave well, and mind their work, they are discharged.

A. 58.—Not that we know of.

A. 62.—We have sometimes discharged the overlookers, for improperly applying corporal punishment to some of the children.

A. 63.—We have given verbal instructions to the foreman and overlookers not to apply corporal punishment to any of the children ; but in case they were careless or negligent of their duty, to send them home.

A. 64.—We do not know of any such case.

A. 65.—About one hundred families live in cottages belonging to our prior ; but we have not interfered for the moral and social improvement of the work-people ; neither have we attempted any arrangement to enforce domestic cleanliness.

A. 66.—Those children who are employed in factories from nine to twelve years of age are more expert or quicker at their work than those who are taken into employment at later periods.

A. 67.—We believe that the people in our employment are as healthy as those in other cotton manufactories, and we are not aware of any deterioration in their health, excepting what may have happened in consequence of a turn-out of the spinners on 21st December last. A dispute about wages was the cause of the turn-out, and we are now getting the mills to work with fresh hands.

A. 68.—We have no particular processes of work more injurious to health than others.

A. 69.—Our factories are subject to the present act ; and we are not aware of having infringed any of its enactments.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that our work-people are afraid of displeasing their masters ; and, as a proof of this, the spinners, rovers, and card-room hands went off in a body on 21st December last, now nearly five months since, and few of them have yet returned to their work.

WILLIAM TOWNLEY.

Lancashire.

William Townley.

#### ANSWERS OF RICHARD HAWORTH, Blackburn.

No. 98.

Richard Haworth.

A. 1.—Parish of Blackburn, township of Blackburn, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton weft and twist.

A. 3.—Thirty years and upwards with very little alteration.

A. 4.—Always by steam : sixteen horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—Windows and doors.

A. 7.—By overlookers.

A. 8.—The whole.

(APP.—D. 1.)

B b

A. 9.



Lancashire.

Richard Haworth.

- A. 9.—Allowed to change their clothes, but no particular convenience provided.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—It does; being more active.  
 A. 12.—Not any difference.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Five days twelve hours, and one day nine hours.  
 A. 20 & 21.—Several days less than act allows.  
 A. 22.—All worked together.  
 A. 23.—The average is many less than the act allows.  
 A. 24 & 25.—Never worked longer than act allowed.  
 A. 26.—Never exceeded the act.  
 A. 27.—Never since the present act was made into law.  
 A. 28.—No.  
 A. 29.—Not able to judge; never worked in the night.  
 A. 30.—No.  
 A. 32.—No extra hours employed.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 37.—Further reduction in time would cause many of the work-people to want bread.  
 A. 38.—Room - - No. 1. - - 78° May 23. 1833.  
           Ditto - - 2. - - 81°  
           Ditto - - 3. - - 82°  
           Ditto - - 4. - - 83°

324°: the average 81°.

- A. 39.—No higher than the above.  
 A. 40.—Six hands employed.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 53.—Only one set of hands; who have half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave the factory, except four, who stay on Friday and Saturday until the others return.  
 A. 55.—For both.  
 A. 56.—Don't understand this.  
 A. 57.—For bad conduct often discharged.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—Nine cottages occupied by work-people, and whitewashed yearly.  
 A. 66.—Cannot correctly answer this question.  
 A. 67.—Generally healthy.  
 A. 68.—Have no particular processes.  
 A. 69.—Subject to the present act.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—Believe they work agreeably to the act.  
 A. 77.—No.  
 A. 78 & 79.—Not any.

RICHARD HAWORTH.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN HAUGHTON and SONS, Blackburn.

No. 99.  
John Haughton.

- A. 1.—Blackburn, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and power-loom manufactory.  
 A. 3.—About twelve years since.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power only.  
 A. 5.—In the blowing-room, draughts and apparatus for taking all the dust through the roof.  
 A. 6.—Slide sheets and casements in the windows.  
 A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of any one.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Arrangements for all the purposes mentioned in this question introduced from two to three years since.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age; generally been employed in hand-loom weaving before that age.  
 A. 11.—When they are twelve years old, they are too big, and too expensive for many purposes.  
 A. 12.—Not aware of much difference from the alteration in machinery.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours; and then only in case of stoppage from accident.  
 A. 20 & 21.—Can't exactly speak to this.

A. 22.



- A. 22.—Our machinery works all at once.  
 A. 23.—We have conformed to the last act of parliament.  
 A. 24.—We employ only one set of hands.  
 A. 25.—In cases of accidents.  
 A. 26.—Avoidable only by deducting from their wages for the time lost, to which they are not agreeable.  
 A. 27.—Only in case of accident, as before stated.  
 A. 29.—To get his work done lower than his neighbours.  
 A. 30.—The cost would be increased in all the operations, but cannot say to what extent.  
 A. 31.—The expense would be the objection.  
 A. 32.—No; it would be too expensive.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—An increase of cost, which would encourage foreign competition.  
 A. 38 & 39.—About 70°.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—In the winter season with gas.  
 A. 51.—Sash sheets, and casements.  
 A. 53.—Half hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Nothing beyond reproof or discharge.  
 A. 58 & 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Partially in our own, but principally in others; we always recommend domestic cleanliness, and occasionally visit their houses.  
 A. 68.—We do not at all think it necessary.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 77.—I do not think work-people, of late, care much about their masters.

DANIEL HAUGHTON.

Lancashire.

John Haughton.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM HENRY HORNBY and Co., Blackburn.

No. 100.

W. H. Hornby.

- A. 1.—Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—The works at this place were erected in 1828-9.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power only, which has been regularly going since the commencement.  
 Extent of power forty-five horses.  
 A. 5.—In the dressing-room, we have ventilators in the roof.  
 A. 6.—Windows which open.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is at the control of the adults.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Regarding this question, we have no particular arrangements for the things therein named.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age is the lowest at which we take any children; we have no children that have been employed elsewhere.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—We are not aware of any difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We have two orphans, who live in the neighbourhood.  
 A. 16.—Yes; they are both well attended to by the persons with whom they live.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—We employ all hands alike.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy-six hours and a half.  
 A. 22.—There has been no difference.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—The following has been our mode of working, which is at the request of our work-people:—Monday, twelve hours; Tuesday, twelve hours and a half; Wednesday, twelve hours and a half; Thursday, twelve hours and a half; Friday, twelve hours and a half; Saturday, seven hours:—total, sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 26.—We consider any excess of labour avoidable.  
 A. 27.—Not usually.  
 A. 28.—We have not made any experiment of working any extra time.  
 A. 29.—The reasons, or inducements, are various; some of the preparations are badly arranged for working to some other part or parts of the machinery, and, of course, one part has to work extra time to keep other parts supplied.  
 A. 30.—We find a very great increase in the cost of production by the loss of time, in all directions; for the interest on capital sunk in machinery, rent, taxes, &c. are the same, and, as the mill stands, the loss of quantity of production will be increased.  
 A. 31.—Two sets of hands would be very inconvenient, for the work would be spoiled, and machinery neglected; and it would be hard to say which were to blame.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 32.



Lancashire.

W. H. Hornby.

A. 32.—We have not tried two sets of hands to any great extent, for the reasons stated above.

A. 33.—We have not tried any night-work, and should be sorry to do so.

A. 37.—The effects, we presume, would be ruinous, especially to those spinners upon the old system of machinery.

A. 38.—65°.

A. 39.—The highest degree of heat is required in the dressing of yarn, where men only are required, which is 80°.

A. 40.—The number of hands employed in dressing is about one to fifty.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Opening of the windows.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 55.—If they stay in the works, it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—See No. 53 & 54 above: and we should recommend all to go out at meal-times, and that all meals be taken out of the mill.

A. 57.—We use the most gentle means possible.

A. 58.—Nothing more than what is used for school discipline.

A. 62.—We have not forbidden it; for we have not had an instance wherein it has been required.

A. 64.—We have not had a single complaint.

A. 65.—The principal part of our work-people live in our cottages, which are made convenient as possible, and we require all to be kept clean. We shall be happy to let the commissioners see them.

A. 66.—We know of no particular difference.

A. 67.—We have only been at work from three to four years, and we consider the health of our work-people to have improved.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We believe there are some reasons for complaint, but we have not noticed particularly.

A. 77.—We are inclined to think they are afraid. Some upright independent person should be appointed yearly to watch all mills in each town or district, and all fines paid to the poor.

A. 78.—To secure obedience to any legislative law, regarding limitation of time for cotton and all other mills, would be to put the restriction upon the moving power, and let the penalty be in proportion to the power employed (not regarding the age of any person employed in such mills), and, without this, we believe it impossible to make any law that would not be evaded.

A. 79.—Nothing further, only that we strongly recommend the preceding answer to the 78th question.

WILLIAM HENRY HORNBY and Co.

No. 101.  
Livesey & Rodgett.

ANSWERS of Messrs. LIVESLEY and RODGETT, Blackburn.

A. 1.—In the town of Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Part of the buildings were commenced in the year 1818, part in 1820, part in 1823, and part in 1830.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5 & 6.—Yes; on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Both by the overlooker and the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—No; most of the persons employed live very near the works, so that we should consider any such provision unnecessary.

A. 10.—Nine years of age.

A. 11.—We do not consider it absolutely necessary that children under twelve years of age should be employed, although some parts of the work are done better perhaps by children below that age than above.

A. 12.—We should suppose the alterations in machinery have made little difference as regards the ages of children.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—None of the children in our employ are under our immediate care.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve, and nine on the Saturdays.

A. 19.—Except in cases where time has been lost (and for which we are allowed an hour per day by act of parliament for a certain length of time to fetch up the same), twelve hours per day have been seldom exceeded, and if so, not more than a few minutes.

A. 20.



A. 20.—We cannot say exactly; but certainly not more than the Act allows, as in some cases lost time has not been recovered.

A. 21.—We cannot tell.

A. 22.—We have not made any particular observations.

A. 24.—The children have been employed the same length of time as the adults.

A. 25.—In cases of accident to the steam-engine or machinery.

A. 26.—We cannot prevent accidents.

A. 27.—Yes; but not since the Act was passed to reduce the hours of labour.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—It is more convenient, on many accounts, to employ one set of hands only.

A. 30.—If we were to pay the same wages for ten hours as we do for twelve, of course the cost would be increased; besides, the same expenses would be necessarily incurred in some instances for shorter time as when time is longer.

A. 31.—Inconvenience.

A. 32.—No; we consider it unnecessary, as we never exceed thirteen hours, and that only in cases where time has been lost.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—We consider a reduction in the hours of labour would be attended with a reduction of the wages of the workpeople.

A. 38.—We cannot tell.

A. 39.—We don't know, as the temperature depends on the numbers of yarn spun.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—In the winter season we are obliged to light up in the course of the twelve hours, when it is done by gas.

A. 51.—Opening the windows.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—When we cannot enforce obedience, we discharge them.

A. 58.—It is not a practice to inflict corporal punishment, and when inflicted but very slightly.

A. 59.—We should think quite as much by parents as others, but it is a thing of rare occurrence by any.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given, except instructions to discharge the disobedient.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Many of the workpeople occupy our houses, but we have no control over them out of the mills.

A. 66.—We consider those most expert who have been brought up in the mills from their infancy.

A. 67.—We don't consider there has been any change in the general state of health of the workpeople during the last ten years.

A. 68.—We have certain persons for certain processes.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We believe they do, generally.

A. 77.—In some instances they may, but not altogether.

A. 78.—We think the Act now in force (if strictly enforced) sufficient.

For Linesey & Rodgett, JAMES LINESEY.

Lancashire.

Linesey & Rodgett.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES RODGETT and Co., Blackburn.

No. 102.  
James Rodgett & Co.

A. 1.—Parish and township of Blackburn.

A. 2.—Spinning cotton into yarn, and weaving yarn into cloth.

A. 3.—The spinning mill was built in the year 1818; commenced, and has continued from that time to be exclusively employed for that purpose; that part in which the manufactory of cloth is carried on was erected in 1831-2.

A. 4.—Two steam engines, one of fifty horse power and one of thirty-six horse power.

A. 5, 6, & 7.—The rooms in our factory are sufficiently ventilated by the admission of air from twenty-eight windows in each room, running parallel fourteen on each side; and these windows are opened or closed by the workpeople themselves indiscriminately.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are cased off.

A. 9.—We have no such arrangements; the great majority of our workpeople live within a few yards of the place.

A. 10.—Some are admitted at nine, that is, as soon as the law permits; but we prefer older.

A. 11.—From the nature of the machinery, children above the age of twelve would be unfit, because too big to perform the necessary work.

A. 12.—We cannot answer this question; the machinery in our mill is of fifteen years standing.

A. 13, 14, 15, & 16.—We do not employ apprentices; nor lodge nor maintain orphans or children.

A. 17.—Including Saturday, and averaging the six days, eleven hours and a half.

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C c

A. 18.



Lancashire.

James Rodgett & Co.

A. 18.—No difference is made.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20, 22, & 23.—We cannot satisfactorily answer these questions, as our works were at a stand during the greater part of last year, in consequence of putting down a new engine; and on account of making extensive alterations in the machinery, it was a considerable time before the whole of the works were fully employed.

A. 24.—We only employ one set; no distinction is made between children and grown-up people.

A. 25.—In cases of accidents to the principal machinery, such as the gearing, steam engine, &c., the regular hours of work have been exceeded.

A. 26.—Scarcely avoidable, because from the great diversity of operations carried on, and their entire dependence on each other, if an accident happens to the steam engine, or other principal machine of one department, it would be tantamount to a stoppage of the whole works, if the time so lost were not made up by that department in which it was lost.

A. 27 & 28.—We do not recollect that at any time our factory has ever been worked more than twelve hours per day.

A. 29.—Profit is doubtless the only inducement to work extra hours.

A. 30. We cannot answer this question from actual experience, but conceive that our answer to question 37 will apply.

A. 31.—We have never required extra work; but if such a case do exist, we know of no objection to having two or more sets of children where they can be procured.

A. 33.—We have no night-work.

A. 34.—We have never worked more than one set.

A. 37.—Should the hours of labour be reduced, and no reduction take place in wages, (which, however, cannot be expected,) the cost of production, as far as wages are concerned, would be increased in the exact ratio of the diminution of the hours of labour, while the ground-rents and other multifarious local taxes, such as poor-rates, police-rates, &c., to which factory property is liable, would remain the same; and should the hours of labour be reduced one third, the expense of oil, grease, leather, &c., together with the repairs of machinery, would be little or nothing decreased; all tending to increase the cost of production.

A. 38.—The usual temperature in the spinning department is about 69°; to the latter part of the query we should say about 62°. In the dressing department ranging between 80° and 95°.

A. 39.—80°.

A. 40.—About twelve young men are employed in this department. It is difficult to keep the temperature of this room at the required heat, as the hotter it is the greater quantity of work can be done, so that the workmen (if the overlooker is not present) will increase the heat 10° higher than necessary.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Our works are lighted in winter with gas.

A. 53.—The works stop at eight till half-past for breakfast; from twelve to one for dinner, and refreshments are brought into the factory to the hands from half-past four until five.

A. 54.—The great majority of them leave the works.

A. 55.—Those that do not remain for their own convenience; we should prefer their leaving entirely.

A. 56.—There could be no objection to it, except that those hands that come from a distance might have to get their meals in the open air.

A. 57.—Peremptory dismissal.

A. 58 & 59.—No corporal punishments are in the slightest degree tolerated.

A. 60 & 61.—No instance of a child having been struck by any one in our employ has come to our ears without dismissing, or otherwise severely fining, such individual.

A. 62.—It is well known by all our foremen, that corporal punishments are strictly forbidden, and they do not dare to make use of them.

A. 63.—Such instructions have not been given in writing.

A. 64.—No complaint has ever been preferred to the magistrates against us or any of our foremen, since our commencement of this business.

A. 65.—The greater part of those employed in the spinning department live in our own cottages. Immorality of any description is either met by dismissal, or severely reprimanded; and they are required to keep their houses clean.

A. 66.—Instances are very rare of admitting those who have not been brought up in a factory; of course their skill would depend on the nature of their previous employment, and in any case must necessarily be much inferior to those who have been brought up in a factory from infancy.

A. 67.—Cannot say that there is any material alteration.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—The spinning department is under the Act; we believe the dressing and weaving is not.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—No.

A. 73.—We believe in the town of Blackburn the Act is conformed to.

A. 74 & 75.



A. 74 & 75.—About three years ago the proprietors of a factory that have since stopped payment were taken before the magistrates, and fined for working longer hours than the law allowed.

A. 76.—We don't know.

A. 77.—Undoubtedly, when a good feeling exists between masters and men, there will be some difficulty in obtaining evidence; but when the contrary is the case, the workmen will readily be disposed to give evidence.

A. 78.—If the penalty were imposed on the steam engine, or first moving power, the proof of transgression of the law would be much easier.

A. 79.—It will be seen in these answers we have confined ourselves principally to the spinning department, as the other departments are scarcely completed. It is the general opinion of the trade, that the Ten Hours Bill will tend to decrease instead of increasing the comforts of the working class, by causing a reduction of wages, to meet foreigners in their own market.

For James Rodgett & Co., JOHN SPARROW.

Lancashire.

James Rodgett & Co.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM THROP, Blackburn.

No. 103.  
William Throp.

A. 1.—Parish of Blackburn, township of Blackburn, and county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning.

A. 3.—One half built in the year 1817, and when ready commenced cotton spinning in it, and the other half built in the year 1822, and commenced cotton spinning in it in 1823.

A. 4.—Steam engine of twenty horses power.

A. 5.—The ventilation is by glass and tin casements fitted into the windows at each side of the mill, and when open a current of air will regularly flow.

A. 7.—The ventilation is at the discretion of all the workpeople, and any person employed in the mill may open or shut the casements when they please.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—Most of the females change their clothing when they come into the mill to work, and hang them up till they return from their work, and being only a small mill the hands wash themselves at home.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, and at this age very few of them can have been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—Children from nine to twelve years of age are very useful in the mill, and can do some work which the larger hands cannot.

A. 12.—Little difference up to this age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—The children live with their own parents or guardians.

A. 16.—Some children work with the operative cotton spinners and are paid by them.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and nine for Saturday.

A. 18.—All work the same hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—All the year (Sundays and a few holidays excepted).

A. 22.—All the works carried on together.

A. 23.—Twelve hours per day for five days, and nine hours for Saturday.

A. 24.—Thirteen.

A. 25.—By an accident with the steam engine, mill gear, or some other part of the machinery.

A. 26.—In most mills, when an accident occurs which stops the works for about a day, the workpeople generally wish to work up the lost time.

A. 27.—Always worked according to the Act of Parliament.

A. 28.—The cost price of the article produced is certainly increased by reducing the hours of labour.

A. 29.—I should suppose gain.

A. 30.—Certainly, an increase in the cost price per pound on yarns, when part of the workpeople are paid by the week.

A. 31.—One set of hands are quite sufficient to work the hours according to the present Act of Parliament.

A. 32.—Quite unnecessary.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 36.—A good effect, as one master would not then have an advantage over another by means of working his mill both night and day while the other only works twelve hours per day.

A. 37.—If all mills were forced to work according to the present Act of Parliament it would be the means of procuring to us a more regular trade; but if the hours were still reduced, it would be the means of impoverishing the hands in proportion to the hours reduced, and an additional expense to the employer.

A. 38.—From 55° to 70°, and the machinery requires it about 65° in certain parts of the year.

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A. 39.



Lancashire.

William Throp.

- A. 39.—65° to 70°.  
 A. 40.—About 80°.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 47.—No limited time.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All of them.  
 A. 56.—It is more convenient for workpeople to eat at home.  
 A. 57.—Common orders.  
 A. 58.—Very seldom and slightly.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers.  
 A. 60.—Not with any degree of severity.  
 A. 61.—Never.  
 A. 62.—Certainly; and no more punishment is inflicted on them than a parent inflicts on his own children.  
 A. 63 & 64.—None whatever.  
 A. 65.—Very few live in my houses.  
 A. 66.—They make better servants when taken young than older.  
 A. 67.—I see no change whatever.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Perfectly so.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—Some of the masters have been informed against, and paid the penalty.  
 A. 74, 75, & 76.—Yes.  
 A. 77.—Not generally so.  
 A. 78.—The present Act is quite sufficient, if strictly acted upon.  
 A. 79.—None whatever.

For William Throp, THOMAS BOLTON.

No. 104.

C. Ainsworth.

## ANSWERS of C. AINSWORTH, Little Bolton.

- A. 1.—Little Bolton, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—Part erected in 1825, the remaining part in 1832, and began working same years as built.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, forty horse power.  
 A. 5.—The ventilation is regulated by casements in every other window at both sides of the rooms, which may be opened at pleasure by those employed.  
 A. 6.—It depends on opening the casements and regulating the steam, which is always attended to when required by the workpeople.  
 A. 7.—It is controlled by those employed opposite the loose casements.  
 A. 8.—All that can be, but the whole of the most dangerous.  
 A. 9.—Our workpeople generally put on a cloak or coat in coming to or going from the mill when needful, and take them off on entering; and are always expected to come clean, which is requisite in fine spinning mills; but have plenty of water at access if wanted. There are also suitable conveniences for every room, which are cleaned every day.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; sometimes they may have been employed at other trades.  
 A. 11.—We always find those children who commence from nine to eleven years of age to make the best workpeople.  
 A. 12.—There is no material difference.  
 A. 13.—Yes.  
 A. 14.—No parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any; they always retire home to their parents or guardians both at meal times and nights.  
 A. 16.—Some have the overlooker, and some the spinner; many of them are the children of the spinners.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve, and nine on Saturdays; we have no difference as to age.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.  
 A. 21.—Card rooms, three thousand nine hundred and fifty-one hours; remainder, three thousand seven hundred and twenty hours; owing to many alterations and additions having been made.  
 A. 22.—Owing to our alterations, &c., our card-rooms worked one hour per day over, during two hundred and thirty-one days.  
 A. 23.—Twelve, and nine on Saturdays; except the card-rooms, which will average about twelve hours and a half per day.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours in card-rooms (but no other part), who are eighteen years of age and upwards.  
 A. 25.—Owing to our alterations and additions.  
 A. 26.—It certainly is avoidable, except in accidents, alterations, &c.

A. 27.



A. 27.—In 1830, we worked our mill day and night; five weeks from October 14th to November 20th.

A. 28.—We do find the cost to be enhanced; but the bad effects it produced, induced us to discontinue it.

A. 29.—We have no doubt but profit is their inducement. Local taxes, insurance, rents, interest of capital, and many other expences being the same.

A. 30.—We do find an increase in the cost of production in cotton spinning; our wages now are about 130% to 134% weekly, and our local taxes, insurance, rents, interest of capital, &c., is 37% weekly; therefore the increased cost of production would be according to the diminution of hours per week, to 171%.

A. 31.—No objection.

A. 32.—When we worked night and day, the five weeks in 1830, as stated before, we had two sets of hands, ten hours and a half to each set, and cannot see how it can be otherwise.

A. 33.—One set from six o'clock in the morning to six in the evening; and the other from six in the evening to six in the morning; each set having their usual time for meals.

A. 34.—The nature of our work does not require above one set of hands for twelve hours.

A. 35.—We do not work in the night.

A. 36.—Beneficial, in as much as it would enable us to meet those in the market who do work in the night.

A. 37.—A reduction of wages in the same proportion, besides the same proportion of unavoidable expences, such as poor rates, police and lamp rates, insurance, rents, &c. &c.; because the price of yarns is reduced so low by foreign competition, together with the increase of nightwork, that it is impossible to be otherwise.

A. 38 & 39.—75°; and fine spinning-mills cannot do with less.

A. 40.—Two hundred and eighty, or thereabout.

A. 46.—No.

A. 49.—Continuance of work not requisite any particular time.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—Loose casements.

A. 52.—To corrupt the morals of both sexes, particularly the females, injure the eyes, and at an early age debility on the whole frame.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 55.—The workpeople leave at meal times to suit their own convenience.

A. 56.—Our workpeople do take their meals out of the mill.

A. 57.—If they will not pay attention by admonition, we discharge them.

A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 62.—We have forbidden it, and would prevent it if we were informed.

A. 63.—It is a rule in our mill to discharge children instead of corporal punishment, when disobedience is persisted in.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Part do live in our houses, which are regularly whitewashed, and part do not.

A. 66.—Our works have not been established a sufficient time to point out any material difference of those we employ at present, for we always discharge those who do not do their work well, or that there is not a good appearance of improvement.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any material difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We believe that most of them do strictly conform to the present Act; but we understand there are one or two who have not, and steps have been taken to enforce obedience.

A. 74 & 75.—We believe they have.

A. 76.—Cannot speak to it, not having heard the case.

A. 77.—Having never been fined, we cannot speak to it; but should suppose they are not.

A. 78.—We would suggest, that if some person was appointed for certain districts, on whose responsibility our working should rest, would be much better than giving encouragement to common informers (who are very liable to be tempted from their duty by even a small bribe); and who, if still encouraged, will always keep the manufacturing districts in agitation.

A. 79.—You will please observe, that the greatest number of children employed in fine spinning mills, are engaged and paid by the operative spinner; over which children the masters have little control.

CHARLES AINSWORTH.

Lancashire.

C. Ainsworth.



Lancashire.

No. 105.

E. & H. Bolling.

## ANSWERS of EDWARD &amp; HENRY BOLLING, Bolton.

- A. 1.—Bolton, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—All the buildings have been used for cotton spinning from the time of erection:—Coronation Mill, erected in 1821. New Mill, in 1818. Spring Gardens, about 1808. Knott Mill, about 1810. Flash Mill, about 1820. Bradshawgate Mills, No. 1. about 1793; No. 2. about 1794; No. 3. about 1801; No. 4. about 1798; No. 5. about 1802. Bridge Street Mills, No. 1. about 1795; No. 2. about 1802.  
 A. 4.—Worked by steam.  
 A. 5.—Most of the windows have swing casements.  
 A. 6.—The ventilation depends on the opening of windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—By the overlookers and persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No particular arrangements are made for these purposes. The workpeople have access to water to drink and to wash themselves, and they may change their clothes if they think proper.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age. They have seldom been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—We are not aware of any difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The same as above, without any regard to their age.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and fifty-four hours.  
 A. 22.—There is no difference in the hours of working between one part of the mills and another.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and one half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When the works have been stopped by some accident, and the lost time in part worked up.  
 A. 26.—Any excess beyond the regular hours is not absolutely requisite, but desirable to make up lost time.  
 A. 27.—Not since the law reduced the working hours to sixty-nine per week; previous to this, we worked sometimes twelve and a half hours per day, and occasionally a little longer.  
 A. 28.—The cost is enhanced by reducing the hours of work.  
 A. 29.—The inducement, we suppose, is the hope of more profit from his trade.  
 A. 30.—The limitation of the hours of working increases the cost of production in every branch of the works.  
 A. 31.—We don't work beyond the usual hours, except in case of accident. The present law in such cases allows working on any one day for thirteen hours only, and limits the number of days to eight, we believe, in succession.  
 A. 32.—We have not tried the system of relays.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—As we work only by day, a prohibition of nightwork would be beneficial to us.  
 A. 37.—A further reduction of the working hours would add to the cost of production. Suppose twelve hours reduced to ten; the owner would sustain a loss of one-sixth upon the rent of his mill, upon the interest of capital sunk in machinery, steam engines, mill-geer, &c. He would also have to pay the same taxes, poor-rate, and other parochial burthens. The same insurance on property and current expences as when working a longer time.  
 A. 38.—The temperature in hot weather is the highest, varying with the external air. A temperature of about 65° may be considered high enough for our branch of the trade.  
 A. 39.—One portion does not require more heat than another.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas; but not later than eight at night.  
 A. 53.—All the people are allowed half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner. The afternoon refreshment is taken whilst they are at work, and during that time they assist each other.  
 A. 54.—They all leave, except occasionally a few who prefer staying at the works.  
 A. 55.—If they stay, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—Persuasion, and fear of losing their work.  
 A. 58.—We believe sometimes.  
 A. 59.—Seldom by any one; when done, it is generally by parents and spinners.  
 A. 60.—We sometimes may hear of it.  
 A. 62.—If we hear of any improper correction of children, we blame it, and caution the party offending.  
 A. 63.—We give general instructions to overlookers to prevent any abuse or improper correction or treatment of children.  
 A. 64.—No.

A. 65.



A. 65.—Some of the workpeople live in our houses; we have no control over them there, but we cause the houses to be whitewashed throughout each year.

A. 66.—We have no means of ascertaining the difference, but suppose those employed from an early age are more expert.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any change either way.

A. 68.—No; the workpeople are, however, at liberty to change their employment.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Yes; once.

A. 71.—Not convicted.

A. 73.—Strictly observed by most of the mills in the neighbourhood, but we have reason to believe some do not.

A. 74 & 77.—We don't know.

A. 78.—The provisions of the present law are judicious, if enforced. It is thought the best mode of enforcing the observance of any act would be the appointment of a public officer to be responsible for the observance of the Act for a certain district.

A. 79.—No.

EDWARD & HENRY BOLLING.

Lancashire.

E. & H. Bolling.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. BROOKS & SMITH, Bolton le Moor.

No. 106.  
Brooks & Smith.

A. 1.—Bolton, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Flax-dressing and spinning.

A. 3.—1825 and 1832. — In 1825.

A. 4.—Steam seventy-six horse power.

A. 5.—Yes; to let in fresh air, and take away the dust.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the overlookers.

A. 8.—They are fenced off.

A. 9.—Rails and pegs for suspending clothes, and water from the public water-works. Since the erection of the mill.

A. 10.—Not under nine years of age, if we know it. Various other trades, as cotton mills, weaving, rope works, &c.

A. 11.—Only so far as that by employing children under twelve years it reduces the cost of our production.

A. 12.—Some of the recent improvements in flax machinery have rendered necessary the employment of a greater number of young children.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Some of our hands eleven hours per day and some twelve and a quarter, except on Saturdays, when the hours are eight and a half and eight and three quarters.

A. 18.—Sixty-three to seventy hours per week; we make no difference on account of age.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours and three quarters.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.

A. 21.—Spinning three thousand five hundred and forty-nine hours; preparation three thousand six hundred and twenty three and one third.

A. 22.—We have no data to govern us in our reply.

A. 23.—Spinning eleven hours and two thirds; preparation twelve hours.

A. 24.—Fourteen hours and three quarters.

A. 25.—From the 22d of March to the 31st. From the 3d of April to the 9th of June. From June 18th to July 12th. From July 16th to August 10th. From September 15th to December 19th. All for want of machinery for the preparing department.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—We suppose the object would be to reduce the cost of production.

A. 30.—Have not tried.

A. 32.—Not by us. Has not been thought necessary.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—It would enhance the cost of production, and reduce the earnings of the operative.

A. 38.—We require no artificial heat except for the comfort of the hands.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Oil and gas in the evening.

A. 51.—Opening the windows.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner three quarters of an hour, and tea half an hour. Mechanic, joiners, &c. one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All at breakfast and dinner.

A. 57.—Finishing.

A. 58.—Not allowed.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—No houses.

A. 66.—We consider that those who have been employed from infancy in these works are more.

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Lancashire.

Brooks & Smith.

more skilful, better servants, and more orderly than the others; but, as the place is but recently established, we cannot judge so well as to other concerns.

A. 67.—The mill has not been at work for that length of time.

A. 68, 69, & 70.—No.

JONES A. SMITH.

No. 107.  
T. Cullin.

## ANSWERS of T. CULLIN, Little Bolton.

A. 1.—Township of Little Bolton, County of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning.

A. 3.—I purchased part in, and occupied it in June 1818. I built a part in 1824. I occupied the new in 1825-6-7.

A. 4.—Steam; twenty-four horse engine.

A. 5.—Casements in the windows.

A. 7.—Overlooker, or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—The upright shafts are fenced off.

A. 9.—None; except spring water to drink.

A. 10.—Nine years old are the youngest. We never ask whether they have been at any other trade.

A. 11.—They are obtained at lower wages under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—I have no alterations in machinery.

A. 13.—No; except learning to spin.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days and a quarter.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-two.

A. 22.—All or none; except the card-room works one hour on Saturday more than the spinners.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—When a break down, or stoppage for gas.

A. 26.—Workpeople prefer having their wages in full.

A. 27.—Not since the Twelve Hours' Bill passed, as it is called.

A. 29.—To make his capital or machinery to produce more yarn.

A. 30.—I have not experienced any limitation of hours.

A. 32.—I have no occasion for extra hands.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—Wages would be reduced in proportion to the reduction in time.

A. 38.—65° to 75°.

A. 39.—70°.

A. 46.—None.

A. 47.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 48.—From nine years to forty-five, male and female, card-room and spinners.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Casements in the windows.

A. 53.—Breakfast eight o'clock; dinner twelve o'clock.

A. 54.—All.

A. 55.—All; except in wet and cold weather, when they have to be driven out, as some of them live a long way off.

A. 57.—Discharge them.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Spinners occupy houses. I have nothing to do with their domestic affairs.

A. 66.—I have none employed from infancy.

A. 67.—I cannot tell, not being M. D.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70 & 71.—No.

A. 77.—Not much afraid.

A. 78.—Eleven years for the youngest child to be employed. Twelve hours per day, but eleven hours per day is quite long enough for any age.

A. 79.—Night-work is injurious to the morals of people employed in cotton mills.

THOMAS CULLIN.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. GOODWIN &amp; HUGHES, Bolton.

Lancashire.

No. 108.  
Goodwin & Hughes.

- A. 1.—Bolton, in Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—The latter part of 1824; commenced spinning the following spring.  
 A. 4.—Steam. By a twenty horse engine.  
 A. 5.—By casements in the windows on each side of the rooms, which are amply sufficient.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed in each room.  
 A. 8.—All securely fenced off.  
 A. 9.—A constant supply of spring water is supplied by a pipe near the mill door either for washing or drinking. Two ovens heated by the engine fire are also provided, either to warm or bake the provisions of such of the hands as particularly desire it.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age.  
 A. 12.—We are not aware that it has.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Day hands twelve hours; eight on Saturdays.  
 A. 19.—Never longer than twelve hours by one set of hands.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days and a half.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eighty-six hours by part of the day hands; the rest have occasionally been obliged to stop a quarter of a day at a time, but being hands working by the piece, no particulars of such lost time have been kept. Three thousand two hundred and eighty-nine hours by part of the night hands; occasional stoppages same as by the day hands.  
 A. 22.—At different times part of our hands have had to stand for want of preparation, but being those who work by the piece we have no particulars.  
 A. 23.—Day hands eleven hours eighteen minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 27.—A few years since we occasionally worked one room an hour extra for a few days, after having lost time.  
 A. 28.—From the above it will be seen that there was no difference that would make any alteration in this respect.  
 A. 29.—We do not do this ourselves, and are not prepared to state the reasons by which other persons are influenced.  
 A. 30.—Having regularly worked under the Act, we have not tried what the effect of working longer than twelve hours each day would be.  
 A. 31.—We know of no objection to it.  
 A. 32.—Having an extra set of hands, grown up persons, for the night, we have no occasion for a relay of children for the day.  
 A. 33.—We have, for the last three years; they begin at one on Monday morning and work till seven. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights they begin at eight, stop at twelve for a quarter of an hour, and work till seven in the morning. On Saturday, from four p. m. until nine in the evening, making sixty-four hours and three quarters weekly. At first, we regularly stopped the engine half an hour at twelve each night, and worked till eleven on Saturday night, but at the particular desire of the hands, we consented to stop only a quarter each night at twelve, and give over at nine on Saturday evening.  
 A. 34.—Being two partners, each with a family, and our mill but small, we find it necessary, however careful we are.  
 A. 35.—Uniformly.  
 A. 36.—It would materially affect us, and also be a serious injury to our night hands, as it would completely throw them out of employment.  
 A. 37.—It would injure both the masters and the workpeople; the former by adding to the cost of their manufacture, and the latter by reducing their earnings.  
 A. 38.—58° to 70°.  
 A. 39.—70°.  
 A. 40.—Sixty-four in the day; same number at night.  
 A. 46.—None absolutely so.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as day.  
 A. 52.—We are not aware of any difference in this respect; we discourage every impropriety of conduct whether by day or night, and regularly have two overlookers employed the whole night, married men, in whom we can place confidence. One of ourselves also frequently inspects the mill at such times.  
 A. 53.—We desire our day hands (as they do not begin work till an hour after the other mills commence) to breakfast before they come; such as have not done it, usually stop a short time previous to nine, while they get it. The engine stops an hour at noon for dinner. (Night hands, see 33.)  
 A. 54.—They all may, but we do not compel them when the weather or their own convenience make it more desirable to them to take it on the premises.



Lancashire.

Goodwin & Hughes.

A. 55.—Where they do not, it is for their own convenience.

A. 57.—Persuasion; where necessary, threats of dismissal.

A. 53.—Not allowed.

A. 63.—Our manager knows our sentiments on this subject, that we neither approve of or allow it.

A. 64.—None whatever.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—We are not aware of any.

A. 67.—The health of our hands, both day and night, has generally been good from the first; and at this time we consider it fully equal to that of any other class of workpeople.

A. 68.—We have no complaints on this point, and are not aware that there is any occasion.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We know nothing to the contrary.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe it.

A. 78.—We think further legislative provisions uncalled for by any necessity. Should any alteration, however, be made, we would merely submit our opinion that altering the age at which children are allowed first to work in cotton mills from nine to eleven years old would, on the whole, be an improvement.

A. 79.—We would observe, that the system we follow, of working in the night by a set of grown-up hands, was attended with much trouble at first, and requires on our part so much attention, that we are convinced it will never be general; but, established and carried on as it now is by us, it is a decided advantage to the hands, who are contented and thankful for such an opportunity of getting their bread. Our workpeople, generally, we have good reason to believe, are well satisfied. The continual applications we have for employment in every department of our concern testify to this.

JOSEPH GOODWIN.

JOSEPH HUGHES.

No. 109.

Abraham Haigh.

## ANSWERS of ABRAHAM HAIGH, Bolton.

A. 1.—Parish of Bolton, township of Little Bolton, county of Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning.

A. 3.—Erected at twice; the first portion in 1809, the second in 1825; always employed for cotton spinning.

A. 4.—Thirty-six horse steam engine.

A. 5.—By casements in every second window on each side of the mill, and a door at each end of every room.

A. 7.—Controlled and at the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—I have no particular accommodation for the workpeople in changing of apparel; but with respect to cleanliness, we furnish them with spring water and a cistern, to which they have free access.

A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest age at which I employ children. I am not aware that any of them have been previously employed at any other trades.

A. 11 &amp; 12.—No.

A. 13.—Not any.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any children in my employ.

A. 17 &amp; 18.—Twelve hours each day, or sixty-nine each week.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours is the greatest number worked in any one day during the last year.

A. 20 &amp; 21.—Cannot speak to that.

A. 22.—Different parts of my works have not been carried on at different times during the same day.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours is the greatest number that the same set of children have been kept to work during the last year.

A. 25.—When the regular hours of work were exceeded, it was to gain the time lost through accidents to the machinery.

A. 26.—Accidents to the machinery are unavoidable; and when they occur, the workpeople prefer gaining the time lost to having a deduction from their wages.

A. 27.—I never worked a greater number of hours than I do at present.

A. 33.—I have not employed a night set of hands.

A. 37.—I think that the reduction of the working hours would increase the cost of production, and lessen the amount of wages.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of my mill is from 70° to 75°; and 70° is the lowest at which the processes therein can be conducted.

A. 39.—The highest degree of heat required for any portion of my mill is 80°.

A. 40.—About two hundred.

A. 41.—I have not worked my mill at night during the last year.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.



A. 50.—During winter, the works are lighted by gas; those hours necessary to complete twelve hours in one day.

A. 51.—Opening the windows and doors.

A. 53.—The times allowed for meals are half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—All persons leave the works at meal times, or, if not, it is to suit their own convenience.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, & 63.—The means taken to enforce obedience on the part of the children in my employ is a discharge; if corporal punishments are inflicted by overlookers or others, it is not with my knowledge or sanction, having forbidden corporal punishment, and taken steps for their prevention when informed of their infliction.

A. 64.—No complaints have been made; nor any proceedings before magistrates been taken against me or my overlooker on the subject of any punishment alleged to have been inflicted in my establishment within the last three years.

A. 65.—Part of the workpeople in my employ live in houses belonging to me. I claim no authority over the workpeople out of the mill, except having the cottages whitewashed once in a year.

A. 66.—I do not perceive any difference.

A. 67.—From observation, I am not aware that any change has taken place in the health of the people employed at my mill during the last ten years.

A. 68.—I make no change in the employment of the same persons, not knowing there to be any injurious effects of particular processes.

A. 69.—I consider it so.

A. 70.—I have never been informed against for infringing.

A. 77.—I have reason to believe that the workpeople are afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence.

A. 78.—I think that a higher scale of penalties would secure obedience to the present law. Cannot state any thing with respect to the latter part of this query.

A. 79.—No further observations to make with reference to the subject of the present enquiry; except that I consider it would be my interest not to take any child into the mill under twelve years of age: and it is my opinion, that the abolition of nightwork, and a reduction of the present hours of labour to eleven hours and a half each day, and nine on Saturday, or sixty-six hours and a half per week, would give satisfaction.

ABRAHAM HAIGH.

Lancashire.

Abraham Haigh.

ANSWERS of ROBERT KNOWLES, for Messrs. Roger, Holland & Co., Bolton le Moor.

No. 110.  
Robert Knowles.

A. 1.—Bolton le Moor, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning alone.

A. 3.—Erected at different times upwards of thirty years ago.

A. 4.—Steam alone.

A. 6.—Opening the windows and doors, by which a comfortable ventilation is effected.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—Some change their clothes, others do not. We have five slop-stones, towels, fresh soft water. Soap and wash bowls for the use of the hands at our own expence; introduced August 1832. Water they previously had.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age. — Not been employed before.

A. 11.—Children of twelve years of age would answer our purpose as well as under.

A. 12.—The recent alterations have made no difference in this respect.

A. 13.—None.

A. 15.—None lodged or maintained.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, excepting Saturday, which is only nine.

A. 18.—Our hands all work the same length of time.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy-six hours.

A. 22.—All our works are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours, twenty-nine minutes, and fifty-four seconds.

A. 25.—In case of breakage or repairs, we have worked half an hour extra per day, according to law.

A. 26.—It is avoidable; but the loss of time would fall upon the hands.

A. 27.—Not for the last twelve or thirteen years.

A. 29.—We believe profit is the only inducement.

A. 30.—We should find an increase in the cost of production from a limitation of hours of work, in the interest of capital sunk, taxes, &c.; if we must pay the same wages for ten as twelve hours, the increased cost would be in the same proportion as the diminution of time: if we reduce wages in proportion to the reduction of time, still the increased cost would be about four per cent.

A. 31.—We see no objection, but have never tried extra hours.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 33.



Lancashire.

Robert Knowles.

- A. 33.—We never have employed a night set of hands, and hope we never shall.
- A. 37.—Injustice to masters, and cruelty to workpeople, as both would suffer in their income; unless something can be done to enable the workpeople to get the same wages, and the masters the same profit, or an equivalent in some other way.
- A. 38.—We prefer about 70°.
- A. 39.—Not more than 75°.
- A. 40.—All our hands, say three hundred.
- A. 53.—From eight to half past eight o'clock for breakfast; from twelve to a quarter before one o'clock for dinner; from four to half past four o'clock for tea. The three quarters of an hour for dinner was at the request of the workpeople, that they might leave a quarter of an hour sooner at night.
- A. 54.—All.
- A. 57.—The most common means used is to turn them away from our employment.
- A. 58.—Yes, but this is not often resorted to.
- A. 59.—By overlookers, parents, and by spinners.
- A. 61.—We neither sanction nor suffer it improperly.
- A. 63.—Our general instructions are not to use corporal punishments, but to turn them away.
- A. 64.—Never.
- A. 65.—We have only six houses; five of which are occupied by our hands.
- A. 66.—We cannot answer this question to our satisfaction, as we have seen it sometimes one way and sometimes the other.
- A. 67.—We have no material facts to state: the people are generally healthy.
- A. 68.—No particularly injurious processes are carried on.
- A. 69.—We think it is generally so.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—We hope our neighbours will give the information you require.
- A. 75.—Yes; but some of them got off without paying the fine.
- A. 76.—It is our opinion that evidence is not easily obtained.
- A. 77.—Yes.
- A. 78.—We cannot suggest any satisfactory scale of penalties, or any other means to secure obedience to the present law; but we sincerely wish that an efficient law may be made to answer these purposes.

ROBERT KNOWLES, for Roger, Holland &amp; Co.

No. 111.  
Joseph Ware.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH WARE, for John Lum &amp; Co.

- A. 1.—Little Bolton, in the county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Preparing and spinning cotton yarn.
- A. 3.—One part was erected about 1802, another part in 1812, and the other part in 1824.
- A. 4.—Regular power; a steam engine of sixty horse power.
- A. 5.—There are casements to the windows.
- A. 7.—The workpeople open and shut the casements as they find it necessary.
- A. 8.—We consider the dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—There is a tap in the yard, which has been supplied by the waterworks company with water about five years.
- A. 10.—Nine years.
- A. 11.—It does not.
- A. 12.—Less proportion.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturdays.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seven hours.
- A. 22.—All the works are carried on at the same time, except in case of accident by the breaking of machinery.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 25.—When the works have been stopped from accident or otherwise, we have worked one hour extra for six successive days.
- A. 26.—Avoidable.
- A. 27.—About eight or ten years ago we worked seventy-two hours in the week.
- A. 28.—The cost is increased.
- A. 29.—The production of a greater quantity of yarn at a less expence and less capital.
- A. 30.—The cost is increased, as the taxes, insurance, and interest upon capital sunk, would be the same with a less as a greater production.
- A. 31.—We do not consider extra hours necessary.
- A. 32.—Not having tried the system, cannot answer.
- A. 33.—We have not employed night hands.

A. 36.



- A. 36.—We should be placed more in a state of equality in the cost of production.  
 A. 37.—Injurious, as tending either to reduce wages, or increase the cost of production.  
 A. 38.—The usual temperature is about 70°: it varies very little, and no process requires a different temperature from the other.  
 A. 40.—We have stated before there is no difference.  
 A. 46.—They are not.  
 A. 50.—With gas in the winter.  
 A. 51.—The same as in the day.  
 A. 52.—We consider working in the night with males and females indiscriminately must have a demoralizing tendency.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all.  
 A. 55.—A few stop for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—We consider they might all leave without any injurious effect.  
 A. 57.—First remonstrate, next discharge them.  
 A. 58.—Not with our knowledge.  
 A. 60.—In one or two instances.  
 A. 63.—We have given verbal instructions.  
 A. 64.—We believe not.  
 A. 65.—About fifty workpeople under no control, but who have their houses whitewashed once a year.  
 A. 66.—They are generally employed when young.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—We have not.  
 A. 73.—We believe they do, with a very few exceptions.  
 A. 74.—In one or two instances.  
 A. 75.—We believe they have.  
 A. 77.—We consider not.  
 A. 78.—We consider that the present law, if properly enforced by heavier penalties, amply sufficient for the protection of children employed in factories.  
 A. 79.—We think that night-work has a very bad effect both upon the health and morals of the persons employed, and pray for its total abolition.

JOSEPH WARE, for John Lum & Co.

Lancashire.  
 —  
 Joseph Ware.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. ORMROD &amp; HARDCASTLE, Great Bolton and Westleigh.

No. 112.  
 Ormrod & Hard-  
 castle.

- A. 1.—Cotton mills in the townships of Great Bolton and Westleigh, all in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing cotton yarns and cloth.  
 A. 3.—We have in Great Bolton, viz. Taylor Field, purchased in 1808, enlarged in 1822 and 1825; Weston Street mill, built in 1816; Flash Street mill, built about 1798, burnt down and rebuilt in 1818; Bull Field mill, purchased in 1826; Power-loom mill, built in 1827; and Westleigh mills we have occupied as tenants for twenty-one years.  
 A. 4.—All by steam power, total two hundred horses power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—We have provided casements in the windows, which, on being opened, admits of a free circulation of air.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all, or any of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—They are.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age, and few, if any, have been previously employed.  
 A. 11.—It does not.  
 A. 12.—No alteration that we have made, has altered our position in respect thereof.  
 A. 13.—We have no apprentices.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for all ages.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixty-two.  
 A. 22.—All under the same regulation.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours for five days, and eight hours and a half on Saturdays.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When accidents have happened to our machinery, we have afterwards made up the time lost in consequence thereof, by working an additional half to one hour per day; and when holydays have been given, we have pursued the same plan.  
 A. 26.—Accidents are unavoidable; but granting leave for holydays may be dispensed with.  
 A. 27.—We did at one time work Westleigh mill thirteen hours per day, but that has not been systematically done for the last sixteen years.  
 A. 28.—There can be no doubt the cost of production is enhanced by the diminution of the hours of labour.

(APP.—D. 1.)

F f

A. 29.



Lancashire.

Ormrod & Hard-  
castle.

A. 29.—We are not aware of the existence of such practices.

A. 30.—As we have been uniform in our time of working, we cannot give a practical answer to this query.

A. 33.—We have no night-work.

A. 37.—It is our opinion, that the probable effects of any material diminution of the working hours would prove injurious to both workmen and masters, inasmuch as foreign competition would prevent such an advance in the price of goods, as would meet the increased cost of production; and as manufacturers have large capital invested in buildings and machinery, they would be generally driven to either working that machinery during the night, or reducing the rate of wages paid to their workpeople.

A. 38.—The temperature we require is about 70°, and we might perhaps be able to carry on our work a few degrees below that.

A. 39.—Our dressing-rooms about 80°.

A. 40.—Sixteen.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and an hour at dinner, for all.

A. 54.—They almost all go; if any remain, it is their own pleasure to do so.

A. 57.—We rebuke them if they neglect their duty; and if that does not serve, we discharge them.

A. 58.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 63.—Where we have had complaints from children, the persons complained against have been informed that they would not be permitted to inflict corporal punishment.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—A great number of our workpeople live in houses belonging to ourselves, which we keep in good repair; but we interfere in no way whatever with their domestic affairs.

A. 66.—Almost all our workpeople have been employed from infancy; and from our opinion of their being more skilful, in consequence thereof, we are unwilling to give employment to those who have not.

A. 67.—We are not sensible of any material difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—We consider this answered by our answers to previous questions.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—We have no reason to know that they are.

A. 78.—We have not studied the Time Bill, and have not had any opportunity of judging of the efficiency or inefficiency of the present law, and have no suggestions to make.

PETER ORMROD.

## ANSWERS of JAMES ROTHWELL, Great Bolton.

No. 113.

James Rothwell.

A. 1.—Great Bolton, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Spinning and carding.

A. 3.—1824.

A. 4.—Steam, twenty-four horse.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—Open windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all.

A. 8.—All dangerous fenced off.

A. 9.—Spring water.—Five years ago.

A. 10.—Nine years.—No other trade under that age.

A. 11.—The wages would be too much, if above that age.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17 &amp; 18.—Twelve, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—When we have lost three or four hours by repairs, we make it up half an hour per day extra.

A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighty hours.

A. 22.—All together.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve and a half.

A. 25.—At no time but when time lost by repairs.

A. 26.—Not avoidable, except we deduct the wage from the hands, which would much inconvenience them.

A. 27.—Never, since the last Act was made.

A. 29.—Profit.

A. 30.—If the hours are limited, the production will cost more.

A. 31.—Impossible to find hands sufficient.

A. 32.—Not been tried, for the cause stated above.

A. 33.—None.

A. 36.—Hands more plentiful, and their morals better protected.

A. 37.—In part the ruin of our trade, and no good to the workpeople, as wages would be certainly reduced.

A. 38.



- A. 38.—As near as we can ascertain, from 70° to 80°.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—Until half past seven at night; gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 57.—Discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—Yes, to the overlooker; not to see any children punished, but if they do not behave properly, discharge them.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—Part do, and part not.  
 A. 66.—If inured to the trade in early years, they are more effective.  
 A. 67.—Not in the least; their health has generally remained stationary.  
 A. 68.—None, there is no occasion.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—With one or two exceptions, they conform to the Act; and no steps have been taken to compel the others.  
 A. 77.—Have no means of ascertaining.  
 A. 78 & 79.—None.

Lancashire.

James Rothwell.

JAMES ROTHWELL.

## ANSWERS of JAMES TAYLOR, Bolton.

- A. 1.—Bolton, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Carding, roving, and spinning.  
 A. 5.—1803, 1811, 1829.  
 A. 4.—Steam, sixteen horses.  
 A. 5 & 6.—On the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—They are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None.  
 A. 10.—Ten years.  
 A. 11.—It does require children under twelve.  
 A. 12.—Fewer in number.  
 A. 13.—We have three at present.  
 A. 14.—They are not.  
 A. 15.—We have no orphan in our employ.  
 A. 16.—They have not.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 23.—Twelve.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen.  
 A. 25.—Through breaking of some part of the machinery.  
 A. 26.—It may be avoided by the loss of the wages.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 28.—No alteration has ever been made here.  
 A. 29.—To get money.  
 A. 30.—Never having made the experiment cannot answer this.  
 A. 31.—None.  
 A. 32 & 33.—Never.  
 A. 38.—From 60° to 70°: cannot be conducted under 60°.  
 A. 39.—70°.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—None.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 55.—They are all at liberty.  
 A. 57.—Regard to their wages.  
 A. 58.—Not with our consent.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—They do not.  
 A. 67.—There is no marked change.  
 A. 68.—Never.  
 A. 69.—For any thing we know.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 75.—Don't know.  
 A. 77.—We have no reason.

No. 114.  
James Taylor.

JAMES TAYLOR.



Lancashire.

No. 115.  
Thomas Taylor.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS TAYLOR, Jun. Bolton.

- A. 1.—Bolton, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Carding, roving, and spinning cotton.  
 A. 3.—We bought the premises March 18th, 1825, and raised them a story in 1830. We never employed them for any other purpose.  
 A. 4.—Sixteen-horse engine. Regular.  
 A. 5.—We have casements made to open. We have no particular description to give of the effects produced; only to air the rooms and make them more healthy and comfortable.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—All of them.  
 A. 9.—We have a tap of water in the yard from the water works, and a stone cistern, to which all the hands have free access. And we enjoin it and insist upon it, that every individual in our employ shall be well washed every morning between eight and half past eight o'clock. Some part of these arrangements are of some years standing; none of them less, to the best of our recollection, than eight or ten months. Other matters we leave to their own discretion.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. We have none so young at present.  
 A. 11.—It makes no difference to us; the children are employed and paid by our servants.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—Two hired servants.  
 A. 14.—They have not.  
 A. 15.—We have none such.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours except Saturdays; nine on Saturdays. We make no difference.  
 A. 19.—Not more than thirteen that we know of.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy-six is the nearest we can tell.  
 A. 22.—We have had no material variation of this kind.  
 A. 23.—About eleven and a half.  
 A. 25.—At no time but when lost by repairs.  
 A. 26.—We consider that no excess beyond the regular hours is indispensably necessary, except to fetch up lost time.  
 A. 27.—Not the whole of it.  
 A. 28.—It must be the case.  
 A. 29.—His own benefit.  
 A. 30.—According to our calculation, when we have reduced the wages of our stated hands and taken off a proper proportion of every other expence which is affected by it, it considerably enhances the cost price, besides turning off one sixth less work. Of course the above answer refers to a reduction from twelve to ten hours.  
 A. 31.—We know of none.  
 A. 32.—We have not been in the habit of working extra hours.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—We think it would be beneficial, inasmuch as it would place manufacturers upon one and the same footing.  
 A. 37.—It would enhance the cost price of yarns, and reduce the wages of labour.  
 A. 38.—From 65° to 75°.  
 A. 39.—About 70°.  
 A. 40.—The same temperature will do for all.  
 A. 46.—We have no such process.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—None, but same as the day.  
 A. 52.—We are not capable of giving a particular answer to this question, but we should think bad.  
 A. 53.—All of them have from eight o'clock to half past, in the morning, for breakfast, and from twelve to one at noon, to dinner.  
 A. 54.—We do not require any hands to stop in the mill during meal times.  
 A. 56.—They all are expected to be taken out, except tea in the afternoon.  
 A. 57.—We have no particular means, except discharging them.  
 A. 58.—Very seldom.  
 A. 59.—By those of our servants that employ them.  
 A. 60.—Not to any extent.  
 A. 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—We have forbidden it.  
 A. 63.—We have seen no occasion, being generally on the premises ourselves, or some of us.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—Five of them, and four of them are steady members of a religious body. In fact, we do not consider that any of them require our interference in their domestic concerns.  
 A. 67.—There has been no marked difference since we commenced the business.

A. 69.



- A. 69.—For any thing we know.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 77.—No particular reason.  
 A. 78.—We believe the present law to be sufficient, if it had provision for entirely stopping night-work.  
 A. 79.—None.

Lancashire.

Thomas Taylor.

THOMAS TAYLOR, Jun.

## ANSWERS of B. WILLIAMS, Jun. and Co., Broughton, Manchester.

No. 116.

B. Williams.

- A. 1.—Broughton, in the parish of Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Silk-throwing and manufacturing.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1822.  
 A. 4.—Steam, thirty horses.  
 A. 5 & 6.—All the windows are made to open, and can be opened by any person in the room; but this is mostly done by the overlooker, when necessary, but any of the hands may do it if they think proper; there is also a portion of the top part of each pane of glass cut off, that affords a continued circulation, which cannot be stopped, and is always left open.  
 A. 7.—It is entirely at their own discretion.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—All the hands are allowed soap and water to wash with, and can change their clothing if they think proper; this has been allowed ever since the mill was erected.  
 A. 10.—Nine to ten years of age.  
 A. 11.—No; but if children under twelve years are to work at all, they cannot have a more healthy employment than the silk trade, as there is no flue or waste flying about the room.  
 A. 12.—No difference in our trade.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—They live with their parents or relatives, and consequently are seen by them every day.  
 A. 17.—Eleven hours five days per week, and eight hours and a half on a Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The same hours as those of twenty-one years of age.  
 A. 19.—Not more than specified above.  
 A. 20.—As near fifty weeks as may be, taking six days to each week.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The inducement is to obtain a greater return from the same outlay of rent and machinery; it is a great evil, and ought to be put a stop to immediately.  
 A. 33.—We have not worked in the night.  
 A. 38.—We do not want any artificial heat for the purposes of our manufactory; we only have it for the comfort of the hands employed during the winter season.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas light.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Any that choose to leave may do so.  
 A. 58 & 64.—No.

B. WILLIAMS, Jun. &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM RATHBONE GREG, Bury.

No. 117.

W. R. Greg.

- A. 1.—Parish of Bury, county of Lancashire. The name of the firm is Samuel Greg & Co.  
 A. 2.—Cotton; carding, roving, spinning, winding, warping, dressing, and weaving by power-looms.  
 A. 3.—The chief part of the building dates from 1823. A weaving shed and mechanics' shop, from 1827. A scutching-room, &c. 1828.  
 A. 4.—The mill is worked by steam.  
 A. 5.—None beyond the windows; the number of which, in each room, varies from eight to thirty-four, in proportion to the size of the room.  
 A. 7.—The overlookers of each room; and the older hands have liberty to open or shut the windows as they please. It not unfrequently happens, that the workmen shut the windows which the proprietor has opened.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts are boxed up or fenced off, with one exception, which it is in contemplation to do immediately.  
 A. 9.—They are allowed to wash in a small reservoir within the precincts of the establishment; and a large proportion of them avail themselves of this at breakfast and dinner.—It is intended to introduce washing-troughs into each room, as soon as can be done conveniently.  
 A. 10.—Nine years old.  
 A. 11.—Certainly not. We would even prefer to employ none under twelve, could  
 (APP.—D. 1.) G g children



Lancashire.

W. R. Greg.

children of that age be found in sufficient numbers; but allowing them to work in factories at the age of nine, is a great accommodation to their parents.

A. 12.—No. In some processes, as in the preparation for carding, rather the contrary. Several recent alterations, however, render possible, and therefore advisable, a greater number of persons under twenty years.

A. 13.—No; none.

A. 15.—I have only found one; a boy of eleven years, who lives with his grandfather, and is well cared for.

A. 17.—Twelve hours a day, and nine on Saturday; average, eleven hours and a half.

A. 18.—The same as above. No difference is made. It is almost impossible to work a mill unless all hands, young and old, are present.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and five minutes.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-three hours.

A. 22.—I cannot find that we have ever worked one part of our machinery longer than another.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty-one minutes.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours and five minutes.

A. 25.—Only in case of accidents happening to machinery. The time lost was (the whole or a part) then worked up according to law.

A. 26.—If we are not allowed to work up lost time, the sacrifice, both to ourselves and our workmen, will often be considerable.

A. 27.—Before Sir John Hobhouse's bill, we generally worked seventy-two hours per week.

A. 28.—Most certainly.

A. 29.—It will be obvious to the Commissioners, as men acquainted with commercial science, that the greater quantity of yarn a spinner can produce in a given time from the same machinery, the smaller will be the amount of contingent expences, and interest of sunk capital, on each pound of yarn; and, consequently, the cheaper each pound will be produced.

A. 30.—To answer this question accurately, would require a minuteness of calculation it is impossible to arrive at. As a general fact, however, it is certain that *any* limitation of hours of labour *must* enhance the cost of production.

As no bodily labour is exerted in throstle or water-spinning, the children shew no appearance of exhaustion after twelve hours work; of course, the produce is as the time worked.

Our produce in 69 hours, is 17,000lbs. The cost, 4d. per pound (less, a small fraction,).

Working 72 hours would reduce it to 3.83d.

— 60 — increase it to 4.6d.

|                              | d. | £ | s.  | d.   |
|------------------------------|----|---|-----|------|
| 72 hours at 3.83 is per week | -  | - | 271 | 5 10 |
| 69 — at 4 — —                | -  | - | 283 | 6 8  |
| 60 — at 4.6 — —              | -  | - | 325 | 16 8 |

The reduction of time } causes a loss weekly of £12 0 10 or per ann. of £ 626 3 4  
from 72 to 69 hours }  
— 69 to 60 — — — of 42 10 0 — of 2210 0 0  
— 72 to 60 — — — of 54 10 10 — of 2836 3 4

This is a positive loss to the spinner, and a benefit to no one, should the health of the children not suffer from working twelve hours; and that it does not, an experience of forty-eight years leads me to believe: and that the earnings of the children in the three years of 2s., 4s. 3d., and 6s. 9d., must add to the comforts and well-being of the families none will deny; and does not the positive good done more than compensate the imagined, but unascertained injury, asserted as done to the health of the children?

A. 31.—The objection is a practical one. A sufficient number of hands could not be found. In my mill I employ five hundred and forty-four hands, of whom three hundred and twenty-nine are under twenty-one years of age.

A. 32.—We have never worked in the night, and therefore have never required an extra set of workpeople.

A. 36.—It would rather benefit us than otherwise (as we never work by night), by restricting such of our competitors as do.

A. 37.—I conceive the effects would be two-fold. *First*, a reduction of wages, which would injure the workmen. *Second*, an increased inability to meet foreign competitors in foreign markets, which would ruin the master, and of course, the workman too.

Import of cotton, 270,000,000lbs.; average number spun, 40 hanks; cost of production, 5d. per pound in 69 hours. Reduction of time to 10 hours, will increase the cost of production to 5¾d. per pound.

|                              |   |   |   |                |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|----------------|
| 69 hours at 5d. per pound is | - | - | - | £5,625,000 0 0 |
| 60 — at 5¾d. — —             | - | - | - | 6,468,750 0 0  |

Loss to the spinner, and of course to the nation - 843,750 0 0

Consequent on a reduction of time to ten hours, to which is to be added the loss on all power-loom works, as follows:—

The number of power-looms is 75,000, each turning off 30lbs. on an average weekly.  
One



One weaver works two looms. Wages 10s. or 2d. per pound.—For sixty-nine hours, the cost is 2d. per pound. At sixty hours, it would be increased to 2·3d. per pound.

75,000 looms at 30lbs. is 2,250,000lbs.

|                      |    |         |    |   |
|----------------------|----|---------|----|---|
| 2,250,000lbs. at 2d. | is | £18,750 | 0  | 0 |
| — at 2·3d.           | is | 21,562  | 10 | 0 |

|                                |   |   |       |    |              |
|--------------------------------|---|---|-------|----|--------------|
| Difference being lost per week | - | - | 2,812 | 10 | 0            |
| or per ann.                    | - | - | -     | -  | £146,250 0 0 |

|                                              |   |   |   |   |            |
|----------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|------------|
| Other hands in various connected operations, | } | - | - | - | 73,125 0 0 |
| equals half the number of weavers            |   |   |   |   |            |

|                                                 |   |   |   |   |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| Loss to the power-loom weavers by the reduction | } | - | - | - | £219,375 0 0 per ann. |
| of time from 69 to 60 hours                     |   |   |   |   |                       |

The annexed statement shows the loss that will ensue from a reduction of time from sixty-nine to sixty hours to individuals and to the nation:—

|                         |   |   |   |          |   |   |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|
| Loss in spinning of     | - | - | - | £843,750 | 0 | 0 |
| — in power-loom weaving | - | - | - | 219,375  | 0 | 0 |

£1,063,125 0 0

Now if such be the effect on one manufacture, what will be that of such a restriction on the whole manufacturing population of the united kingdoms?—Restrict the children, and you restrict adults; both work together in aid of each other.—In Ireland, work is not to be had: here, labour is restricted.—Did any nation before ever think of restricting the industry and energies of its people?—In seasons of scarcity and of dearth (come they will), is it not to condemn the poor to misery, disease and death, with food before them, yet not allowed to use the powers which nature gave them to obtain it.

Mr. Melly, a gentleman now in Germany, transmits me the following details of cost of labour and provisions in the parts he has passed through:—

“April 3d.—Black Forest, St. Blaise, employ six hundred hands, four-fifths of whom children, work fourteen hours; twelve and a half compulsory, and one and a half optional, but in the last ten years not one has missed. Wages to men and women have been in the mill eight years, 8s. 4d.; children, after the first year, 4s. 3d. Provisions cheap; meat, 2½d. per seventeen ounces English.

“April 15th.—Borne, in Prussia. Two-thirds employed under twelve years; work fourteen hours, or eighty-four hours per week. Wages: men, 10½d. to 11d. per day; women, 6d.; and children, 2½d. to 3d. Price of provisions: bread, ½d. per pound; potatoes, 10d. for 98 pounds; beef, 3d.

“April.—Rhynalt and Gladbach, several mills work fourteen hours. Children two to one. Wages: men, 7s.; women, 4s.; children, 1s. 6d. Bread, ½d. per pound; potatoes, 25d. for 230 pounds; meat, 2½d.

“No duty on raw cotton: but 6s. per 98 pounds on English yarns.”

Thus situated, how can we continue to compete with foreign nations? wages double, provisions three-fold, time of work limited, a duty on the raw material.—Formerly, we supplied Switzerland entirely with yarns, and many goods; now, she not only supplies her own consumption, but exports. Every other European nation is endeavouring to do the same; and it must end in their success, and in our ruin. Those governments aid the exertions of their people, while ours depresses us by duties and restrictions; and their success, and our ruin, have been equally accelerated and assured by the exports of machinery being permitted by our government.—In the many hundreds of turn-outs which we have had, all have been for an increase of wages; none for a reduction of time.

This merits attention. Restrictions will not give food to the poor, nor wealth to the masters. Humanity is here very short-sighted. Restrictions on industry by reducing means, must lower consumption, and affect even the revenue.—We have ascertained, that of the earnings of families, one-sixth goes in sugar, tea, tobacco, and vinegar.

A. 38.—Actual temperature, Lowest possible for work,

Carding about 70° Fahr.

Carding - - 66°

Spinning - - 70° —

Spinning - - 68°

Weaving - - 70° —

Weaving - - 60°

Dressing - - 84° —

Dressing - - 80°

N. B.—If the dressing were on a different principle, as some new mills have it, a temperature of 70° might suffice.

A. 39.—Dressing requires the greatest heat, say 80° to 85° on the present plan, which I contemplate altering.

A. 40.—Fifteen hours; grown-up men.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—None particular.

A. 53.—An hour at dinner, and half an hour at breakfast, are allowed to all: but a few take it in turns to stay a quarter to half an hour, to clean machinery, at the dinner. The weavers stay for a quarter of an hour two days a week.

A. 54.—All who like: but those who live at a distance often dine and breakfast in the mill.

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A. 55.

Lancashire.

W. R. Greg.



Lancashire.

W. R. Greg.

A. 55.—Those who remain and dine or breakfast in the mill, do so for their own convenience; as when living at a distance, or on rainy days.

A. 56.—If the workpeople were obliged to take their meals out of the factory, it would be very unpleasant to them in wet weather.

A. 57.—Fines: that is, deductions from their wages, and any occasionally slight corporal punishments have been inflicted on young lads, when incorrigible by fines.

A. 58.—Only on young lads, when incorrigible by other means.

A. 59.—By foreman and overlookers.

A. 60, 61, 62.—Corporal punishments of the kind above alluded to, I have never interfered to prevent, as I know them to be occasionally requisite; but nothing like severity has ever been permitted.

A. 63.—They have always been strictly forbidden to punish with severity.

A. 64.—Never to my knowledge.

A. 65.—Some of my workpeople live in cottages belonging to the firm. The houses are kept in good repair; and a Sunday school is attached to the works, which is attended gratis by the children.

A. 66.—Between those who enter at nine years, and those who enter at twelve, we do not perceive any material difference in after life. Between those entering at twelve, and those entering at fifteen, we do.

A. 67.—As many of our workpeople have left us in the last ten years, and their places been filled by others, I can give no satisfactory answer to this query.

A. 68.—In a few instances I have changed the work, when I perceived it disagreed with the health of individuals, as in the blowing and carding mule.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never, to my knowledge.

A. 77.—With respect to this, I can only say, I know of no instance in which intimidation has been used; but I certainly should not like to keep a man in my employ, who had informed against me.

A. 78.—I cannot conceive that any law which interferes between master and servants, to the obvious detriment of both, can ever be rendered generally efficient.

A. 79.—I would simply say, that I consider the cotton trade stands in too precarious a condition to render any further restrictions upon it advisable or safe: and further, that any measure which reduces the profits of the master, must, *ipso facto*, reduce the wages of the workman also.

WILLIAM RATHBONE GREG.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN GREG, for Samuel Greg and Co., Caton.

No. 118.  
John Greg.

A. 1.—Caton, parish of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Water-spinning chiefly.

A. 3.—Begun in 1784, added to in 1820.

A. 4.—Water-power, varying from eighteen to fifty-five horses, the deficiency of which is supplied by a steam-engine when required.

A. 5 & 6.—A casement in every window, and every fourth window opens one half. Besides this, a fan is constantly going to carry away impure air.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlookers, under our control.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—They are supplied with the materials of aprons, for mill use, which are required to be washed every week.

A. 10.—Nine years; taken generally between ten and eleven; they seldom have any fixed employment previously.

A. 11.—It does not require them.

A. 12.—A greater proportion of children, but they need not be under twelve years.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days and nine on Saturday; but some of those above eighteen work half an hour per day longer if they please.

A. 18.—The same hours, but the children do not work over-time.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and six days, in fifty-two weeks from March 1832, to March 1833.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-four hours and a quarter in the above period.

A. 22.—They all work the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and seventeen minutes.

A. 25.—After scarcity or excess of water, and one case of repair.

A. 26.—It could not be avoided altogether, without considerable loss in country mills.

A. 27.—Before the present law, all above sixteen worked seventy-two hours.

A. 28.—It is enhanced, but as the reduction of hours was accompanied by a reduction of wages in part, the cost was not increased in the full proportion.

A. 29.



Lancashire.

John Greg.

A. 29.—Because there is more produce to bear the burthen of rent, interest, and the fixed expences of an establishment.

A. 30.—Certainly; especially in the spinning of water twist.

A. 31.—No objection, except that if many more children were required the neighbourhood would not supply them, and there are no houses to lodge them in if they were brought from a distance.

A. 32.—Never here.

A. 33.—We have not had night work within my recollection.

A. 37.—Any further reduction of hours would create great discontent and ill-will between a master and his workpeople. \* If the reduction included all hands, it would not, I believe, be followed by any reduction of wages; and, therefore, the cost of the yarn would be increased very nearly as much as the hours were limited. This would make it impossible to compete with foreign manufacturers in distant markets, to which three-quarters of our produce is sent. If the reduction of hours only extended to children, it would probably, here, and in most country places, have the effect of limiting the hours of all; relays of children being impracticable from the scarcity of population, and the number of children in our employ. Perhaps part of the machinery might be worked longer hours by adults, but this would be attended with great inconvenience.

A. 38.—In the spinning-rooms 65° to 70°. In the other rooms about 60° or 62°.

A. 39.—About 65° in the spinning.

A. 40.—Nearly fifty.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 53.—They have all the same meal hours, say, a quarter of an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, and a quarter of an hour at tea.

A. 54.—A few leave at breakfast and tea; nearly all leave at dinner; all may leave at dinner.

A. 55.—The meal times are arranged for their convenience as far as the law permits.

A. 56.—It would prolong the hours at night, and be very inconvenient to the people.

A. 57.—Frequent reproof and the fear of dismissal; fines are almost unknown; a stop is occasionally used to the boys, and to them only.

A. 59, 60, & 61.—By overlookers, who are, however, strictly responsible to us, and to the parents. One or two have occasionally been too severe, and have been sharply reproved.

A. 62.—I consider them sometimes necessary, and frequently the best punishment for boys. To strike a girl is never allowed.

A. 63.—We have given no instructions but those stated above.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Most of them live in our houses, which have been materially improved of late years; they are frequently visited and urged to cleanliness, to neatness. In some cases a workman is paid for that purpose. A day and Sunday school has been established, at our expence, which is well attended. A partner lives on the spot, and attends the school. We know that our interest and comfort depend upon our making our workpeople comfortable and contented, and we have always endeavoured to foster a confiding feeling towards us.

A. 66.—Those taken in the earliest generally become most skilful.

A. 67.—I believe the health of the people to have improved, because great pains have been taken to improve the wholesomeness both of the mill and cottages. The number of accidents has decreased tenfold. A great part of our people were, either themselves or their parents, originally drawn from town workhouses and hospitals, which sufficiently accounts for their inferiority to agricultural labourers in personal appearance.

A. 68.—We do, but not systematically; any reasonable request for change on the score of health is granted.

A. 69.—It is: the machinery only runs sixty-nine hours each week.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—I believe that fear is but slight, and would not prevent them giving evidence if called upon.

A. 78.—The present penalties are severe enough, if enforced by an officer appointed to superintend mills with the express purpose of binding all to the provisions of the present act. All mills should be included as well as cotton. Children might be excluded till ten years old; but the present hours cannot be safely curtailed.

JOHN GREG, for SAMUEL GREG & Co.

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\* This mill being very distant from Liverpool and Manchester, the two markets for purchases of cotton and sale of twist, the wages are necessarily very low, and any farther reduction would cause the population to *migrate*.—R. GREG.



Lancashire.

John Greg.

EXTRACT FROM THE MILL BOOKS DURING THE WHOLE PERIOD OF THAT TIME.

## No. I.

—No omission—

Low Mill, Caton, May 1833.

List of Persons employed at this Mill, with the Time they have worked here, and the Length of Time they have been ill.

A + is affixed to the Names of Persons under eighteen years of age.

A ✓ is affixed to the Names of those who cannot recollect before the time mentioned.

| Name.                  | Time here. | Particulars of Length of Illness.                                       |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ Richard Linkinson -  | 16 years.  | One day and a half in five years.                                       |
| ✓ George Major -       | 19 —       | No illness in the last ten years.                                       |
| Thomas Brown -         | 2 —        | No illness.                                                             |
| + Richard Ashworth -   | 8 —        | Ditto.                                                                  |
| + John Bainbridge -    | 9 —        | One week.                                                               |
| + Thomas Birket -      | 9 —        | Thirty weeks.                                                           |
| + John White -         | 5 —        | Three ditto.                                                            |
| + Roger Proctor -      | 2 —        | Half a day.                                                             |
| + James Gudgeon -      | 1 —        | { One month, in consequence of arm<br>broken, playing in a lane.        |
| Barbara Slinger -      | nearly 1 — | Three quarters of a day.                                                |
| ✓ Margaret Thwaits -   | 8 —        | Seven days and a half in five years.                                    |
| Mary Minikin -         | 3 months.  | No illness.                                                             |
| Ann Adamson -          | 9 —        | Two days and a half.                                                    |
| Hasphy Procter -       | 7 years.   | Seven ditto.                                                            |
| John Walmsly -         | 6 —        | No illness.                                                             |
| John Harrison -        | 40 —       | About half a year.                                                      |
| Henry Fowler -         | 5½ —       | Ditto two days.                                                         |
| ✓ John Lloyd -         | 19 —       | Ditto two weeks in six years.                                           |
| George Garner -        | 12 —       | Ditto nine days.                                                        |
| John Harrison, jun. -  | 8 —        | Ditto one week.                                                         |
| + John Denny -         | 4 or 5 —   | No illness.                                                             |
| + ✓ Thomas Nicholson - | 6 —        | Three weeks in one year.                                                |
| + James Nicholson -    | nearly 4 — | Seventeen days.                                                         |
| + John Nicholson -     | 1 —        | Half a day.                                                             |
| + ✓ Robert Wilson -    | 3 —        | Four days and a half in the last year.                                  |
| + William Bond -       | 2 months.  | No illness.                                                             |
| + John Bleasdale -     | 2½ years.  | Four weeks.                                                             |
| Elizabeth Tennant -    | 3 months.  | One day.                                                                |
| Mary Brown -           | 2 years.   | One month.                                                              |
| ✓ M. A. Harrison -     | 18 —       | Nine weeks in last nine years.                                          |
| Margaret Walmsly -     | 5 or 6 —   | One week.                                                               |
| Bella Loyd -           | 4 months.  | Two weeks.                                                              |
| Betty Peed -           | 9 years.   | Three or four days.                                                     |
| Margaret Clough -      | 34 —       | Fourteen weeks.                                                         |
| + John Janson -        | 5 —        | Five weeks.                                                             |
| + Lawrence Janson -    | 4 —        | Half a year.                                                            |
| + John Slinger -       | 4 —        | Five months.                                                            |
| + Thomas Jackson -     | 2 —        | Three days and three-quarters.                                          |
| + ✓ Jacob Smith -      | 2 —        | { Hands twice hurt by machinery, bones<br>not injured; off a long time. |
| + James Atkinson -     | 6 months.  | No illness.                                                             |
| + Agnes Clough -       | 1½ years.  | Two weeks.                                                              |
| Henry Bennet -         | 19 —       | One year.                                                               |
| + Alice Savage -       | 9 —        | No illness.                                                             |
| Ellen Smith -          | 5 —        | Ditto.                                                                  |
| Susan Williamson -     | 11 —       | One week.                                                               |
| + Bella Dean -         | 1 —        | Seven weeks.                                                            |
| + William White -      | 5 —        | Half a day.                                                             |
| + William Raws -       | 4 —        | Nine days.                                                              |
| + ✓ Jane Foxcroft -    | 8 —        | Nine days in last two years.                                            |
| ✓ Nancy Garner -       | 9 —        | No illness in three years.                                              |
| ✓ Betty Garner -       | 7 —        | Six days in two years.                                                  |
| Mary Peed -            | —          | Absent.                                                                 |
| William Birket -       | 9 —        | Six days.                                                               |
| ✓ Robert Murphy -      | 23 —       | { Twenty-four days, and some time<br>with hand hurt.                    |



| Name.                  | Time here.         | Particulars of Length of Illness.         |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| + William Murphy -     | 2 years.           | Ten weeks.                                |
| + Christ. Williamson - | 9 —                | One week.                                 |
| William Butterworth    | 11 —               | One day.                                  |
| + Joseph Butterworth   | 1 —                | No illness.                               |
| + Robert Townley -     | 4 —                | Ditto.                                    |
| ✓ Henry Baker - -      | 19 —               | Ditto in sixteen years.                   |
| + William Foxcroft -   | 8 —                | Two days.                                 |
| + Matio Waterhouse     | 6 —                | Three months ill with fever.              |
| + Eliz. Foster - -     | 8 months.          | Three weeks.                              |
| Betty Harker -         |                    | Much illness; absent.                     |
| + ✓ Ellen Sandwell -   | 4 years.           | Two weeks in two years.                   |
| ✓ Betty Carr - -       | 14 —               | Eight weeks in fourteen years.            |
| ✓ Betty Bainbridge -   | 8 —                | Four weeks three quarters in three years. |
| + Robert Smith -       | 5 —                | No illness.                               |
| ✓ Betty Harrison -     | 22 —               | Eleven weeks and a half in six years.     |
| + Alice Smith - -      | 5 —                | Half a day.                               |
| ✓ Ann Cussit - -       | 18 —               | Four days in three years.                 |
| ✓ Nancy Peed - -       | 13 —               | Three days in two years.                  |
| Alice Nicholson -      | 9 —                | Five months.                              |
| + Betty Gudgeon - -    | 1 $\frac{1}{6}$ —  | One week.                                 |
| + Bella Janson - -     | 10 —               | One month.                                |
| Betty Proctor - -      | 7 —                | Four months.                              |
| ✓ Jane Harker - -      | 11 —               | Sixteen days in two years.                |
| + ✓ Eliz. Williamson - | 9 —                | Cannot tell; ill several short periods.   |
| + ✓ Bella Metcalf - -  | 4 —                | Two days in two years.                    |
| + Eliz. Metcalf - -    | 5 —                | One day.                                  |
| + Mary Adamson -       | 9 months.          | No illness.                               |
| + Eliza Gibson - -     | 4 years.           | Two weeks.                                |
| + William Heaps -      | 3 months.          | No illness.                               |
| + Jane M'Cracken -     | 3 —                | Quarter of a day.                         |
| + Ellen Parkinson -    | 5 weeks.           | No illness.                               |
| + ✓ Betty Foxcroft -   | 4 years.           | Twelve weeks in three years.              |
| + E. H. Clarke - -     | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ —  | Two months.                               |
| ✓ George Raws - -      | 33 —               | Three weeks in twenty years.              |
| + James Wilson -       | 9 —                | Fifteen weeks and two days.               |
| + Henry Raws - -       | 3 —                | Three days.                               |
| + Bryan Bleasdale -    | 4 —                | One month.                                |
| + John Sandwell -      | 2 —                | Nine days.                                |
| + Mary Foster - -      | 8 months.          | One-fourth of a day.                      |
| + M. A. Clarke - -     | 1 year.            | Two weeks.                                |
| ✓ Margaret Clarke -    | 18 —               | Four weeks in three years.                |
| + Alice Foxcroft -     | 5 —                | Three weeks.                              |
| ✓ Betty Lamb - -       | 11 —               | Four weeks in eight years.                |
| Ann Foxcroft - -       | 10 —               | Three weeks.                              |
| Jane Metcalf - -       | 12 —               | Three days.                               |
| Betty Ashworth -       | 25 —               | Three years.                              |
| Mary Nicholson -       | 9 —                | Half a year.                              |
| ✓ Catherine Trotter -  | 19 —               | Two months in three years.                |
| + Ann Procter - -      | 5 —                | Nine days.                                |
| + Judith Dean - -      | 1 —                | Eight days.                               |
| + Hannah Williamson    | 6 —                | Five weeks.                               |
| + Mary White - -       | 5 —                | Nine days.                                |
| + Margaret Savage -    | 6 —                | Two weeks.                                |
| + Margaret Clarke -    | 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ —  | Two days.                                 |
| Betty Sinkinson -      | 19 —               | Nineteen weeks.                           |
| Edward Milner -        | 36 —               | Twelve weeks.                             |
| ✓ Rachel Livsey - -    | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ — | Four weeks in half a year.                |
| Mary Milner - -        | 9 —                | Eight weeks.                              |
| Agnes Foxcroft -       | 9 —                | One week.                                 |
| + Sarah Williamson -   | 4 —                | Three months.                             |
| + Alice Birket - -     | 6 —                | Thirteen weeks.                           |
| + Mary Dean - -        | 1 —                | Absent.                                   |
| + William Gudgeon -    | 1 —                | Two days.                                 |
| + John Gudgeon -       | 1 —                | One week.                                 |
| + Hannah White -       | 4 —                | Four weeks.                               |
| + John Hinger - -      | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ —  | One week.                                 |
| + John Foxcroft -      | 1 —                | Ditto.                                    |
| + Margaret Armstrong   | 1 —                | Ten weeks; hurt.                          |
| Alice Cooper - -       | 10 —               | No illness.                               |

(APP.—D. 1.)

Lancashire.

John Greg.



Lancashire.

John Greg.

| Name.                            | Time here. | Particulars of Length of Illness.                                                      |
|----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mary Cooper -                    | 15 years.  | Eight weeks.                                                                           |
| ✓ Betty Wilson - -               | 35 —       | One week in four years.                                                                |
| Betty Foxcroft -                 | 42 —       | Ten weeks.                                                                             |
| ✓ Mary Peed - -                  | 17 —       | Thirty-six weeks in two years.                                                         |
| + Jane Gibson - -                | 6 —        | One week.                                                                              |
| + Bella Gibson - -               | 6 —        | Ten weeks.                                                                             |
| + Mary Bennett -                 | 3 —        | Three weeks.                                                                           |
| + Martha Bennett -               | 1 —        | One week.                                                                              |
| + Betty Birket - -               | 9 —        | Sixteen weeks.                                                                         |
| Nanny Walker -                   | 27 —       | { Fourteen years ; thirteen years out<br>of the fourteen, ill with pain in<br>stomach. |
| Ann Howson - -                   | 5 —        | Thirty-two weeks.                                                                      |
| + Bella Wilson - -               | 3½ —       | Seven weeks.                                                                           |
| + ✓ Nancy Bainbridge -           | 6 —        | Eleven weeks in three years.                                                           |
| + Bella Sandwell - -             |            | Absent.                                                                                |
| Catherine Waterhouse             | 14 —       | One year and a half.                                                                   |
| Catherine M <sup>c</sup> Cracken | 3 months.  | Two weeks.                                                                             |
| Agnes Kirby - -                  | 4 —        | No illness.                                                                            |

The above 140, with ten mechanics and labourers, make up the total number of people we employ.

## No. II.

In the last two years, five persons have been dismissed for bad conduct; two, because there was no work, and one removed to another mill.

In same time thirty-three persons have left of their own accord.

## No. III.

List of Accidents that have happened here in the last ten years.

Richard Turner - Hand severely scratched by card.  
 John Procter - - Ditto Ditto.  
 Jacob Smith - - Ditto Ditto.  
 John Raws - - Side hurt with scutcher wheel ; five weeks ill.  
 Margaret Armstrong Hand hurt with winding spindle.  
 William Ovens - - End of finger nipped off.

All the above persons are now in good health, their wounds having merely left scars.  
 Wages not paid during illness, but half wages allowed from the sick club, which has been bankrupt.

No. 119.  
T. & R. Barnes.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS and ROBERT BARNES, Chorlton-upon-Medlock.

- A. 1.—Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester, Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Fine spinning and lace-thread making.  
 A. 3.—Original erection about thirty years ago; an addition about six years ago, being adapted to the present purposes at that time.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power, fifty-five horse.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Every window opens with the exception of the attic, where there are air-holes in the roof.  
 A. 7.—At the option of either foreman or workmen.  
 A. 8.—Certainly, all.  
 A. 9.—Several; as it is the custom of the workpeople to take part of their clothes off on entering, and put them on again on leaving their work; have had these arrangements six years.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; not employed in any other trade.  
 A. 11.—It is an advantage, inasmuch as you obtain a child of ten or eleven for less than one of twelve.  
 A. 12.—About the same.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturdays.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and six.  
 A. 21 & 22.—Three thousand five hundred and sixteen hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.



- A. 25.—By misfortune with steam-engines.  
 A. 26.—Always liable to misfortunes with steam-engine.  
 A. 27.—Never.  
 A. 29.—To obtain more work from his machinery, consequently a better return for his sunk capital.  
 A. 30.—If the hours are decreased one-sixth, the cost will be increased one-sixth.  
 A. 31.—In fine spinning two sets cannot be employed.  
 A. 36.—The demand would be more regular, for when the demand improves a little, for a time some people put on a night set of hands and glut the market, which causes them to turn off the night hands, and consequently creates great distress.  
 A. 37.—It would add considerably to the cost of the article.  
 A. 38.—65° to 75°.  
 A. 39.—75°.  
 A. 40.—Four hundred and fifty.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 52.—Demoralizing in the extreme; by all means it should be prohibited.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All, if they think proper.  
 A. 55.—At their own option.  
 A. 56.—Very annoying to the people, as many of them live at a distance.  
 A. 57.—Discharging, or by fines.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 63.—Every man who beats a child is discharged.  
 A. 64 & 65.—None.  
 A. 66.—Persons employed early have an advantage.  
 A. 67.—Much improved. Provisions and clothes cheap, and their receipts about the same, enables them to live and clothe better.  
 A. 68.—None.  
 A. 69.—Certainly.  
 A. 70.—Once; eight or ten years ago, were informed against for working fifteen minutes over the time allowed by the Act, but the person who summoned us was not aware we had lost the time with the engine.  
 A. 71.—No.  
 A. 73.—Yes.  
 A. 78.—A bill to prevent all working between seven at night and half past five in the morning, under a penalty of 500*l.* for the first offence and 1000*l.* for the second.  
 A. 79.—By all means night-work should be prohibited in every trade where children under twenty-one years are employed.

THOMAS & ROBERT BARNES.

Lancashire.

T. & R. Barnes.

ANSWERS of Messrs. J. & W. BELLHOUSE, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Township of Chorlton-upon-Medlock, parish of Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Fine cotton-spinning in all its branches.  
 A. 3.—The works have been employed for their present purpose about thirty years.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power; thirty horses.  
 A. 6.—Yes, upon the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—After a certain degree of heat is attained, the ventilation is regulated in a great measure at the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have no arrangements for the purpose; the workpeople consult their own convenience and comfort. We keep a pump in the yard which they are at liberty to fetch water from whenever they please.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. We are not aware that they have been previously employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—No; but they can earn three, four, or even four shillings and six-pence per week, as well as children from twelve to fourteen years old; consequently, their parents send them so young.  
 A. 12.—We do not think that the recent alterations in machinery, in our branch of the trade, have made any difference in the proportion of children employed under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Nine hours on Saturday; making sixty-nine hours in the week.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty hours and a half.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

(APP.—D.1.)

I i

A. 25.

No. 120.

J. & W. Bellhouse.



Lancashire.

*J. & W. Bellhouse.*

A. 25.—We never exceed the usual time of working except to make up lost time, which may be done to a certain extent, according to a provision in Hobhouse's bill.

A. 26.—We do not consider it at all necessary to exceed the regular hours of work.

A. 27.—Before Hobhouse's bill came into operation, our hours of working were seventy-two hours per week instead of sixty-nine.

A. 28.—No doubt the cost is enhanced in proportion to the reduction in the hours of working.

A. 29.—We presume the inducement to be, that he may have larger returns for the capital sunk, or, in short, to lessen the cost of production.

A. 30.—There can be no doubt that the cost of production is increased by the limitation of hours of work; because you have to pay the same rental or per-centage for mills and machinery, whether you work six hours or twelve.

A. 31.—We think that considerable abuse might arise from this: for instance, the children might be sent to one mill in the forenoon, and to another in a different part of the town, in the afternoon, and would thereby be made to work longer instead of shorter hours.

A. 32.—We are not aware that this system has been tried.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands.

A. 37.—We consider that a further reduction in the hours of labour would be bad policy, inasmuch as it would assist foreign competition.

A. 38.—From 75° to 80°.

A. 39.—80°.

A. 40.—The heat is nearly the same in all processes.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All the workpeople are at liberty to leave the mill at meal times, but in wet weather some that live at a distance prefer remaining.

A. 55.—It is quite at the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—Never, to our knowledge.

A. 62.—We certainly have not issued any direct orders on the subject, for it is a thing we never hear of in our mill.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—The workpeople live where they please; no control is exercised over them out of the mill.

A. 66.—In our branch of the trade the difference in skill is much in favour of those who have been employed from infancy.

A. 67.—We have not paid particular attention to this subject, but we think our workpeople are generally both healthy and cheerful.

A. 68.—We make no change in the employment of the same persons.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We believe the mills in Manchester conform strictly to the provisions of the Act; those in the country do not. We are not aware what steps have been taken to enforce obedience.

A. 77.—We think it very probable.

A. 78.—We think the only effectual means would be to place the restriction on the moving power.

J. &amp; W. BELLHOUSE.

No. 121.

*John Fairweather.*

ANSWERS of JOHN FAIRWEATHER, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester.

A. 1.—Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and manufacturing.

A. 3.—No material alteration for the last thirty years.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5 & 6.—Only by opening the windows.

A. 7.—At the option of the workpeople.

A. 8.—All that is considered dangerous fenced off.

A. 9.—No particular arrangement.

A. 10.—The youngest between nine and ten.

A. 11.—No occasion for children under twelve years of age; their parents press to get them into employ.

A. 12.—Not that I know of.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I have no children of this description in my employment.

A. 17 & 18.—For five days, twelve hours; and on Saturdays, nine hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four and a half days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-five hours.

A. 22.



Lancashire.

J. Fairweather.

- A. 22.—No difference of time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—Half an hour in the evening.  
 A. 26.—I think it cannot altogether, without inconvenience, be avoided.  
 A. 27.—Yes, formerly seventy-two hours per week.  
 A. 28.—Certainly.  
 A. 29.—More work done for the same rent and taxes.  
 A. 30.—Certainly, in all branches.  
 A. 31.—These are questions I cannot speak to, not having attempted night-work.  
 A. 37.—A greater increase of cost on the goods manufactured.  
 A. 38.—From 58° to 60°; 50°.  
 A. 39.—58° to 60°.  
 A. 40.—All under my employ.  
 A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—No night-work.  
 A. 50.—Gas in the winter.  
 A. 51.—Windows left open.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and an hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—At their option.  
 A. 55.—The workpeople.  
 A. 56.—Of no consequence.  
 A. 57.—If not attentive to their work, they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—No such thing allowed.  
 A. 64.—No complaints whatever.  
 A. 65.—They provide their own dwellings.  
 A. 67.—About the same, and generally healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 77.—Have no reason to think so.  
 A. 78.—I should suggest the regulating of the first power as to the hours of labour.

JOHN FAIRWEATHER.

ANSWERS of BENJAMIN KIRK, a Partner in the Firm of Messrs. Birley & Kirk,  
 Chorlton-upon-Medlock.

No. 122.  
Benj. Kirk.

- A. 1.—Chorlton-upon-Medlock, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving.  
 A. 3.—Part erected long previous to 1809, when the present owners bought the property; part in 1813, 1815; part in 1819, 1820; part in 1828, 1829.  
 A. 4.—Steam; 297-horse power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Windows only, and dependent on opening them.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker of each room.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts, in cases where the nature of the machinery will admit of it, are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Each work-room is provided with a trough, and an abundant supply of good water; also clothes hooks are provided, in convenient situations. All these are regularly used.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. It is not customary to enquire into previous occupation; it may be done occasionally, but no note is taken.  
 A. 11.—For some purposes little children are better than bigger ones; yet I cannot say the nature of our work absolutely requires children under twelve years of age. It would, however, be hard to refuse employment to those aged only nine years, for they are quite equal to the service required of them.  
 A. 12.—They have not.  
 A. 13, 14, & 15.—We do not employ apprentices.  
 A. 17 & 18.—No difference is made. Our hours of work are twelve during each of the first five days, and nine hours on the Saturday; sixty-nine hours weekly.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and three quarters to recover lost time; and never to the extent allowed by law. Also during the dinner hour a small part of the machinery, as explained at No. 22.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and two days, nearly.  
 A. 21.—Not exceeding three thousand four hundred and seventy-two hours.  
 A. 22.—Latterly, for about a month, and at the present time, the cleaning of cotton is carried on during the dinner hour by hands aged eighteen or more, who afterwards have their hour for dinner, and do not work more than twelve hours daily, or sixty-nine hours weekly.  
 A. 23.—As fifty weeks and a half, and eleven hours and a half; as fifty-two weeks, about eleven hours and 1-166th.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and three quarters, as explained at No. 19.

(APP.—D.1.)

A. 26.



Lancashire.

Benj. Kirk.

A. 26.—If the excess alluded to in No. 22. had been omitted, the works must have proportionately stopped; because, without the excess, clean cotton could not have been provided in sufficient quantity.

A. 27.—We formerly worked five days in the week, thirteen hours each; and on the sixth day, nine hours and a half; or equal to seventy-four hours and a half weekly.

A. 28.—The cost of producing is enhanced by the reduction in the hours of working.

A. 29.—Cheap production.

A. 30.—There is necessarily an increased cost. To reduce the wages of the operatives commensurately with the reduction of their hours of work, as in the proportion of seventy-four and a half to sixty-nine, or as in the proportion of sixty-nine to fifty-eight, would not protect the manufacturer by any means against the increased cost; because, whether the hours be seventy-four and a half, sixty-nine, or fifty-eight, all fixed charges, as salaries, taxes, depreciation of sunk capital, remain the same.

A. 31 & 32.—We do not require extra hours.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—We do not practise night-work, and never did.

A. 37.—The effect of reducing the hours must be, soon, to reduce the wages of the labourers; to enhance the cost of our manufactures; to operate as a bounty to foreign rivals, and to destroy our foreign trade.

A. 38.—Our manufactory is subject to the seasons: its rooms are airy and spacious. The different processes of work can be carried on at 65°; and it is not our fault or desire that the temperature shall exceed that.

A. 39.—Dressing the warps for weaving, a work done by men, is carried on at a high temperature, perhaps sometimes 90°; but this is not necessary.

A. 40.—Thirty-two.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast; one hour at dinner. Hot water is provided for tea every afternoon, when the engine does not stop.

A. 54.—All may leave the premises if they please at breakfast and dinner.

A. 55.—The few who remain, do so for their own convenience.

A. 57.—Verbal reproof and threatening; when they fail, dismissal; which operates as a warning to others.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Within the last twelve months, three cases have occurred of spinners beating their assistants. In each instance, the offenders were discharged.

A. 63.—Instructions against corporal punishment have been given, and are well understood. They are not in writing.

A. 64.—No complaints have been made.

A. 65.—Six heads of families, and perhaps some of their children also employed by us, occupy our houses. We do not interfere in their domestic arrangements. The parties are all respectable.

A. 66.—As in other trades, those early initiated are usually the best hands.

A. 67.—We have no reason to think that the health of the people employed in our manufactories is worse now than ten years ago, or at any date within that period.

A. 68.—Parties usually offer them selves, and are hired for particular purposes. Change of employment is not considered necessary.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 77.—I have not.

A. 78.—Perhaps an official prosecutor might be of service: such an appointment might relieve the trade from common informers. If the general law be not strong enough to protect children from abuse, it should be made so; but not by an act applicable to factory children only.

BENJAMIN KIRK, for Birley & Kirk.

No. 123.

James Duckworth.

## ANSWERS of JAMES DUCKWORTH, Chorlton Row.

A. 1.—Township of Chorlton Row.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton twist.

A. 3.—Erected at one time; has been in work near thirty years.

A. 4.—Steam power; regular, twenty-four horse power.

A. 5.—There are air pipes for ventilation.

A. 6.—Part of the ventilation proceeds from opening of windows.

A. 7.—Under the control of the manager in a general way, but occasionally by the hands.

A. 8.—There are dangerous parts fenced off.

A. 9.—There are conveniences for procuring hot water, &c.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—It is not absolutely requisite to employ children under twelve years.

A. 12.—Am not aware that it is.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Five days in the week twelve hours, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 19.—We have seldom exceeded regular time; but cannot state particulars.

A. 22.—We have had no difference of consequence.

A. 25.



- A. 25.—We have not exceeded the regular hours of work in a general way.
- A. 27.—We have in a general way worked agreeable to the Act of Parliament for the time being. Lancashire.
- A. 28.—If time is reduced wages must be reduced also, or an enhanced cost will surely occur. James Duckworth.
- A. 29.—To reduce his expences.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 37.—Consider that a farther reduction of time would be unfavourable to masters and operatives.
- A. 38.—From 68° to 80°.
- A. 39.—About 70°.
- A. 46.—None.
- A. 50.—During the hours required, by gas.
- A. 51.—The same as by day.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—They nearly all leave.
- A. 57.—There are no particular means used but reasoning with them.
- A. 58.—Very seldom, and never by our consent.
- A. 60.—No.
- A. 65.—Very few.
- A. 66.—Those early employed are more quick and expert.
- A. 67.—Have not noticed any material alterations; have had very little sickness or disease.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 77.—I have known workpeople unwilling to give evidence in favour of their masters.
- A. 78.—No.

JAMES DUCKWORTH.

ANSWERS of DAVID HOLT, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester.

No. 124.  
David Holt.

- A. 1.—In the township of Chorlton-upon-Medlock, in the parish of Manchester, and county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Fine mule-spinning, from ninety to two hundred and twenty hanks in the pound.
- A. 3.—The principal mill has been erected about twenty-nine years, and the smaller one about twenty.
- A. 4.—The machinery is worked by a steam-engine equal to the power of sixty-five horses.
- A. 5 & 6.—Several of the windows in each room are hung so as to admit of being opened for ventilation when the hands employed deem it necessary. No control is exercised over them. There must, independent of this, be a constant admission and circulation of air, from the hands frequently passing in and out of the room.
- A. 8.—I know of no part of the machinery to which the hands are at all exposed that is not guarded, nor do I recollect any accident having happened.
- A. 9.—The spinning carried on being fine, there is little of dust or dirt to which the hands are exposed; so that a change of dress either at coming to or leaving the mill is not necessary. The hands have access to plenty of clean and wholesome water.
- A. 10.—Out of near three hundred hands there are only ten under twelve years of age, and these belong to the mule-spinners, and are employed as piecers, and are altogether under their control.
- A. 11.—I do not think that fine spinning does, in any case, require the employing of children under twelve years of age; and when it does occur, it would often be found that such children belong to the spinners, by whom, in every case that has come under my notice, they have been treated with kindness.
- A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices.
- A. 17.—The hands generally, be their age what it may, work twelve hours on five days in the week, and nine on Saturday; that is, from six in the morning until half-past seven in the evening, allowing half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner, during which there is an entire suspension of the works. On Saturday they cease at four.
- A. 19.—Sixty-nine hours are the utmost that I recollect our making in any one week. To these limits we have uniformly confined ourselves, and the time is regulated by the town clocks.
- A. 24.—I have only one set of hands, and many of these have been with me from twenty to twenty-five years. I have been forty years a cotton spinner, and never found it necessary to work one hour on a Sunday in the whole course of that time.
- A. 27.—Never.
- A. 28.—If the extra hours which are reported to be made by some mills were paid for in the same ratio with the regular time, I am of opinion that no proportionate advantage would result from it: but, I conceive that much of this over-time is never paid for at all.
- A. 37.—I am decidedly of the judgment that no man as a spinner or manufacturer can, in the present state of things, afford to pay six days' wages for five days' labour; and if the operatives

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tives are to be thus deprived of one sixth part of their income, I cannot see how they are to be benefited by the measure.

A. 38.—The average temperature in the spinning-rooms will be from 70° to 76°; each room is thirty-six yards long, nine feet and a half high, and fourteen yards wide; and about thirty persons work in them, twenty of whom will be from twelve to eighteen years old, and the rest men with families.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas, morning and evening, about five months.

A. 53.—I have before stated that half an hour is allowed for breakfast and an hour for dinner; at four o'clock their tea is brought to them in the mill.

A. 54.—Only at the breakfast and dinner hour, when the works are suspended.

A. 58.—I know of no instance of corporal punishment being inflicted; the hands well know that they would be dismissed from their situations if unruly or disobedient, or found wanting in reasonable application.

A. 62.—No man about my works ever had authority to inflict corporal punishment upon the hands under him.

A. 64.—I have been nearly forty years in the trade, and such a circumstance never occurred.

A. 65.—The people all reside from the works, but sufficiently near to enable them to go and return to their meals, in a manner comfortable to themselves.

A. 66.—The hands that are introduced early into the business are more expert than those that have entered at a later period, and will always be preferred.

A. 67.—The general health of my people for the last ten years has been good, and I think quite equal to any former period.

A. 68.—I have in no instance found it necessary.

A. 69.—It is, and always has been, since the Act came into operation.

A. 70.—Never in any instance.

A. 73.—I do not know; some mills work longer hours than others.

A. 74.—Occasionally I see examinations before our magistrates, and convictions announced through the medium of our local press.

A. 79.—When Lord Suffield was in Lancashire some years since, for the purpose of enquiring into the manner in which mills were conducted, and what was the condition of the workpeople, he came to mine, and I then desired he would, in every department, enquire of the people themselves, unawed by either my presence or of the lookers over, which he did, and appeared well satisfied. I think the present commissioners should adopt the same plan, and not content themselves with such answers as may in this way be given. Thus only can common justice be done to the people as well as their employers, many of whom have been vilely traduced.

General description of the people employed by DAVID HOLT, at the mills in Charlton-upon-Medlock, April 30th, 1833.

| 6 boys and 4 girls from 10 to 12 years old, earning from |     | 3s. 0d. to 5s. 6d. |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------|----------|
| 12                                                       | 10  | 12 14              | 5 6 8 0  |
| 7                                                        | 20  | 14 16              | 5 6 8 0  |
| 23                                                       | 14  | 16 18              | 8 6 10 0 |
| 18                                                       | 24  | 18 20              | 9 0 14 0 |
| 77 men and 34 women above                                | 21  |                    | 7 0 35 0 |
| 143                                                      | 106 |                    |          |

There may be twenty or thirty more occasionally employed, but these will consist of young men and women from 18 to 25 years old.

DAVID HOLT.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. THOMAS COOKE & JOHN HYDE, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester.

No. 125.  
Cooke & Hyde.

A. 1.—Chorlton-upon-Medlock, in the parish of Manchester, and county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Carding, roving, spinning, and weaving of cotton wool.

A. 3.—The mill for carding, roving, and spinning has been used for that purpose upwards of thirty years, and the mill for weaving has been employed for that purpose about ten years.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5 & 6.—It depends on the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—The whole of the upright shafting (which we consider dangerous) is all fenced off, and the machinery as far as is customary.

A. 9.—There is no arrangement of this kind, except a pump, from which the workpeople obtain as much water as they wish.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, and we believe they have not been in any other employment before.

A. 11.



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A. 11.—Children of twelve years of age can perform any of the operations which are at present performed by children under that age.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—For five days of the week for twelve hours per day, and Saturday nine hours.

A. 18.—The same hours as the above.

A. 19.—Our hands never have worked more than twelve hours per day, except to make up time lost by accidents to the engine or mill gearing, which have rarely occurred, and then never more than twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.

A. 22.—Our works have been uniformly carried on together.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours per day, except when there has been occasion to make up for lost time, as stated in Query 19.

A. 25.—Only when accidents have occurred, as stated in Query 19.

A. 26.—It is avoidable.

A. 27.—Six years ago we worked seventy-two hours per week.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—The inducement to protract the hours of labour is to reduce the cost of the manufactured article, by obtaining a greater return from the same fixed capital.

A. 30.—The cost of production would be increased by a decrease in the hours of working; and we believe a reduction of two hours per day would add three per cent. to the cost of the article.

A. 31.—There appears no objection to having relays or fresh sets of children when they could be had, but we think under such an arrangement the same children would be compelled by their parents to work in two different mills during the same day, and we should have no means of knowing it.

A. 32.—We have never tried it.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—We have never worked in the night.

A. 36.—We never work in the night, and we think night working highly prejudicial to the health and morals of persons so employed, and we think it only justice to those masters who abstain from it, that the practice should be discontinued.

A. 37.—It would increase the cost of the article, as stated in Query 30.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—The usual temperature which our spinning mill requires is 70°, and the weaving mill is not heated. The dressing-room is about 75°, and the number of hands employed in that process is thirty male adults.

A. 46, 47, & 48.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Only by the windows.

A. 52.—Demoralizing and debilitating.

A. 53.—All our workpeople are allowed half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, and are allowed to take tea or refreshment at four o'clock, while the machinery is going.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—All our workpeople are allowed to go to their breakfast and dinner; if any do not leave the mill, it is for their own convenience that they stay.

A. 57.—The children are first reprimanded, when found disobedient, and when this has not the desired effect, they are discharged.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—Corporal punishments are forbidden in our mills, and are never inflicted with our previous knowledge or sanction.

A. 63.—Verbal instructions are given not to punish the children.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—None of our workpeople live in the houses of any of their employers.

A. 66.—Those workpeople who have been employed in the business from infancy, are much more expert than those who have taken up the employment at a later period.

A. 67.—We are not aware, that during the last ten years the health of our workpeople has undergone any change.

A. 68.—Occasionally we allow weakly persons to change from one employment to another which is more easy.

A. 69.—Our mill is subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—We have never been informed against for infringing.

A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Some of the mills in our neighbourhood do not conform to the provisions of the Act, and the proprietors have been taken before a magistrate, but have generally escaped being fined, owing to the inefficiency of the present law.

A. 77.—Yes.

A. 78.—We are decidedly of opinion, that no law for the restriction of the hours of labour in factories will ever be effective, unless it restricts the moving power of the mill.

THOMAS COOKE,  
JOHN HYDE.



## ANSWERS of SAMUEL HENRY MARSLAND, Chorlton-upon-Medlock.

Lancashire.

No. 126.

S. H. Marsland.

- A. 1.—Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—Erected at one time, first employed in 1813.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, thirty-six horses power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The ventilation depends upon the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—The rooms are regularly whitewashed, and water for washing is provided.  
 A. 10.—Nine years, but only seven of that age out of three hundred and thirteen persons.  
 A. 11.—Part of the work can be as well performed by children under twelve years as by older persons, and consequently more economically.  
 A. 12.—A less proportion.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for five days and nine on Saturdays, total sixty-nine hours; all with us work the same number of hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and two days and a half.  
 A. 21.— $302\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2} = 3478\frac{5}{8}$  hours.  
 A. 22.—All parts work the same time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—In consequence of accidental stoppage.  
 A. 26.—It is not avoidable, without loss to the employers and workpeople.  
 A. 27 & 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—The advantage which they have from diminished cost of production, over those who work the legal number of hours.  
 A. 30.—Yes, for a number of expences remain the same, whether the quantity produced be more or less.  
 A. 31.—There might be some difficulty in making each person answerable for his work, when two have been engaged upon the same piece of work.  
 A. 32.—We not aware that it has.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—We are of opinion that whilst the price of food is artificially kept up, and monopolies and restrictions on trade continue, a considerable diminution in the hours of labour, which would necessarily enhance the cost of production, would be injurious both to the workpeople and their employers; to the former from their earnings being diminished, and to the latter from their being placed in a worse situation to compete with their foreign rivals. Under these circumstances we think it would be best to enforce the observance of the present bill by placing the restriction on the moving power.  
 A. 38.—There is no necessity to have any part of our factory, except the dressing-room, heated to a greater degree than is comfortable to the workpeople.  
 A. 39.—The dressing-room requires a heat of from  $70^{\circ}$  to  $80^{\circ}$ .  
 A. 40.—Thirteen out of three hundred and thirteen in our factory.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas, in the mornings and evenings of winter.  
 A. 51.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 53.—All the workpeople are allowed to go home to breakfast from eight till half past eight o'clock, and to dinner from twelve till one o'clock; their afternoon's meal is taken in the factory about half past four o'clock, whilst the engine is working.  
 A. 54.—All, with the exception of a few who live at a distance.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—A less quantity of work would be turned off, for at present, during the afternoon's meal, the work is not discontinued.  
 A. 57.—Disobedient children are discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—Verbal instructions are given to the overlookers not to punish the children, but to discharge them.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Not the workpeople in our employment.  
 A. 66.—We consider those the most skilful who have commenced working at an early age.  
 A. 67.—No account of the health of the people has been kept.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—We believe that the mills near us do conform, but the Act is very little observed in the neighbourhood of Manchester.  
 A. 77.—We think it probable that they are afraid.  
 A. 78.—We think that if the restriction were put upon the moving power, the difficulty of evading the law would be exceedingly increased.  
 A. 79.—We think that the age at which children should be employed in factories might be increased from nine to eleven years without inconvenience.

SAMUEL HENRY MARSLAND.  
 ANSWERS



ANSWERS of RICHARD RUNCORN, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester.

Lancashire.

No. 127.

Richard Runcorn.

- A. 1.—County of Lancaster, parish of Manchester, township of Chorlton-on-Medlock.  
 A. 2.—Spinning.  
 A. 3.—Years 1818 and 1819.  
 A. 4.—Steam, thirty horse power.  
 A. 5.—Yes; a casement in each window.  
 A. 6.—On opening.  
 A. 7.—By the foreman.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—Water for washing.  
 A. 10.—Nine to ten years: have not been employed at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—We can do without children under twelve years of age. They are, however, quite capable of doing the light work they are put to, as well or better than children of older years. If, however, children from nine to twelve years of age are not to be employed, we are afraid it will cause great distress in many families, the wages which they earn being of great consequence to their parents.  
 A. 12.—No difference to us in that respect.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not either lodge or maintain any children.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours each day for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-six hours.  
 A. 22.—All the same time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—In case of repairs to the steam-engine being wanted, a stoppage of an hour or two in the day occasionally takes place, in which case it is usual to work up the time so lost, by half an hour a-day.  
 A. 26.—Certainly; by prohibiting altogether the working up of lost time.  
 A. 27.—We worked thirteen hours a-day before the present law was made.  
 A. 28.—Certainly, the cost is enhanced.  
 A. 29.—The inducement is to get as large a quantity of work turned off as possible; rent and taxes being the same, whether you produce a large quantity or a small one.  
 A. 30.—Yes; for the reason given above.  
 A. 31.—Not requiring extra hours we cannot say.  
 A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands.  
 A. 36.—We do not know what effect the prohibition of night-work would have on us individually, but we think it would have a good effect on the trade generally.  
 A. 37.—The certain effect of a still further reduction of the working hours would be, to lessen the quantity produced, and consequently to increase the cost price of the article. This, together with the great and increasing competition of foreign spinners, would be of very serious importance to the trade of this country. It would likewise have the effect of lowering the wages of the hands employed in the manufactory.  
 A. 38.—70° to 75°.  
 A. 39.—75°.  
 A. 40.—Nearly all.  
 A. 46.—Not any.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All if they choose.  
 A. 55.—If they do not, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—The meals are now taken out by those who choose so to do.  
 A. 57.—They are discharged if they do not do their work in a proper manner.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—We are not aware of having any in our employ but what have been brought up to the business from infancy.  
 67.—We know of no difference as respects the health of the people employed during the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 77.—Have no means of judging.  
 A. 78.—We would suggest that the penalties be laid on the moving power; this would, we think, secure greater obedience to the present law. We are, however, of opinion this would be evaded, particularly in the country, where they are not so well looked after as in town: probably nothing but the oath of the master or manager, as to their not having worked more than so many hours in a day, would be effective.  
 A. 79.—We would here observe, that if it is intended to apply for a new Bill for the regulation of factories, a clause should be introduced prohibiting, under any circumstances, the working up of lost time; and it would also be very desirable to prohibit entirely the working by night.

RICHARD RUNCORN.



Lancashire.

ANSWERS of JAMES ROTHWELL BARNES, Farnworth, Dean.

No. 128.  
J. R. Barnes.

- A. 1.—Township of Farnworth, parish of Dean, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning, power loom weaving, and raising and shearing fustians.  
 A. 3.—A weaving room, one story high, erected 1827, the adjoining buildings being then used for warehouses are continued for the same purpose. A factory five stories high, erected 1831, for weaving and spinning. A weaving room in 1832.  
 A. 4.—Two steam engines, one fourteen horses power, the other forty.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Two air flues from bottom to top of the factory are made in the gable end wall opposite the entrance, with an opening into two of the rooms, where the number of hands is greatest in proportion to the space, and through these openings a continual current of air is carried through the rooms, and up the flues to the top of the building. In warm weather these flues do not afford sufficient air to keep down the temperature of the rooms, which are further ventilated by opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—By the overlooker.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—No rooms are provided for the express purpose of changing clothes, but places are provided for depositing coats, cloaks, bonnets, &c. Water is provided to each room for the express purpose of washing, and promoting personal cleanliness.  
 A. 10.—Nine.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—I am not aware of any difference.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve, except Saturday, which is nine.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and eight.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighteen.  
 A. 22.—Very little difference.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—To regain time lost by some derangement of the moving power, or some alterations required.  
 A. 26.—As accidents to the moving power cannot be prevented, the time lost on those occasions can only be regained by an addition to the hours of work afterwards.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—Less cost in the production.  
 A. 33.—Have no night hands.  
 A. 37.—I am not prepared to give and support an opinion at present.  
 A. 38.—The weaving rooms are from 55° to 65°. Carding and spinning 70° to 75°. Weaving requires no heat beyond what is necessary to keep the hands comfortable. Our carding and spinning are inconvenient under 65°.  
 A. 39.—70°.  
 A. 40.—Sixty to seventy.  
 A. 46.—Not at all.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, quarter of an hour tea.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all.  
 A. 55.—The few who remain live at a distance, and take their meals in the works for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—They might take them in the neighbouring cottages.  
 A. 57.—To those who obey the best, we give the best wages; to those who are less tractable, we give less; the very disobedient are dismissed.  
 A. 58 & 60.—No.  
 A. 63.—Verbal orders are given to all overlookers not to inflict corporal punishment themselves, nor to permit it in others.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Only a small portion of the workpeople live in our houses, and in these no regulations are made for enforcing domestic cleanliness.  
 A. 66.—No difference of any consequence is observable.  
 A. 67.—Not been at work ten years.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Have not been informed against.  
 A. 77.—I have.  
 A. 78.—I believe no legal enactments for restraining the hours of labour will ever be effective, except the restriction is laid upon the moving power.

JAMES ROTHWELL BARNES.



Lancashire.

No. 129.

E. Thorrock.

## ANSWERS of E. THORROCK, Over Danven, near Blackburn.

- A. 1.—Over Danven, county Lancashire.
- A. 2.—Spinning and power-loom weaving.
- A. 3.—At different times. First erection 1824, the others in 1831 and 1832.
- A. 4.—Steam-power altogether, and regular; thirty horse and twelve horse.
- A. 5.—Yes; by casements in the windows, some across the windows at the top of the room.
- A. 6.—By opening of the windows.
- A. 7.—The overlooker is considered to regulate them, but no restrictions are placed upon other persons.
- A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have arrangements for washing, and cleanliness is particularly recommended by the proprietor.
- A. 10.—Nine years. Many have been employed in hand-loom weaving.
- A. 11.—Not particularly so.
- A. 12 & 13.—No.
- A. 15.—None are lodged or maintained at this concern; no orphan that is known of.
- A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and ten.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy.
- A. 23.—Something less than eleven hours and a half for six days in the week.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.
- A. 25.—Loss of time by the engine principally, and one or two holidays for a half day, during which time the workpeople's wages were paid.
- A. 26.—It certainly may be avoided. The hands, for the most part, in case of stoppage, would rather work the time up than have their wages stopped.
- A. 27.—No; not for a considerable length of time past.
- A. 28.—Yes, of course.
- A. 29.—Apparent profit.
- A. 30.—If the time of working was reduced from what it now is, it would make a considerable increase of the cost in production. Two hours' reduction of time, I should think, would make one fourth more in the cost of production.
- A. 31.—Not any material objection in some kinds of work, in others it would be attended with inconveniences.
- A. 32.—Where night-work is followed it must have been tried; how it answers, cannot speak to it.
- A. 33.—No night work.
- A. 34.—I consider night-work has a tendency to demoralise the habits of those employed, and is unnatural.
- A. 37.—The cost of production would be greater, and wages are at a point where the employed themselves would suffer.
- A. 38.—70° and 75°. Sometimes as high as 80°, but rarely.
- A. 39.—About 80°.
- A. 40.—Sixteen to twenty.
- A. 46.—None.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—Some of the persons so employed coming from a distance may not leave the works, as it is more convenient for them; but the engines stopping, there is no work going on during meal times.
- A. 56.—No material one.
- A. 57.—If obedience is not rendered, the children know very well that they must be sent home, and this is the case occasionally.
- A. 58.—Very seldom; never severe.
- A. 59.—By overlookers or foremen.
- A. 60.—Some slight instances.
- A. 63.—Yes; never to use too severe means. The instructions have been, if not manageable, (which is rarely the case,) in the first instance to send for or inform the parents, or send them home.
- A. 64.—No proceedings before magistrates at any time. I have had complaints against an overlooker, one of which was discharged.
- A. 65.—Have very few houses.
- A. 66.—Those who may have been admitted during the time they were nine to ten, may be considered rather quicker and somewhat more skilful.
- A. 67.—This establishment has not existed so long a period of time as ten years; only two years and a half.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—No; never.
- A. 78.—A public functionary of every township (overseer for instance) who should be sworn
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Lancashire.

*E. Thorrock.*

sworn to do his duty, would be the fittest person to enforce obedience to the law, and fines levied might be applied to the poor rate.

A. 79.—I would suggest that night-work should be done away with altogether; and if restrictions are placed upon the moving power, it might operate against the infringement of the laws.

ECCLES THORROCK.

## ANSWERS of TAYLOR, HINDLE &amp; Co., Hallwell.

No. 130.  
*Taylor, Hindle & Co.*

A. 1.—Hallwell and Sharples townships, Bolton and Dean parishes, and county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Skutching, carding, spinning, weaving, and bleaching.

A. 3.—Always employed for present purposes, and built at different periods from the year 1790 to 1833.

A. 4.—By steam and water; water power very irregular, averaging thirty horses power through the year. By steam one hundred and twenty-five horses power, very regular.

A. 5 & 6.—By casements in windows.

A. 7.—By the workpeople.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—Every convenience, for many years.

A. 10.—All are more than nine years of age, and some have been at various trades.

A. 11.—I think not.

A. 12.—About the same.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—Some orphans; they are generally attended to by the people employing them, by the overlookers, and also by myself.

A. 17 & 18.—Generally twelve, but never more than thirteen hours to the day.

A. 19.—One seventh part of my works go on in the night with two sets of hands, consequently that proportion work twenty-two hours. The remaining part about twelve hours per day.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighty-eight.

A. 22.—All at one time, except the night mills.

A. 23.—Saturday nine, and each other twelve hours per day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours generally, but when working for holydays or accidents never more than thirteen.

A. 25.—For break-downs and pastimes.

A. 26.—Avoidable only by an effective bill, that no over time shall be worked up; but allowing a little time in every day for expected holydays or casual accidents every year. The calculation being made for six days in every year.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—That the prime cost is thereby made cheaper.

A. 30.—Certainly in all its branches, nearly in a double proportion to labour reduced for the capital sunk, &c. in every sense of the word.

A. 31.—The principle is a bad one, and most difficult to accomplish.

A. 32.—It has, without success.

A. 33.—Yes; the day hands work twelve, the night ten hours.

A. 34.—In anticipation of a Ten Hours Bill, I work in the night, although I am aware of its baneful effects, yet such a bill would cause me from necessity to continue this.

A. 35.—They generally work by night.

A. 36.—It would be more beneficial.

A. 37.—The effects, in my opinion, would be great distress to the trade in the course of a short period, and the operatives of this county would ultimately be the greatest sufferers.

A. 38.—66°; from 60° to 70°.

A. 39.—66°.

A. 40.—Nearly all.

A. 41.—One-seventh regularly.

A. 42 & 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Demoralising, and altogether bad.

A. 53.—Breakfast from eight to half past, dinner from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 54.—All, if they think fit.

A. 56.—I know no other effect than in wet weather it might do harm to the people.

A. 57.—Persuasion and moderate correction.

A. 58.—Not with my knowledge or consent.

A. 64.—No instance.

A. 65.—They generally live in my houses. Schools are provided for their improvement, and encouragement given to cleanliness.

A. 66.—Those employed from early life are the most competent, (see James Foster on the list, who has risen to be manager, Hugh Bolton, head carder, Samuel Rawstrow, Thomas Holt, Henry Foster, Joshua Barbar, and William Hamer, overlookers.)

A. 67.—About the same as previous to that time.

A. 68.



A. 68.—Certainly; I direct that if a boy or girl cannot work in one situation to give them another; the difficulty is great to accomplish this, and no doubt often falls through.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—Most certainly.

A. 78.—An effective enactment, stopping night work altogether, heavy penalties, a sworn warden or surveyor to each district, to see the law strictly observed, thereby preventing one concern working his people more than another, which at this time most seriously affects the trade.

WILLIAM GARNETT TAYLOR.

Lancashire.

Taylor, Hindle & Co.

ANSWERS of CHARLES AXON, Heaton Norris, near Stockport.

No. 131.  
Charles Axon.

A. 1.—Township of Heaton Norris, near Stockport, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and manufacturing.

A. 3.—The mill was first set to work, November, 1825; a small building at the back was set to work October, 1832.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5 & 6.—All the windows in the mill are made to open when wanted.

A. 7.—The windows are at the control and discretion of all persons employed in the room.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the mill gearin are fenced off.

A. 9.—The females generally change their outer clothes on entering the mill, and put on a working dress, and resume the same when they go out; the men generally take off their coats while they are at work; all the workpeople fetch water into the mill to wash when they think proper: this arrangement has been ever since the mill was built seven years and a half ago.

A. 10.—Above nine; some of these have been employed to wind for hand-loom weavers, and some by printers.

A. 11.—Not exactly under twelve years, as children above twelve years of age could do the work; children under twelve are employed as piecers to spinners and assistants to weavers: their occupations not being laborious, requiring more attention than labour, enables those children to perform their work with ease, and their parents being anxious to get them in employ, that they can be earning a part or whole of their support.

A. 12.—I am not aware the machinery has made any alteration in this respect.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days, and ten hours on Saturdays.

A. 18.—All persons above eighteen years and under twenty-one work thirteen hours for five days, and ten hours on Saturdays; and all under eighteen years work twelve hours, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 22.—All the works commence and stop at the same time, except the children under eighteen years leave their work as required by law; adults remain at work.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and twenty minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half five days, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 25.—Working up lost time occasioned by repairs, at the rate of half an hour per day.

A. 26.—It is avoidable; but accidents to the engine and gearing does frequently occur, and if the time is not worked up, it is a loss both to the employed and the employer: the law at present allows a certain portion of lost time to be worked up.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—It is certain that the greater the quantity of goods or yarn that can be produced from the same capital sunk, the less will be the cost of producing it.

A. 30.—The cost of production must be increased by a limitation in the hours of labour, as the same capital is sunk in the mill and machinery, and the same leys and taxes, and the same insurances, and many standing salaries, and many heavy rents, which cannot be avoided.

A. 31.—If two sets of children or persons under twenty-one years of age were employed, one set would have to work in the night, and the other set in the day, to receive the same wages, or only receive wages in proportion to the hours they work: this would reduce the earnings of the working people.

A. 32.—I am not aware that it has ever been tried, except where they work night and day.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—If the hours of labour were to be reduced, the production from the same outlay of capital, and other expences, (see 30.) would be reduced also: to make up this deficiency, the wages for labour would be diminished in a greater proportion than the reduction of labour; if not, the cost of production would be increased: that would be a bonus to the foreign spinners and manufacturers, and materially injure the British manufacturers.

A. 38.—From 65° to 85°: we require none higher than 65° but the dressing.

A. 39.—85° for dressing.

A. 40.—Fifteen adult male persons.

(APP.—D. 1.)

M m

A. 46.



Lancashire.

Charles Axon.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—All persons under eighteen years of age have one hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, and all others have one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All persons under eighteen years of age leave one hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, and all other persons leave for dinner who choose, as the doors are thrown open.

A. 55.—Those persons who stop in the works during the meal-times, stop for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Some of the workpeople live a distance from their employ, and wish to have their meals brought; they think it a convenience to stop, but this is optional with themselves: they would think it very hard to be drove out of the works, particularly in bad weather, as we have frequent instances of this sort from those we compel to leave, who are under eighteen years of age.

A. 57.—If children are disobedient, we either fine them or discharge them.

A. 58.—They are not.

A. 63.—There has been no instructions given in writing, but it is generally known that we do not allow the punishment of children.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—I have not any of my workpeople for tenants.

A. 66.—We always find the workpeople who have been brought up in the works from infancy, to be more expert and skilful than those who come of later years, and are generally employed in preference.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any material change either in the health of the people or the improvements in factories. The modern built factories are generally loftier and better ventilated, and in some instances much cleaner.

A. 68.—The operatives generally choose their own employments, and change whenever they think proper; if they wish to change to any other branch of the business, and they have not the opportunity of doing it at the mill, they leave it and go to another, as they can do that by giving one week's notice at the most.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—Generally so: some have been informed against by common informers.

A. 74 &amp; 75.—Yes.

A. 76.—I have never known of any instance where evidence has not been obtained.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe the workpeople are afraid of giving their evidence.

A. 78 &amp; 79.—No.

CHARLES AXON.

## ANSWERS of EDWARD BROWN, Heaton Norris, Manchester.

No. 132.  
Edward Brown.

A. 1.—Heaton Norris, in the parish of Manchester, county of Lancaster. (Sheepwash Mill.)

A. 2.—Mule-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected at three different times: two parts, twenty to thirty years ago, and the third part in 1832. The present owner cannot tell when it was first employed for its present purpose, but has always been for cotton.

A. 4.—Steam-power, regular, thirty horses.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—The opening of windows.

A. 7.—The overlooker.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—They are permitted to change their clothes when they begin work, and to wash and put on clean clothes when they leave work. It has always been the custom.

A. 10.—Nine years to ten.

A. 11.—Not absolutely necessary, but are still useful under that age.

A. 12 &amp; 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 18.—All above eighteen are employed twelve hours and a half, and all under eighteen eleven hours and a half.

A. 19.—Fourteen hours, but only when time has been lost and is being worked up, at the rate of one hour per day.

A. 20.—About two hundred and twenty days, it being under repairs for a considerable time.

A. 21.—Two thousand seven hundred and fifty.

A. 22.—They are all carried on at once, one department being dependent upon another.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half for all above eighteen, eleven and a half for all under eighteen.

A. 24.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 25.—In case of accident, such as a shaft breaking, or repairs.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, so long as repairs and breakages occur; and those, manufactories are always liable to.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—The cost must always be increased by reducing the hours of working.

A. 29.—The inducement is to do more business; but I do not suppose that night-work can



can be carried on without a change of hands. An understanding with the trade is impossible, each master must regulate his own establishment.

A. 30.—Yes; in all branches there would be the same expenditure of capital, a diminution in the quantity of work, and, in many cases, the same wages paid.

A. 31 & 32.—The same hands will perform the work much better.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—The effect would be to reduce labour, because it would be of less value.

A. 38.—70°, and may be conducted at 60°.

A. 39.—70°.

A. 40.—Forty; but in large establishments more.

A. 46.—None.

A. 49.—Because the business cannot be carried on without it.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 52.—Injurious.

A. 53.—Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour; tea, half an hour.

A. 54.—All under eighteen years leave, and those above stay, except at dinner, when the greater part go, and some few remain to clean, &c.

A. 55.—Both.

A. 56.—Time would be lost.

A. 57.—Vigilance.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Occasionally they do; and when they leave their employ, they are considered their own masters.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy will always be the best hands.

A. 67.—No difference; if any thing, improved, in consequence of greater cleanliness and better arrangements.

A. 68.—Yes.

A. 69.—Yes; by this I mean, I work according to the act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—I think they are.

A. 78.—The only way to secure obedience is, to restrict the working of the steam-engine to the number of hours specified in the act.

EDWARD BROWN.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN BROWN, Heaton Norris.

A. 1.—Heaton Norris, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving.

A. 3.—Have been erected at different times. One part has been built about forty years, another has been built about twenty years, but was applied to the purpose for which it is at present used in 1822. The remainder was rebuilt in 1832.

A. 4.—Steam-power; about sixty horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—Most of the windows in the mill will open.

A. 7.—It is regulated by all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All that we consider in the least dangerous, are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have none; but allow water to be taken into any of the rooms in the mill for the purposes of washing, five minutes before each time of stopping.

A. 10.—None younger than nine. We have never enquired when engaging them whether they have worked elsewhere.

A. 11.—It does. If children were not employed, we should have to give higher wages to adults to do work which children can do just as well as them, consequently the cost of production would be increased.

A. 12.—We do not think it has made much difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—We commence work at six o'clock in the morning, and stop at eight in the evening. The engine stops from twelve to one o'clock for dinner, and all are allowed from a quarter of an hour to twenty minutes for breakfast and tea, but the engine does not stop. On Saturday we stop at four o'clock.

A. 18.—All under eighteen are allowed half an hour for breakfast, and half an hour for tea, and one hour for dinner.

A. 19.—From six o'clock until half-past eight o'clock, when we have been working time up that has been lost in consequence of accidents having happened to the engine or gearing.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand nine hundred and forty hours and a half the engine has run.

A. 22.—They have not.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half the engine has run, but the workpeople have only been employed as stated above.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—Under the circumstances stated above, when an accident has happened to the engine or gearing, and at the time mentioned above.

A. 26.—For our part, we do not consider there is much advantage gained by exceeding the usual hours.

A. 27.—No.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 28.

Lancashire.

Edward Brown.

No. 133.

John Brown.



Lancashire.

John Brown.

A. 29.—The extra profit derived thereby.

A. 30.—We imagine this question to apply to our having formerly worked extra hours, or in the night, and having now given it up. As we never did so, we cannot speak practically on the subject, but are quite certain that the cost of production is materially decreased by working a mill extra hours, or night and day; and that the owner of a mill who works it night and day, would have nearly the same income from only one half the profits per lb. or per yard, as one who only works during the day.

A. 31.—We know of none.

A. 32.—We do not know.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—If at any time there were to be a brisk trade, we should be compelled to decline any orders which might at those times be offered to us, provided we could execute them in a certain time. There have been, and may be again, seasons when the profits might be an inducement to employ two sets of hands, when goods cannot be produced fast enough to supply the demand. If night-work were prohibited, however extensive the orders we could obtain, we should be compelled to decline them.

A. 37.—An increase of the cost of production, inasmuch as the interest of the capital sunk must always remain the same, or, if mills are rented on a lease, the rent must continue the same. The wages of the principal servants, such as book-keepers, managers, &c. must remain the same, and the wear and tear, and many expences would not be reduced. The wages of the operatives would certainly be reduced, as some part are paid by the piece at a fixed rate, and of course could not produce as much work in less time, and those who are paid by the day cannot expect the same wages for a day of nine hours as for one of twelve hours.

A. 38.—60° to 65°, and a greater heat than 60° is not required.

A. 39.—75° to 80°.

A. 40.—Eleven.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—No other provision than there is for the day.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea to all persons under eighteen; and about twenty minutes for breakfast and tea, and one hour for dinner, to all above eighteen.

A. 54.—All under eighteen.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the manufactory, and for the convenience of the work-people themselves.

A. 56.—There would be a considerable loss of time, as there is always five minutes lost in the hands preparing to leave the mill, and many of them are five or ten minutes after the time the engine starts, on their return. That occurring three times a day, would be very serious loss in the quantity of hands employed on a mill; and we think it better the hands should be allowed to eat their meals in the mill than to be turned out of a warm room in the midst of rain, or frost, or snow.

A. 57.—Generally words.

A. 58.—Sometimes.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 60.—Yes.

A. 61.—With both, and at the particular request of parents.

A. 62.—Have never heard of their infliction from any other parties.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Some of them. We never interfere with their domestic arrangements.

A. 66.—Have never had an opportunity of gaining any information to enable us to answer this question; not asking, when we engage hands, whether they have been brought up to the trade from infancy or not. But, in most parts of the mill, a person may, in a very short time, become as skilful as one brought up to it from infancy.

A. 67.—Have not been at the mill above three years; but have subjoined the opinion of our overlookers, who have all been employed in a mill for a considerable period.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—Yes; as far as we are able to know.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—We cannot; and in our neighbourhood, to the best of our knowledge, the children are as healthy and as well treated as any one could wish; and are as healthy as an equal number of children employed in any other part of the kingdom, either in any other trade or in agricultural districts.

A. 79.—None, except that we cannot contemplate the passing of a Ten Hour Bill without serious alarm. To say the least, were the bill to be passed into a law, it would, for a time, cause great loss to all, and ruin to many; and unless prices rose very considerably, no one in the whole trade would be able to realise a profit. The effect of raising prices in this market would drive the foreigner to markets where he could purchase his goods cheapest; and were the cotton trade to be driven from the country, who, for one moment, can bear to think of the consequences.

JOHN BROWN.



## ANSWERS of JOSEPH HIGSON and Son, Heaton Norris.

Lancashire.

No. 134.

J. Higson & Son.

- A. 1.—Heaton Norris, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Carding, spinning, and weaving cotton.  
 A. 3.—At three different periods, viz. 1796, 1828, 1831.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, fifty-horse power.  
 A. 5.—The workpeople are allowed to open the windows when they find it necessary.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of overlooker and the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—An abundant supply of rain water. A pump and trough in the yard of the manufactory, to which the hands have free access; the workpeople generally change their clothes previous to commencing their work.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years of age.  
 A. 11.—By placing older hands at the work. We could do without them, if their parents did not send them.  
 A. 12.—A less number under twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any of our hands; they reside with their parents and others.  
 A. 16.—Not in the manufactory.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day, excepting Saturdays, and on that day ten hours.  
 A. 18.—All above eighteen years of age are employed seventy-four hours per week; under eighteen years of age, twelve hours per day, and nine on Saturdays.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours per day when working up lost time; but all under eighteen years of age leave off work at the usual time.  
 A. 20.—Working about three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred hours.  
 A. 22.—We cannot work one part without the other.  
 A. 23.—A little under twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—When working up lost time, thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—After a break-down in gearing or steam-engine, one hour per day, Saturdays excepted.  
 A. 26.—The workpeople prefer working up lost time, rather than there should be a deduction in their wages for lost time.  
 A. 27 & 28.—We have not.  
 A. 29.—We cannot give an answer to this, having never worked our hands all night.  
 A. 30.—The diminution of the hours of labour only applying to our younger hands, we are not able to speak to the increased cost.  
 A. 31.—We work up our lost time at the rate of one hour per day, and it would be unnecessary to have relays for so short a time.  
 A. 32.—We never had a relay of hands, as it would not answer to have them working up one hour per day; were we to try a relay of hands, and pay accordingly, the hands would not be content with a reduction in their wages.  
 A. 37.—Were our hands to expect to earn as much when there was a further reduction of the working hours as we now pay them, the cost of our manufactory would be more.  
 A. 38.—Between 60° and 70°.  
 A. 39.—Between 80° and 90° for sizing.  
 A. 40.—Nine men.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—Gas; but not for night-work.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, half an hour for the afternoon refreshment, for all under eighteen years of age.  
 A. 54.—All under eighteen years of age go out to meals, morning, noon, and afternoon; those above twenty-one go out to dinner only.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of hands as regards earnings.  
 A. 56.—Some of the hands under eighteen would rather take their meals in the factory, and the loss of time with those above eighteen would lessen their wages, which of course they would not like.  
 A. 57.—Persuasion, to which they must attend to, or be discharged.  
 A. 58.—Overlookers are not permitted by any one to inflict corporal punishments; if hands will not conduct themselves as they ought to do, and attend to their duty, they are discharged.  
 A. 59.—Not permitted by any one.  
 A. 63.—Corporal punishment not having been inflicted, we have not seen the necessity of giving instructions for its prevention.  
 A. 64.—Not a single complaint or case.  
 A. 65.—The hands reside in their own houses, at various distances from the factory.  
 A. 66.—Upon an average, those who have been the longest in their various branches in the trade are better calculated for their work than those who did not commence when children.



Lancashire.

*J. Higson & Son.*

A. 67.—We are not aware that the health of our workpeople is at all deteriorated during the last ten years.

A. 68.—We do not.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 74.—We have heard of mill-owners being summoned before the magistrate.

A. 75.—In some instances, and not in others.

A. 76.—We do not know whether the evidence was given reluctantly or not.

A. 77.—We cannot answer to this, as we do not know whether they are afraid of giving evidence or not.

A. 78.—We cannot suggest any thing, considering, as we do, that greater order and regularity scarcely can be observed by any workpeople, in whatever trade they may be.

JOSEPH HIGSON & Son.

No. 135.  
*Michael Newton.*

ANSWERS of MICHAEL NEWTON, Heaton Norris, Manchester.

A. 1.—Heaton Norris, parish of Manchester.

A. 2.—Silk-spinning.

A. 3.—At one time, and commenced for its present purpose in the year 1827.

A. 4.—The engine twenty-four horse, but this power not wanted at present.

A. 5.—The distinct provision for ventilation is prepared windows on each side of the factory.

A. 6.—Opening the windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the hands employed in each room.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts fenced off.

A. 9.—They have water for washing at discretion.

A. 10.—On enquiry, I find one at the age of eleven years, and not employed before at any other trade, but he is not obliged to work the regular hours.

A. 11.—It does, because the work is only suitable for children.

A. 12.—No alteration to affect this question.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Seventy-two hours per week, but sometimes run the card-room a little longer to accommodate the spinners when they are short of roving.

A. 19.—From thirteen to fourteen hours on some particular occasions.

A. 20.—Have kept no account; sometimes stopped for repairs, and fairs, &c.

A. 24.—Only one set of children: no account kept; but see answer to No. 19.

A. 25.—Usually at night, and for loss of time.

A. 26.—If avoided, it would be deducted from their wages.

A. 27.—Not that I remember.

A. 30.—The answer is clear; the less hours worked and the less work done, and in that proportion the increase of the cost of production, unless wages are proportionably reduced.

A. 33.—No, never.

A. 37.—I think it would make against both master and servant, the interests of both being closely united, and would tend to promote foreign competition.

A. 38.—We have no thermometer, and require no more heat than is necessary to keep the hands warm.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 51.—The same as the day.

A. 53.—Eight o'clock in the morning, twelve at noon, and at four in the afternoon.

A. 54.—Some leave, and others stop at the factory, as is convenient to themselves.

A. 56.—Some of them live at too great a distance from the factory.

A. 57.—If the children are not obedient, they are discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—No, not one.

A. 65.—None of mine.

A. 66.—Generally they are the most skilful when taken young, but there are always exceptions.

A. 68.—No changes necessary.

A. 69.—No.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 78 & 79.—No.

MICHAEL NEWTON.



## ANSWERS of JOSEPH READ, Heaton Norris.

Lancashire.

No. 136.

Joseph Read.

- A. 1.—Heaton Norris, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Carding, spinning, and manufacturing cotton wool.  
 A. 3.—At twice; 1821 and 1831; 1821 first employed.  
 A. 4.—Twenty-horse power, steam.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—By any in the same room.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—To change their clothes and washing.  
 A. 10.—From nine to twelve, and not previously employed, to our knowledge.  
 A. 11.—A few, on account of their size.  
 A. 12.—Much the same.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half, except Saturdays nine hours.  
 A. 18.—Those under eighteen twelve hours, Saturdays nine hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seven hours.  
 A. 22.—They have not.  
 A. 23.—About eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—No time exceeded.  
 A. 26.—Do not wish any beyond the regular hours.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 28.—Certainly.  
 A. 29.—We do not wish it continued by any.  
 A. 30.—Yes; in all the weekly wage hands in proportion to the limitation of hours, and those by piece in proportion to the quantity of work less produced, and having the same capital in building and machinery employed.  
 A. 31.—We do not wish for extra hours.  
 A. 32.—Cannot say.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 34.—Think day-work quite sufficient.  
 A. 35.—Never had any night hands.  
 A. 36.—Cannot say.  
 A. 37.—The same as Question 30.  
 A. 38.—Usual about 68°; lowest about 58°.  
 A. 39.—85°.  
 A. 40.—Six dressers.  
 A. 41.—No time.  
 A. 42.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 47.—Not continued.  
 A. 48.—None employed in such process.  
 A. 49.—No continuance.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 52.—Cannot say.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—All for dinner; and part for breakfast and tea.  
 A. 55.—For both.  
 A. 56.—Mill would have to stand, and be a loss to masters by injury to part of the work.  
 A. 57.—Use words of caution, and if that has not effect, give them proper notice to leave our employ.  
 A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes.  
 A. 63.—Yes; not punish, but discharge them.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Not in our employ.  
 A. 66.—Don't know any.  
 A. 67.—Rather improved than otherwise.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 71.—No.  
 A. 72.—No circumstance.  
 A. 73, 74, 75, & 76.—Cannot say.  
 A. 77.—No.  
 A. 78.—Regulate the hours as you like, but do not subject us to unnecessary penalties.  
 A. 79.—No.

JOSEPH READ.

(APP.—D. 1.)



Lancashire.

No. 137.

Rooth & Mayer.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. Rooth and Mayer, Heaton Norris, Manchester.

A. 1.—Hope Hill, in the township of Heaton Norris, in the parish of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—Part of them have been erected more than forty years, and other parts thirty years: and have all along been employed for their present purposes.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5.—Doors, and windows having casements.

A. 6.—The workers may ventilate the rooms at their pleasure.

A. 7.—No heat is required but what is for the comfort of the workers, except in the dressing-room.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts which can be fenced off, are so; but every wheel in the factory is dangerous if carelessly attended, as is every cart or coach wheel. At present we employ fifty-four persons under twelve years of age (three fourths of whom are in their twelfth year), whose wages average 3s. 2½d. per week each; ninety persons above twelve, and under eighteen years of age, whose wages average 7s. 7d. each per week; and one hundred and fifty-six persons above eighteen years of age, whose wages average 14s. 4d. each per week; making together, three hundred persons. About the same number have been employed by us for more than thirty years; and have never had any accident by the machinery fatal to human life; while several of our people have been drowned, and others have lost their lives by various accidents out of the factory.

A. 9.—The workpeople generally live near the factory. They frequently keep some change of apparel in the factory. If they were not always personally clean, they would be discharged.

A. 10.—The Act of Parliament requires the children to be nine years of age; but we never take them so young, unless the parents earnestly request it.

A. 11.—We never need, and never wish, to employ any children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Less; because machinery does their work in a great measure: and should the Ten Hours Bill, or any thing like it, pass into law, no children will be wanted at all in the cotton business; because the work of the men will be done by machinery; and the men must do the children's work, and be content with the children's wages, or else lose their employment altogether, and return to their parishes.

A. 13.—We have no apprentices.

A. 15.—Many are orphans; and, generally speaking, those have no guardians but their masters and the Sunday school teachers.

A. 16.—The kindness of their friends and teachers.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours on five days, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—Twelve hours for those under eighteen.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—The total number of days was two hundred and ninety-seven.

A. 21.—The total number of hours was three thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

A. 22.—Our works are regulated by the steam-engine, therefore all work or stand.

A. 23.—The average of the hours divided among the working days, was twelve hours twenty minutes and twenty seconds each day.

A. 26.—The workpeople often wish for an extra holiday as an indulgence, at fairs and other times, and to work up that time by half an hour per day on the five days of the week.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—The cost of production is increased rather more than double for the ratio of time lost, *i. e.* if the time diminished be one sixth, the increased cost would be more than one third.

A. 29.—The inducement to the manufacturer to work additional hours is the desire of gain; and from the answer to Question 28, it is easy to see how the master's interest is promoted by it as well as the servant's.

A. 30.—The wages of dead labour is equal in many cases to the wages of living labour, *i. e.* the interest of the capital sunk, and the expense of the working the machinery, and the amount paid to unproductive labourers, is equal to the sum paid in wages to the productive labourers; consequently, if this expense be calculated upon twelve working hours, a reduction of two hours, being one sixth, would increase the cost of working one third.

A. 31.—The objection to relays of children would be, that they must work at half the wages, whereby thousands of families (widows and orphans particularly), now in comfort, would be reduced to poverty and distress.

A. 32.—No; because every body knows that children of twelve years of age, or even of ten years, are more able to perform the work they have to do, for any length of hours, than the adults are able to perform their work for the same number of hours.

A. 33.—We never yet have worked at night; but if any shortening of the present hours of working were to take place, we must, however reluctantly, be obliged to do so in self-defence.

A. 34.—It would be our interest to work two sets of hands; because we could produce  
twice



twice the quantity of work on the same machinery, whereby a great amount of the wages of dead labour would be saved.

A. 36.—It would prevent night-workers from gaining a pecuniary advantage over those more considerate and humane manufacturers, who abstain from night working on the grounds of the health and morals of the people.

A. 37.—This is by far the most important question in the list, and that upon which the Commissioners will find it most difficult to decide, because of the different opinions that will be given upon it by different persons. Our opinion is, decidedly, that a reduction of wages in a ratio of more than double the reduction of time, would immediately take place, but in a short time a still farther reduction of wages would be made. Our reasons for this opinion are,—

1st. That the competition in the cotton trade with our foreign rivals is so great, that any advance of cost would inevitably send away our foreign orders; but as the masters and workmen would both be equally desirous to struggle against this—and their only resource would be upon the cost of wages, and as the loss of time would be quite equal upon the machinery to the loss of time upon living wages—the people employed must inevitably bear both; so that if time were reduced one-sixth, wages must necessarily be reduced one-third; and nothing could prevent this consequence from following.

2d. But as all restrictions upon human labour must have the effect of whetting up the invention of ingenious mechanics, and of prematurely hastening the substitution of machinery for human labour; and as the shortening of the hours of labour would act as a large bonus for the erection of machinery, which would neither grow tired nor sick from twenty-four hours labour, any more than from twelve hours, it is quite evident that great numbers of the hands at present in work would lose their employment altogether, or be reduced to the alternative of accepting it at any wage that might be offered; which, in our opinion, in a very few years from the passing of a Ten Hours Bill, would not be equal to half of what they now obtain.

3d. The most ruinous effects must necessarily follow. If the wages were kept up, the foreign demand would inevitably cease; and the consequence would be, a reduction in the quantities of cotton, dye woods, coals, soap, flour, iron, and every other article consumed in the manufactories. If the wages were reduced, (which, in our opinion, would be the inevitable consequence,) then a proportionate reduction in the price of corn, and all other home-produce, must take place. And no combinations of masters or of workmen, or of both together, and no protecting corn laws, nor any other acts of Parliament, could by any possibility prevent the depreciation of rents, and the reduction of all agricultural labour, along with the depreciation of the manufacturing interests.

A. 38.—Our usual temperature is from 60° to 62° of Fahrenheit, but our work requires no particular heat; any heat above the freezing point will do for us. We require no heat but what is for the comfort of the workpeople. In ninety-nine out of a hundred cotton factories, no heat is required for the work.

A. 39.—Except in our dressing-room, which requires either hot air or cold air (either will do) to dry the threads which have been saturated in fermented flour, or paste as it is called. This room is generally from 80° to 90°.

A. 40.—We employ eight men in this room; and this department is the most healthy that can possibly be. Men of delicate habits, and even of exhausted constitutions, by being put to this work, soon become strong, vigorous, healthy, and even corpulent. As a general observation, those persons who work in the rooms which are kept at the highest temperature, suffer the least from sickness. Hence, the spinning-rooms are always more healthy than the weaving-rooms. We pretend not to account for this as to the theory, but the fact is undeniable, and remarkably striking to those who have attended to it.

A. 50.—Our works are lighted by gas in the evenings.

A. 51.—Same as in the day.

A. 52.—We should suppose injurious.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, an hour at dinner, and half an hour in the afternoon.

A. 54.—All under eighteen years of age leave the factory at meal times.

A. 55.—The adults do not leave the factory, because it would deduct from their wages, except to dinner, when all go out.

A. 56.—Answer 55.

A. 57.—Children as well as adults know they are to do the work assigned them or be discharged.

A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 64.—No such thing in forty years.

A. 65.—Partly in our own houses, and partly not so. If they were not moderately clean both in their persons and in their houses, we should discharge them.

A. 66.—In all businesses, but especially in the care of machinery, ingenuity and quickness are most essential: it is therefore evident, that those who are put to the work early, will be the most ingenious and clever at it. Besides that those who are inured to this as to any other, will adjust their habits, and even their constitutions, to their employment.

A. 67.—Improved for many reasons. Great improvements have been made in the buildings, in the heating, lighting, and ventilation of the rooms, in the cleanliness of the machinery as well as the rooms, and the consequent cleanliness of the workers in such rooms. But the greatest change in favour of their health, as well as of their habits and

(APP.—D. 1.)

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morals, has been effected by education: and the factory children are in these respects particularly benefited by the kind of education they receive, which is in the Sunday schools. The factory children are among the best attendants at the Sunday schools: the regularity of the factory hours, as well as the influence of their masters and overlookers, inducing them generally to attend those schools; where they are placed under the care of teachers of a higher grade in society than the common day-school teachers: from whose example and instructions, and kind care, they learn to be clean and neat in their persons, regular and orderly in their habits and behaviour, and are generally uncommonly well clothed; and of course they carry the same cleanliness and good order to their own homes, and by industry and economy, they obtain good furniture and comfortable bedding; and obtain also the knowledge, as well as the means of preserving their health, or being sooner cured if taken sick. They do also, by the recommendation of their teachers, and by the example of the more provident among themselves, pretty generally become members of sick or funeral societies; which are a comfortable provision for them, rendering parochial assistance unnecessary.

A. 68.—We know of no process in our factory injurious at all to the health of the persons employed; but among so many, there are of various constitutions, and some of course much more delicate than others. In most factories there are some so delicate as not to be able to work at all at other businesses. Of course, a considerate master will show all the indulgence he can to such cases, and we believe this is very generally done in the trade. Dry rooms, kept at a high temperature, are peculiarly favourable to scrofulous habits: and those where the threads of cotton have been saturated with vegetable size, are very grateful to consumptive constitutions. These uniformly feel themselves better in the factory than in their own houses; because it is impossible that their small rooms, or indeed any rooms in private houses, can be so salubrious as the large rooms of factories, where the air is kept at an equable temperature, and where it is constantly regenerated by the action of machinery driving out the foul, and introducing the purer atmosphere.

A. 69.—Undoubtedly so.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never.

A. 77.—Nothing of the kind. An honest workman would naturally feel reluctant to give evidence against a good master, upon an information laid against him by some common informer, or some designing rogue; but the workmen are none afraid of displeasing their masters. The workmen are as independent of their masters, as their masters are of their servants.

A. 78.—All interferences by acts of Parliament between masters and workmen, in any branch of trade, appear to us to be radically bad, and contrary to all rational principles of good government. The common law of the land is amply sufficient for the protection of both parties. No pains or penalties whatever can secure obedience to laws which are oppressive and unjust; and the higher the penalties to enforce obedience, the greater the temptation to evade them: because they always act as a bonus to the dishonourable, and as a discouragement to the honourable; and thereby always inflict the greatest punishment upon those they are intended to serve. And as trade, like religion, always flourishes most when left to itself, the very agitation of these subjects, for some years back, has been a great injury to the manufacturing interests, and ought to be put at rest as soon as possible. If, therefore, any law upon the subject must be made, our opinion is, that such law ought to extend to every trade, and to every part of his Majesty's dominions; otherwise, it must necessarily be oppressive and unjust to some. If any law must, therefore, be enacted to put the matter at rest, we beg leave respectfully to suggest, that it should be upon some such general principles as the following:—

1st. That no child in his Majesty's dominions should be allowed to work at any trade, profession, or calling, in factories, mills, workshops, or elsewhere, until it shall have attained a certain age (say ten or eleven); nor then, unless it have acquired a certain degree of knowledge, say, at any rate, to be able to read the Scriptures. But when once the children have begun to work, it is ridiculous to make any distinction between them and adults; because every one knows, that has any experience in the manufactories, what indeed common sense teaches, that the children employed in them are more able to sustain the labour they have to perform, for any given number of hours whatever, than the adults are to sustain the labour they have to perform for the same given number of hours.

2d. That no person whatever be allowed to work in any factories, shops, or work-shops whatever, more than for twelve hours of labour in each day. And that no works whatever be allowed to be carried on at night; *i. e.* between the hours of eight at night, and four o'clock in the morning.

3d. That the overseers of the poor should, in every parish, be the guardians of such an act, with power to visit; to lay informations before two or more magistrates, who should summon all such witnesses as the overseers require.

4th. That the magistrates upon conviction should have power to levy a fine not exceeding (perhaps ten pounds) for every offence: the fine to go in every case to the public funds for the relief of the poor, and nothing to the informer or witness but their actual expences.

Such an act would be easily enforced, and, we think, generally and readily obeyed.

ALEXANDER ROTH.  
JOSEPH MAYER.



## ANSWERS of FRANCIS SMITH CLAYTON, Heaton Norris.

Lancashire.

No. 138.

*F. S. Clayton.*

- A. 1.—Heaton Norris, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton weaving by power.  
 A. 3.—The factory (of which I only occupy part) was built in 1822, and first worked in 1823.  
 A. 4.—It is worked by a steam engine.  
 A. 5.—None, except the opening of windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—Each overlooker attends to the part under his superintendence; but the persons nearest the windows are generally averse to having them opened.  
 A. 8.—The wheels that turn the upright shaft are exposed, owing to the owner of the mill having hitherto neglected to fence it off.  
 A. 9.—No.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. Some in the print work, others as errand boys; and the girls principally in taking care of children.  
 A. 11, 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen for those who do not choose to go out to breakfast or in the afternoon.  
 A. 18.—Those under eighteen years are worked twelve hours, all above, as in the answer to the last question.  
 A. 19.—Fourteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and thirty-two and a quarter.  
 A. 22.—They have not been carried on at different times.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours sixteen minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen.  
 A. 25.—There has not been any extra working of the hands under eighteen, except when time has been lost by an accident to the engine or gearing.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—I do not know any inducement he can have, except to lessen expence.  
 A. 30.—I employ so very few persons under eighteen years, that I never made any calculation; but they will certainly do less work than those who are not limited to twelve hours.  
 A. 31.—Not having worked extra hours, and being without information on the subject, I cannot answer this question.  
 A. 33.—I have never worked by night.  
 A. 37.—I think that the earnings of the hands will be lessened in nearly the same proportion, as the reduction of the hours of working.  
 A. 38.—There is not any artificial heat in any part of the factory occupied by me, except in the dressing room, which is the attic.  
 A. 39.—The degree of heat depends upon the state of the weather; when the atmosphere is dry very little heat is required.  
 A. 40.—Fourteen men, and one girl, aged twelve years. The average time of the girl's work is not more than nine hours per day.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast, half an hour, to all under eighteen years, and all the others if they think proper. Dinner one hour to all, and also half an hour in the afternoon, to all who like, at four o'clock.  
 A. 54.—The number going out varies, but all have liberty if they think proper.  
 A. 55.—Those under eighteen years are not allowed to remain during the time allowed for breakfast or dinner; those above eighteen years please themselves.  
 A. 56.—It would not make any difference to me, as all my hands have liberty to go out.  
 A. 57.—A child persisting in neglecting work, or ill behaviour, would be sent away.  
 A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 63.—No; but my overlookers are so well aware that I should not allow any thing of the kind, that there is little danger of their incurring my censure on that account.  
 A. 64.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 65.—No; they live all over the town, and some at a distance in the country. There is no control exercised over them; but I sometimes admonish them, when I hear of their behaving ill when off work.  
 A. 66.—I am not aware of any general difference. I have good hands of both classes.  
 A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference.  
 A. 68.—I have not any particular process that is injurious.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—I have never been informed against.  
 A. 77.—I think it is not the case in towns; in country places it may be different.  
 A. 78.—I think the only effective provision would be a restriction on the moving power.

FRANCIS SMITH CLAYTON.



Lancashire.

No. 139.

William Smith.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM SMITH, Heaton Norris, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Township of Heaton Norris, parish of Manchester, county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning, dressing and weaving, from thirty-six to forty hanks in the lb.
- A. 3.—Yes, they have been erected at different times, viz. one mill in the year 1793; one mill 1818; one mill 1820; one mill 1823.
- A. 4.—Two steam engines, regular, one hundred horses.
- A. 5.—No; there is no specific provision.
- A. 6.—Each window has a casement for admitting air.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of overlookers and hands generally.
- A. 8.—Yes; all dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—Yes; I have a reservoir and cisterns of water both in the yard and on the roofs of the mills, from which the hands are supplied with good soft water, and they have conveniences for washing and changing their clothes.
- A. 10.—Nine years. Not to my knowledge.
- A. 11.—My work does not require children under twelve years of age, though they are often engaged (at the earnest solicitation of their parents) at an earlier age, and my opinion is, that twelve years is sufficiently early for any child to commence work.
- A. 12.—Decidedly a less proportion.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—I do not lodge or provide maintenance for any person.
- A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days, and nine hours for Saturday.
- A. 18.—All persons under eighteen years of age work twelve hours for five days, and nine hours for Saturday; and all above eighteen years of age, thirteen hours for five days, and nine hours Saturday.
- A. 19.—Fourteen hours for those above eighteen, and that was in consequence of a break down.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and forty-four hours.
- A. 22.—All my works are carried on regular, except in cases of accidents.
- A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half for five days, and nine hours for Saturday.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours, except in cases of working up lost time, when thirteen hours has been the longest time.
- A. 25.—When I had a break down.
- A. 26.—It is not avoidable, except in case of an abatement of wages; and even then, it is a serious loss to the proprietors.
- A. 27.—I never did work more than thirteen hours, except in cases of a break down.
- A. 32.—It has not been tried by me. Why, because I did not require extra hours.
- A. 33.—I have not employed a night set of hands, therefore I cannot answer.
- A. 37.—My opinion is, that by a further reduction of the working hours, a reduction of wages would be the consequence, and it would also increase the cost of production; and trade, in its present state, will not allow of such extra cost.
- A. 38.—56° for weaving, 60° to 70° for carding and spinning, and 85° for dressing. The above degrees of heat I consider most suitable for my work.
- A. 39.—85° for dressing.
- A. 40.—I employ twenty-five men for dressing.
- A. 46.—I have no processes which require a continuation for twenty-four hours.
- A. 50.—In winter, I light by gas, but I have no night-work.
- A. 51.—My works are not continued during night.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea in the afternoon.
- A. 54.—All persons under eighteen years of age leave my works during meal-times, and all above eighteen leave the works from twelve to one o'clock for dinner.
- A. 55.—The practice of not stopping the works during breakfast and tea was at the solicitation of the hands above eighteen years of age.
- A. 56.—I conceive no effect, provided the regular quantity of hours were worked.
- A. 57.—Abatements, or a discharge from the works.
- A. 58.—No; not to my knowledge.
- A. 63.—My instructions both to my foreman and overlookers are, that if hands do not suit or obey orders, they must discharge them forthwith.
- A. 64.—No such complaint has been made.
- A. 65.—In these parts, very few hands are provided with houses by their employers.
- A. 66.—There is a very material difference betwixt those employed from infancy and those who learn when adults; and a decided preference is given to the former instance. Ann Turner, jack-frame tenter; Sarah Bardsley, ditto; Maria Stanney, ditto; Sarah Moss, drawing tenter; Sarah Pressford, jack-frame tenter; Thomas Royle, overlooker; David Bowden, grinder; James Longson, overlooker of blowers.
- A. 67.—I consider the health of persons employed in factories have improved during the last ten years, and the reason I ascribe for it is this, that factories, generally, are better conducted, and more cleanly than formerly.
- A. 68.—No, I do not.
- A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.



A. 70.—Yes; twice.

A. 71.—No. No. Nothing.

A. 72.—There was no conviction.

A. 77.—I have no reason to think so from what I have seen and heard in such cases.

A. 78.—I am decidedly opposed to any legislation betwixt master and servant; but at the same time would recommend, that no child should be engaged under twelve years of age.

A. 79.—If factories are to be subject to an Act of Parliament, it is my opinion, that nothing effectual can be done except it is laid upon the moving power; and I should suggest, that all persons above twelve years of age work twelve hours per day.

WILLIAM SMITH.

Lancashire.

William Smith.

ANSWERS of SAMUEL STOCKS jun., Heaton Norris, Manchester.

No. 140.

S. Stocks jun.

A. 1.—Township of Heaton Norris, in the parish of Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Spinning, weaving, bleaching and dyeing.

A. 3.—Spinning factory about forty years, weaving factory nine years, bleaching, &c. fifty years or more.

A. 4.—Steam and water; the latter various, from nothing to thirty-horse power; and the former to the extent of one hundred and twenty-nine-horse power.

A. 5.—By casements in the windows under the control of the people.

A. 6.—On the opening of the casements and sometimes the entire of a sash window.

A. 7.—Under the control of any, or all.

A. 8.—All are fenced off.

A. 9.—None particular, but all are required to be cleanly.

A. 10.—Nine years. I believe not.

A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require them under twelve years of age, but the wants of the families do.

A. 12.—The recent alteration of machinery admits of more children being employed. Adults could do all, but children are more convenient.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Five days twelve hours each, and one day nine hours, except as contained in Answer No. 19.

A. 19.—From the breaking of geering, the spinning and weaving factories have worked thirteen hours occasionally, which happens but seldom.

A. 20.—Three hundred and nine days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-four hours and a half.

A. 22.—The spinning and weaving work nearly all alike.

A. 23.—Twelve hours per day, except nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—When breakages happen to the geering.

A. 26.—The hands always require the lost time to be worked up, and I always wish it for my own interest.

A. 27.—Seventy-two hours per week is the greatest number ever worked.

A. 28.—The cost is increased.

A. 29.—Large expenses being fixed, the greater the quantity turned off will cheapen the cost of production.

A. 30.—All hands working by the day, create an increased cost by the reduction of time, as well as the rent and taxes, in the same proportion.

A. 31.—No objection whatever, if hands could be had, for one part to work till noon, and the other part the remainder of the day.

A. 32.—Not by me; we have not hands to make the change if we would.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—First, a reduction of all wages; and second, we shall not have fair play with other countries, who may work without limitation of time.

A. 38.—I have no thermometer in the factories; but no artificial heat is introduced into our factory except the dressing-room, which is at the top of the building, and properly ventilated. But the spinning factory is about the usual heat of a sitting room.

A. 39.—The dressing of warps requires about 90°.

A. 40.—Fifteen persons, all stout men.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as in the day.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, and tea half an hour.

A. 54.—All have the opportunity, and the manager has frequently to drive them out, lest informers should take advantage.

A. 55.—Their stopping within doors is no convenience to me, as the engine stops.

A. 56.—Persons should be left to themselves, to take advantage of the weather and other circumstances, perhaps pregnancy, &c.

A. 57.—We educate them, correct them, reward them, and use every means to make them good.

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P p

A. 58.



Lancashire.

*S. Stocks jun.*

A. 58.—Not by their master (meaning myself) nor by my permission, except in very flagrant cases, and mostly at the request of the parents.

A. 59.—Sometimes one and sometimes another.

A. 60 & 61.—Yes.

A. 62.—No: but always recommend to be very sparing of it. What father is it that has not occasion to use the rod?

A. 63.—No writing on the subject.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Many of them do; and some are very clean and some are very dirty, but all the houses are whitewashed every year, or oftener. Ninety-five out of one hundred are very clean. Night school and Sunday school on the premises.

A. 66.—It seldom happens that adults are taken to learn the cotton trade; but to begin in infancy is to be preferred. This reply will apply to any trade.

A. 67.—The compactness of machinery, the cleanliness of factories, the better educated condition of the hands, all tend to the improvement of the health, and, my oldest hands say, "they think better health prevails." See the statement herewith marked.

A. 68 & 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—Yes; repeal all the Acts which affect labour and wages, and do with them as you would do with the wind, let them alone. Acts of Parliament serve informers, but no one else.

A. 79.—Yes; tell parliament to follow the above advice.

SAMUEL STOCKS, Jun.

No. 14.

*Wilkinson.*

## ANSWERS of GEORGE WILKINSON, Heaton Norris.

A. 1.—In the township of Heaton Norris, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Throstle and mule-spinning, and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The mill is employed for the same purpose as when first built, and having passed to different owners, I cannot state the time of its erection.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of forty-five-horse power.

A. 6.—On opening the windows, which are sash windows.

A. 7.—It is controlled, at the discretion of all, by making the temperature of the rooms agreeable to themselves.

A. 8.—All considered dangerous is fenced off.

A. 9.—I have not any specific arrangements; but I have a stream of clean water constantly running through my premises, and the workpeople have almost all vessels of their own, for washing themselves in; and can change their clothes at leisure on leaving or entering the mill.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—It is necessary for me to admit children under twelve years, in order that they may be better qualified to do their work when they attain that age.

A. 12.—I do not think it has made any difference.

A. 13.—I do not.

A. 17.—Twelve hours per day is the time that three fourths of the persons above twenty-one work, and nine hours and a half on Saturdays.

A. 18.—All persons under eighteen years work twelve hours per day, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven.

A. 21.—This we cannot answer, as we have often lost, through accidents, half hours and hours, which have not been worked up.

A. 22.—They are all carried on in the same manner throughout the day.

A. 23.—Twelve hours per day, for persons above eighteen years, and eleven hours for persons under that age.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—None.

A. 26.—I consider that there is no necessity for working beyond the regular hours, in any circumstance or on any occasion whatever.

A. 27.—Yes; before the present Act for reducing the hours was passed.

A. 28.—I do, certainly.

A. 29.—The additional quantity produced by the machinery being longer at work, and consequently an additional profit on the extra produced. I never knew of night-work being continued by the same set of hands as day-work.

A. 30.—If the bill now before the House of Commons is passed, it will increase the cost of production one fifth.

A. 31.—I never work extra hours; but I do not know of any objection that can be urged against relays by those who do.

A. 32.—I am not aware that the system has been tried in my neighbourhood, for they do not exceed the regular hours, and have no occasion to try it.

A. 33.—I never worked my mill in the night.

A. 36.



A. 36.—Having never worked in the night, it would not affect me at all; but if night-work were prohibited it would benefit all, by making the hours of working the same for one as another.

A. 37.—It would increase the poverty of both master and hand, in the same proportion as a reduction of the hours of labour, from what they are now.

A. 38.—From 60° to 65° is the regular temperature.

A. 39.—From 70° to 80°.

A. 40.—Three men only.

A. 46.—No; I find no necessity for continuing any process beyond the regular hours of day-work.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—There is no other provision than opening the windows.

A. 52.—I consider the effect to be injurious to their general health, appetite, and sight, and it also destroys their domestic comfort.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea, for persons under eighteen years: three fourths of those above that age have the same allowance.

A. 54.—All under eighteen years leave for meals, and many of those above, the nature of whose work will allow it.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the hands, many of them living at too great a distance from their employment.

A. 56.—The effect would be, that if they had thirty minutes allowed it would be forty minutes before they could get properly to work again, and in some cases more. I find this the case now, with those who take meals out.

A. 57.—Remonstrance and admonition with the refractory, and if that will not take effect they are discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—I have expressly commanded, that if persons will not do their duty without punishment, they shall be discharged.

A. 64.—Neither myself nor overlookers have ever been proceeded against within the last three years, or any previous period, on the subject of punishment.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—I have no persons in my works who have been employed by me from infancy.

A. 67.—We have no persons who have worked for me ten years; but those who have worked with us several years, are decidedly improved, from regular habits, regular employment, and regular food and clothing.

A. 68.—I have only three persons employed at any process which may be considered injurious, and that from the heat alone: I make no selection or change, for I find no occasion for any.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—They do, to the best of my knowledge.

A. 77.—No; any operative will give evidence, if he has any to give.

A. 78.—Neither children nor adults receive any injury by working twelve hours per day nett for five days, and on Saturdays nine hours, which would be sixty-nine hours per week for the moving power to turn, whether steam-engine or water-wheel; that is, to stop the moving power half an hour for breakfast, half an hour for tea, and a full hour for dinner. I would also suggest that no night-work shall be allowed.

GEORGE WILKINSON.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH BELL CLARKE, Holt Town, Manchester.

No. 142.  
*Joseph Bell Clarke*

A. 1.—Holt Town, Manchester.

A. 2.—Woollen spinning.

A. 3.—An old mill, erected a very long time since; originally built for cottages.

A. 4.—Eight-horse steam-engine; ten water-wheel.

A. 5.—Only the window.

A. 6.—On the opening the window.

A. 7.—By overlookers and by persons employed.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—From seven years upwards: this business not being regulated by Act of parliament, the age depends upon the man who engages the children.

A. 11.—We do in this business require children under twelve years of age; at this age they would be too big.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—The usual hours we have worked have been twelve, but not being under any Act of parliament no particular notice is taken: but other mills work from five in the morning to nine at night.

A. 19.—Cannot tell, not being regulated by any Act of parliament; the hours depend upon the work wanted.

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A. 20.



Lancashire.

*Joseph Bell Clarke.*

- A. 20.—Every day, except holidays and accidents.  
 A. 21.—Cannot tell, there being no Act: take no notice, as all the work is done piece-work.  
 A. 24.—Perhaps thirteen, but cannot say exactly.  
 A. 25.—As goods were wanted.  
 A. 26.—Only by an Act of parliament.  
 A. 27.—We have only had this mill two years.  
 A. 28.—As you reduce the hours of labour the cost must be more.  
 A. 29.—To turn off an extra quantity of work.  
 A. 30.—In all branches.  
 A. 31.—The impossibility.  
 A. 32.—I am informed it has been tried; in my opinion it is impossible.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—General benefit.  
 A. 37.—The present hours are too long.  
 A. 38.—50° or 60°.  
 A. 39.—The greatest we can get.  
 A. 40.—Four or six.  
 A. 42.—No.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 53.—Thirty minutes breakfast, sixty minutes dinner.  
 A. 54 & 55.—As they please.  
 A. 56.—A benefit to the people.  
 A. 57.—Sometimes discharged, sometimes beaten.  
 A. 58.—Suppose so.  
 A. 59.—By persons who employ them.  
 A. 60.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 61.—With neither.  
 A. 62.—General orders not to beat the children.  
 A. 64.—Not that I know of.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 67.—Of my personal knowledge cannot say; I could only say what the workpeople, which is favourable.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is not.  
 A. 70.—Not under any Act.  
 A. 77.—Yes; in cotton mills.  
 A. 78.—By starting the engine at a fixed hour in the morning, and by leaving off at a fixed hour at night.  
 A. 79.—Shall be happy to answer any questions which may be put to me.

JOSEPH BELL CLARKE.

## ANSWERS of H. SIDEBOTHAM, Houghton, Manchester.

No. 143.  
H. Sidebotham.

- A. 1.—Houghton, in the parish of Manchester, and county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing by power.  
 A. 3.—One part erected in 1810, for spinning, and another in 1822, for manufacturing.  
 A. 4.—One water-wheel about twenty-horse power, when there is a regular supply of water; one steam-engine, forty-horse power, and an extra engine, about twenty-five-horse power, to take place of the water-wheel, when short of water, or backflooded.  
 A. 5.—There is a ventilation at one end of the mill, by two chimneys in the wall, carried up to the top. The blowing room is ventilated by a fan, and extra chimney, to which the dust is conveyed by trunks, and most of the windows in this room have sashes to open.  
 A. 6.—By means of two small squares at the corners of each window, and if that is not sufficient, by opening the sashes.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all in the room.  
 A. 8.—They are all fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There are pegs fixed for them to hang their clothes upon, and a trough in the yard, constantly supplied with warm water for them to wash in.  
 A. 10.—The youngest from nine to ten years old, who have not been employed in any other trade.  
 A. 11.—We would much rather not have them under twelve years of age, but we have great difficulty in procuring them, being in the country and short of cottages.  
 A. 12.—The machinery being increased in speed, requires more piecers, and the weaving will require children nearly twelve years old.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We have no children but what live with their parents or guardians.  
 A. 17.—The engine runs thirteen hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays, but the hands leave work half an hour for breakfast and half an hour for tea.  
 A. 18.—The children are made to leave the mill for breakfast and tea, but the people twenty-one years old please themselves.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours, with one hour off for meals.

A. 20.



- A. 20.—From May 28th 1832, to May 25th 1833, two hundred and seventy-one days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand two hundred and twelve hours, from May 28th 1832, to May 25th 1833. Lancashire.
- A. 22.—We work altogether, unless any part may be stopped through the misfortune of breaking any of the shafting or wheels, and which is repaired as soon as possible. Henry Sidebotham
- A. 23.—Ten hours and two thirds per day.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half per day.
- A. 25.—In case of any accident of breaking down, &c. we have got up half an hour per day for six days.
- A. 26.—We avoid getting up lost time as much as possible, and would much rather deduct the proportion of wage from the day-wage hands.
- A. 27.—We formerly made seventy-two hours per week; we now work sixty-nine hours per week.
- A. 28.—Certainly.
- A. 29.—We prefer sixty-nine hours per week to any other time, either for children or adults.
- A. 30.—We (as yet) pay the day-wage hands the same wages for sixty-nine hours as we did for seventy-two hours, and the number of day hands is considerable.
- A. 31.—We do not think we should be able to procure a relay of hands.
- A. 32.—Never been tried, nor have we given it a consideration.
- A. 33.—We never employed a night set.
- A. 34.—We certainly think it would be our interest to work a night set as far as the water-wheel would do, but we do not like the idea.
- A. 36.—Much better in regard to health and morals.
- A. 37.—We believe every hour less than sixty-nine per week will be a reduction in the wages, and assist the foreign manufacturer.
- A. 38.—Only one room as high as  $72^{\circ}$ , for dressing; the other from  $65^{\circ}$  to  $70^{\circ}$ , except the effects of weather.
- A. 39.—Nothing above  $72^{\circ}$ .
- A. 40.—Twenty persons.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—When we work after dark, we light up by gas.
- A. 51.—Same as the day.
- A. 52.—Cannot say, having never tried.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.
- A. 54.—All that wish it; but all under age are made to leave.
- A. 55.—The workpeople.
- A. 56.—Would require a number of people to keep them out of mischief.
- A. 57.—If they do not do as they are required, we discharge them, giving them a fortnight's notice.
- A. 58.—We use none, but sometimes a spinner will box his piecer.
- A. 59.—We fix upon no one, and seldom hear of any punishment.
- A. 62.—When we have heard of any, we have informed the parents, and requested they would deal with them.
- A. 64.—We have never had any complaint before a magistrate.
- A. 65.—Some live in our own cottages, and we give them tickets of admission to Sunday schools in the neighbourhood, and request them to attend. We do not interfere with their domestic arrangements, but make every convenience for hard and soft water.
- A. 66.—We always prefer the hands employed from infancy.
- A. 67.—We know no difference.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 77 & 78.—No.
- A. 79.—We are of opinion that sixty-nine hours per week is quite enough for both children and adults, and not too much, but at the same time we should not wish that time exceeded, and we wish night-work to be abolished.

HENRY SIDEBOTHAM.

## ANSWERS of JOHN POOLEY jun., for Messrs. John Pooley and Son, Hulme, Manchester.

No. 144.  
John Pooley jun.

- A. 1.—Hulme, in the parish of Manchester, in the county of Lancashire.
- A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.
- A. 3.—The works have been built at different periods, viz. one mill in the year 1798, a second ditto in 1800, a third in 1802, a fourth in 1810, and a fifth in 1824.
- A. 4.—Four steam-engines, together one hundred-horse power.
- A. 5.—All the mills are ventilated by means of windows on each side of the building.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of any person.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.
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*John Pooley jun.*

A. 9.—Provision is made for the workpeople to hang up their clothes in their respective rooms, and a cook-house is provided, where the hands can wash themselves when they think proper. These provisions have always existed.

A. 10.—Nine years. We believe they have not been employed previously.

A. 11.—The nature of children's work in our employ is so trifling, that we think there would be great difficulty in procuring children of twelve years of age to do the work.

A. 12.—Rather less proportion of children under twelve years.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day except on Saturday, when they work nine hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half (to work up lost time, as allowed by the Act of Parliament).

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—The weekly average was sixty-nine hours.

A. 22.—The works have all been carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half (the reason stated to Query 19).

A. 25.—When an accident has happened to the steam-engines.

A. 26.—It is only necessary in order to work up lost time.

A. 27 & 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—An extra profit, in consequence of the large amount of capital embarked in the trade.

A. 30.—Yes; but cannot state the exact proportions.

A. 31.—We are of opinion that the present number of hours for working is sufficient, and a relay of hands unnecessary.

A. 32.—Not been tried, because unnecessary.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 37.—We are of opinion that any further reduction of the hours of labour would eventually be the destruction of our export trade, in consequence of the difficulty we now have of competing with foreigners.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is from 65° to 70°, but more than 65° is unnecessary.

A. 39.—65°.

A. 40.—About five hundred and twenty.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—All are allowed to leave at meal times, though some of them choose to remain for their own convenience; but a room is provided for them to take their meals.

A. 56.—We do not require any person to remain in the mill during meal times.

A. 57.—They are discharged if they don't do their duty.

A. 58 & 59.—Corporal punishment is forbidden.

A. 62.—Yes; and when we have heard of any instance of its infliction, the parties have been discharged.

A. 64.—No instance of this sort.

A. 65.—Some of them live in our houses. As regards their moral improvement, a Sunday school is provided close to our works, where most of the children regularly attend.

A. 66.—Most of our workpeople have been brought up to the work from infancy.

A. 67.—We consider the health of the people in our employ quite as good now as it was ten years ago.

A. 68.—In some instances, when it is found to be necessary.

A. 69.—We conform to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We think that the mills in Manchester, generally speaking, conform to the provisions of the Act.

A. 77.—We cannot say.

A. 78.—We cannot give an opinion on this subject.

JOHN POOLEY, Jun., for John Pooley & Son.

No. 145.  
*J. & R. Lord.*

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. JOSEPH and ROBERT LORD, Kersley.

A. 1.—In the township of Kersley and county of Lancashire.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing of cotton.

A. 3.—Our mill was erected in 1828, and began to work January 1829.

A. 4.—Our moving power is a steam-engine, twenty-four-horse power.

A. 5.—Our ventilation depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Our ventilation is regulated by the overlooker.

A. 8.—The most dangerous part of our machinery is fenced off.

A. 10.—Nine years of age.

A. 13.—We have no apprentices.

A. 17.—All persons employed in our mill work twelve hours; on Saturday nine.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days.

A. 21.



- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-two to five hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours nineteen minutes.  
 A. 25.—At those times when the steam-engine or mill-geering have been out of order, and thereby caused loss of time.  
 A. 26.—It is so far unavoidable as it would be detrimental to the interest of the master, and lower the wages of the operative.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 37.—We object to a reduction of hours, on the ground that it must either lessen the profits of the master, or cause the article manufactured to advance in price, or otherwise lower the wages of the workpeople; when we consider the capital advanced, the competition of other nations, with which we have to contend, as well as the present state of the working class, we think a reduction would be attended with serious consequences.  
 A. 50.—With gas, from six o'clock in the morning to daylight, and from daylight to half past seven o'clock in the evening, during winter.  
 A. 53.—For breakfast, from eight o'clock to half past; for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.  
 A. 54.—All leave our works at meal times, but those that come from a distance; for these a convenient place is set apart.  
 A. 57.—Overlookers.  
 A. 58.—No corporal punishment is allowed or inflicted on any person employed in our works.  
 A. 64.—No complaints have been made since our mill began.  
 A. 65.—Our houses are whitewashed once a year; tracts are distributed among them, and every encouragement given them to attend a place of worship on the Lord's day.  
 A. 69.—Our mill is subject to the provisions of the present Act.  
 A. 70.—We have not been the subject of any information.

JOSEPH & ROBERT LORD.

Lancashire.  
 J. & R. Lord.

## ANSWERS of JOHN GREG, for Samuel Greg and Co.

No. 146.  
 John Greg.

- A. 1.—Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving.  
 A. 3.—Between 1823 and 1828.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power entirely.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Every second window opens. There is no other provision.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the overlooker; but the rooms would be better ventilated if the workpeople would permit it.  
 A. 8.—They all are.  
 A. 9.—We furnish them with the materials for aprons; in some cases, we wash them weekly. The workpeople have facilities for washing themselves at all times.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; and, except in cases of poverty, not under ten years. They have rarely been employed at other trades.  
 A. 11.—It does not require it; but it would be difficult to find the requisite number of children above that age.  
 A. 12.—A greater proportion of children, but not under twelve years.  
 A. 13.—None.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours per day for five days, and nine on Saturday. Some few work half an hour, or three quarters of an hour, extra, if they please.  
 A. 18.—The same hours, except the extra hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours, and very rarely that.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and four days, from March 1832 to March 1833.  
 A. 21.—One part, three thousand four hundred and ninety-one hours; another, three thousand four hundred and eighty-six; and a third, three thousand four hundred and twenty-one hours.  
 A. 22.—Except in case of accident, all the same hours; our spinning department is only worked eight hours on Saturday.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours six minutes each day.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen. I believe some individuals have once or twice exceeded these hours in cleaning, but it was against our express orders.  
 A. 25.—Only after accidents to engine and mill-geering.  
 A. 26.—Some few accidents will occur: and the loss of time, if not made good, is a loss to both master and hands. Our establishment lost nearly a week by accidents last year, of which not more than a day was worked up again.  
 A. 27.—Yes; before the present Act, seventy-two hours were worked.  
 A. 28.—The cost of spinning was enhanced; the weaving was not. In the latter case, the work was made up by greater diligence; in the former case, this was not possible.  
 A. 29.—The rent and interest, and other fixed wages, are thereby diminished per pound of cloth.  
 A. 30.—See 28.  
 A. 31.—There would be great inconvenience in the weaving; because, two children  
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Lancashire.

*John Greg.*

being engaged upon the same piece of cloth, it would be difficult to have the work regular, and to fix the responsibility upon the right person.

A. 32.—Never.

A. 33.—We have never worked at night.

A. 37.—I believe any further reduction of hours would increase the cost in nearly the same proportion, and would render it impossible for us to compete with foreign manufacturers, who work longer hours, and pay little more than half our wages.

A. 38.—About 62° to 64° in the carding and weaving-rooms; about 70° in the spinning, and 75° in the dressing-rooms; but in the dressing-rooms no children are employed.

A. 39.—75°; in the dressing-rooms.

A. 40.—Fourteen men.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 53.—Fifteen minutes for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and fifteen minutes for tea.

A. 54.—At dinner, almost all leave; and all may leave. At breakfast and tea, very few leave the mill.

A. 55.—Most of our workpeople live at a distance. The present meal hours were adopted for their convenience.

A. 56.—If they took all their meals at home, they would have to work an hour later at night; which would not be an agreeable arrangement to them.

A. 57.—In the weaving the disobedient and careless are reprimanded, and, if necessary, fined; and no corporal punishment is ever used. In the spinning, where lads are employed, corporal punishments are occasionally resorted to.

A. 58.—Upon lads only.

A. 59.—Generally by the overlooker, and sometimes at the request of the parents, who prefer that to their child's dismissal.

A. 60, 61, & 62.—I consider them, in some cases, indispensable; and, when administered with discretion, sometimes the best mode of punishment.

A. 63.—That corporal punishment shall not be resorted to till every other means fail. This power is strictly confined to overlookers, and several men have been dismissed for striking the children employed with them.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Very few. They are under the care of a visiting society of ladies and gentlemen, and they have the greatest facilities for instruction, to which we could not add.

A. 66.—Those taught early are certainly the most skilful.

A. 67.—The greatest part of the mill has only been six years at work. We are not aware of any deterioration.

A. 68.—We make no systematic selection, but frequently change the situation of persons to improve their health.

A. 69.—It is. We work only sixty-nine hours weekly.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—If called upon, I believe our workpeople would find no difficulty in giving evidence against us. I believe them to be far more independent than agricultural labourers.

A. 78.—The penalties are sufficient, if a special officer were appointed to enforce them. Children might be excluded from mills till ten or eleven years old. Over-time might be given up, but the hours must not be curtailed beyond twelve daily or seventy weekly, while food is at double the price here of what it maintains in other manufacturing countries.

JOHN GREG, for Samuel Greg & Co.

Account of the Sickness of the Children under Eighteen Years of Age, during the Time they have been employed in this Mill.

| Names.          | Time they have been here. |       | Time sick during that time. |       | Names. | Time they have been here. |       | Time sick during that time. |       |   |    |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|---|----|
|                 | Yrs.                      | Mths. | Wks.                        | Days. |        | Yrs.                      | Mths. | Wks.                        | Days. |   |    |
| Betsy Leeming   | -                         | 3     | 0                           | 3     | 0      | Ann Jackson               | -     | 4                           | 9     | 0 | 0  |
| Jane Grisdale   | -                         | 2½    | 0                           | 0     | 0      | Isabella Brown            | -     | 1                           | 9     | 0 | 0  |
| Susan Grime     | -                         | 1½    | 0                           | 0     | 1      | Margaret Ellis            | -     | 1                           | 6     | 9 | 0  |
| Jane Bradshaw   | -                         | 0     | 9                           | 0     | 0      | N. Jefferson              | -     | 1                           | 6     | 0 | 0  |
| A. Fawcet       | -                         | 0     | 10                          | 0     | 0      | Margaret Adams            | -     | 3                           | 0     | 0 | 14 |
| E. Bradshaw     | -                         | 0     | 8                           | 0     | 0      | Emma Ellis                | -     | 6                           | 0     | 0 | 14 |
| M. Mathews      | -                         | 1     | 6                           | 0     | 0      | Mary Cooper               | -     | 1                           | 9     | 0 | 0  |
| Margaret Speddy | -                         | 1     | 3                           | 0     | 0      | J. Swindlehurst           | -     | 0                           | 6     | 0 | 0  |
| John Hilton     | -                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     | 0      | Agnes Garner              | -     | 0                           | 6     | 0 | 0  |
| Betsy Bush      | -                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     | 0      | Eliza Rothwell            | -     | 0                           | 9     | 0 | 0  |
| Alice Leach     | -                         | 1     | 5                           | 0     | 3      | Mary Ripley               | -     | 0                           | 0     | 0 | 0  |
| Betty Johnson   | -                         | 5     | 2                           | 14    | 0      | Ann Fothergill            | -     | 0                           | 3     | 0 | 0  |
| Mary M'Bride    | -                         | 2     | 9                           | 0     | 4      | Samuel Nowell             | -     | 1                           | 0     | 0 | 1½ |
| Alice Richmond  | -                         | 3     | 10                          | 0     | 3      | A. Brokenshire            | -     | 5                           | 0     | 0 | 0  |
| Edward Harrison | -                         | 0     | 9                           | 0     | 0      | Mary Lund                 | -     | 1                           | 6     | 0 | 0½ |
| S. Harrison     | -                         | 0     | 4                           | 0     | 0      | Margaret Beetham          | -     | 4                           | 0     | 0 | 10 |
| Mary Johnston   | -                         | 0     | 5                           | 0     | 0      | W. Brokenshire            | -     | 1                           | 2     | 0 | 1½ |
| M. Derham       | -                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     | 0      | Ed. Whitehead             | -     | 0                           | 3     | 0 | 0  |
| C. M'Bride      | -                         | 0     | 3                           | 0     | 0      | Ann Hudson                | -     | 0                           | 11    | 0 | 1  |



| Names.              | Time they have been here. |       | Time sick during that time. |       | Names.            | Time they have been here. |       | Time sick during that time. |       |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
|                     | Yrs.                      | Mths. | Wks.                        | Days. |                   | Yrs.                      | Mths. | Wks.                        | Days. |
| Mary Robinson       | 0                         | 8     | 0                           | 0     | Betty Hawget      | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Mary Dean           | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 13    | Mary Keaston      | 0                         | 10    | 0                           | 0     |
| Mary Sandam         | 0                         | 3     | 0                           | 0     | Betsy Hall        | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Margaret Smith      | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 4     | Ann Redmayne      | 1                         | 6     | 2                           | 0     |
| Mary Richmond       | 0                         | 11    | 0                           | 1½    | M. Millor         | 2                         | 0     | 4                           | 0     |
| Sarah Richardson    | 6                         | 0     | 19                          | 0     | Anne Fletcher     | 0                         | 11    | 0                           | 3     |
| Betty Richardson    | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 12    | John Ripley       | 1                         | 10    | 16                          | 0     |
| Ellen Harling       | 3                         | 3     | 17                          | 0     | John Grime        | 1                         | 0     | 1                           | 0     |
| Ellen Ellis         | 6                         | 6     | 0                           | 3     | Chr. King         | 1                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     |
| Martha Mason        | 1                         | 9     | 0                           | 3     | John Wilkinson    | 1                         | 8     | 0                           | 0     |
| Sarah Healy         | 4                         | 0     | 0                           | 2     | Thomas Kearton    | 1                         | 4     | 0                           | 3     |
| Mary Mason          | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 3     | James Ball        | 1                         | 4     | 0                           | 0     |
| Agnes Greenall      | 6                         | 6     | 10                          | 0     | Stephen Airey     | 3                         | 0     | 5                           | 0     |
| Jane Sylva          | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 2½    | Thomas Higginson  | 2                         | 6     | 1                           | 0     |
| Hannah Humber       | 2                         | 6     | 0                           | 1     | Thomas Howget     | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| M. Humber           | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     | Peter Rogerson    | 4                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Alice Ridchester    | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 0¼    | Joseph Wilcock    | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Ellen Hewitson      | 0                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     | Chas. Airey       | 1                         | 0     | 1                           | 0     |
| Mary Hewitson       | 0                         | 3     | 0                           | 0     | John Marshall     | 4                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| William Greenall    | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     | A. Sharples       | 4                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Ellen Knowles       | 4                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     | William Thompson  | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 3½    |
| Agnes Lucas         | 0                         | 6     | 0                           | 3     | Thomas Bowker     | 2                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     |
| Margaret Pilkington | 0                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     | William Wilkinson | 0                         | 6     | 0                           | 2     |
| Mary Harrison       | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     | William Varley    | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 4     |
| Mary Singleton      | 0                         | 3     | 0                           | 1     | John Redmayne     | 1                         | 6     | 1                           | 0     |
| James Wilson        | 0                         | 7     | 0                           | 0     | Joseph Nelson     | 4                         | 6     | 4                           | 0     |
| James Derham        | 1                         | 0     | 3                           | 0     | John Baines       | 5                         | 0     | 4                           | 0     |
| Robert Mellinson    | 5                         | 0     | 0                           | 9     | George Bradley    | 1                         | 6     | 2                           | 0     |
| Jane Humber         | 3                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     | James Baines      | 4                         | 6     | 10                          | 0     |
| Henry Bonsell       | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 2     | George Holding    | 5                         | 0     | 0                           | 0½    |
| Mary Coates         | 3                         | 0     | 12                          | 0     | George Johnston   | 1                         | 6     | 1                           | 0     |
| A. King             | 0                         | 10    | 0                           | 3     | J. Shaw           | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     |
| Thomas Knowles      | 5                         | 0     | 41                          | 0     | J. Ball           | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Alice Shaw          | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 7     | Robert Calvery    | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     |
| Alice Reynolds      | 2                         | 8     | 0                           | 2     | Thomas Ripley     | 2                         | 0     | 2                           | 0     |
| Betty Friars        | 2                         | 6     | 0                           | 0½    | John Fisher       | 4                         | 0     | 15                          | 0     |
| Hannah Taylor       | 2                         | 8     | 0                           | 2     | Ruth Fisher       | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 3     |
| Ellen Gradwell      | 1                         | 10    | 0                           | 6     | Mat. Green        | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 1½    |
| Betty Foster        | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 5     | Betsy Coulthurst  | 8                         | 0     | 2                           | 4     |
| Dorothy Gradwell    | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 2     | Jane Lord         | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 0½    |
| Margaret Wilding    | 1                         | 10    | 0                           | 1½    | Ann Bond          | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 1½    |
| Margaret Yates      | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     | Ellen Herdman     | 0                         | 9     | 0                           | 1     |
| Jane Garner         | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 1     | Ann Holmes        | 6                         | 0     | 2                           | 2     |
| Eliza Parker        | 1                         | 1     | 0                           | 12    | Eliza Adshead     | 2                         | 0     | 1                           | 0     |
| Eliza Leech         | 1                         | 6     | 4                           | 0     | Thomas Wilkinson  | 3                         | 9     | 2                           | 0     |
| Balla Pouch         | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     | William Hunter    | 3                         | 6     | 0                           | 4     |
| Hannah Stevenson    | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     | J. Clarkinon      | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 6     |
| Mary Dixon          | 2                         | 6     | 0                           | 1     | J. Healy          | 3                         | 6     | 4                           | 6     |
| Agnes Richmond      | 1                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     | J. Lund           | 6                         | 0     | 7                           | 5     |
| William Bell        | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0¾    | Thomas Robinson   | 4                         | 0     | 0                           | 2     |
| Edward Howeth       | 4                         | 6     | 0                           | 3     | John Nelson       | 3                         | 0     | 12                          | 0     |
| William Culverston  | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 5½    | Margaret Airey    | 2                         | 6     | 0                           | 0     |
| William Hunter      | 4                         | 0     | 5                           | 0     | Robert Lofthouse  | 0                         | 9     | 0                           | 0½    |
| John Richmond       | 4                         | 0     | 4                           | 0     | William M'Gee     | 1                         | 1     | 0                           | 3     |
| Jane Ridchester     | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     | James Hall        | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 3     |
| John Medcalf        | 5                         | 0     | 1                           | 0     | Joseph Jackson    | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 4     |
| William Stevenson   | 1                         | 6     | 3                           | 0     | David Yewdall     | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 6     |
| Mark Fletcher       | 0                         | 9     | 0                           | 0     | James Holmes      | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 1     |
| William Lamb        | 0                         | 9     | 0                           | 0     | William Caton     | 0                         | 5     | 0                           | 0     |
| William Parkinson   | 5                         | 0     | 1                           | 0     | John Bell         | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 6     |
| William Perks       | 1                         | 3     | 0                           | 1¾    | William Dobson    | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 3½    |
| Thomas Grime        | 5                         | 0     | 3                           | 0     | Richard Fell      | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 0½    |
| Mary Baines         | 3                         | 5     | 1                           | 0     | Thomas Yewdall    | 2                         | 0     | 0                           | 5     |
| Ann Waddy           | 1                         | 8     | 1                           | 1½    | John Bowker       | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 0     |
| Mary Woods          | 0                         | 9     | 0                           | 2½    | John Downey       | 5                         | 0     | 0                           | 9     |
| Nancy Singleton     | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 2     |                   |                           |       |                             |       |
| Bella Green         | 3                         | 0     | 0                           | 0¼    |                   |                           |       |                             |       |
| Ann Downey          | 1                         | 0     | 0                           | 5     |                   |                           |       |                             |       |
|                     |                           |       |                             |       |                   | 382                       | 4     | 294                         | 2¾    |

Average five days and a half sickness of each child for a year.

Only in full operation during three years.

(APP.—D. 1.)

R r

Accidents

Lancashire.

John Greg.



## Accidents during the last three years.

Lancashire.

John Greg.

|               |   |   |                                                  |
|---------------|---|---|--------------------------------------------------|
| John Marshall | - | - | Thumb taken off.                                 |
| Mary Omil     | - | - | Arm broken; quite restored.                      |
| Peter Overend | - | - | Had three fingers hurt, and lost the end of one. |
| Edward Lister | - | - | Finger bruised, bone not injured.                |
| Robert Shaw   | - | - | Foot bruised, quite perfect again.               |

These accidents are all we can hear of among 560 persons employed, of all ages.

JOHN GREG.

## ANSWERS of HUGH BEAVER, Manchester.

No. 147.  
Hugh Beaver.

A. 1.—Parish and township of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotten-spinning, and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The principal mill was erected in 1825, the small mill in 1829, and the weaving shade 1832.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines, of sixty horse-power each.

A. 5.—There is no distinct or specific provision for ventilation, except by openings in the windows, as hereafter described.

A. 6.—Four panes in the centre of each window are in a separate frame, and turn on a swivel, which being kept more or less open, according to the state of the weather, the rooms are very effectually ventilated.

A. 7.—The ventilation is controlled at the discretion of the hands, as far as regards the admitting of fresh air. It is the duty of the overlookers to enforce the opening of the windows, but not to close them. The hands prefer the rooms warm.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are effectually fenced off.

A. 9.—The people generally place their extra clothes on pegs in the window near which they work, and for washing themselves, they are provided with any quantity they may require of warm and cold soft water.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—It does not; but as some portion of the work can be done equally well by children of nine, ten, and eleven, it is more advantageous to employ them, their wages being lower.

A. 12.—I think the recent alterations in machinery have made no difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 &amp; 18.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday, or sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days, from 1st of May 1832, to the 30th of April 1833, both inclusive.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-two hours and thirty minutes.

A. 22.—All the departments have been carried on during the same time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours twenty-eight minutes and two fifths, average per day, for the three hundred and seven days worked within the year.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours; on the 26th November.

A. 25.—The usual hours of labour were exceeded by twenty-one hours and five minutes, during the year; twelve hours to enable the dressers (twenty men of twenty-one years of age and upwards, to supply the weavers with warps, and nine hours and five minutes to make up lost time in consequence of break-downs.

A. 26.—This excess is avoidable, but the hands would not be satisfied if lost time was not worked up.

A. 27.—I have.

A. 28.—I find the cost enhanced by the reduction of the hours of working.

A. 29.—A manufacturer by protracting the hours of labour, does the extra work without any additional outlay of capital. By working all night, he reaps almost a double advantage, but that cannot be done without a change of hands.

A. 30.—The cost of production is increased by the limitation of the hours of labour, in all the various branches. To what extent it is difficult to say, although I am of opinion, that it is pretty nearly in proportion to the diminution of hours.

A. 31.—The work is never so perfect when two sets of hands are employed on the same machines, and if it should be spoiled, they lay the blame on each other, and it is impossible to ascertain which is in fault.

A. 32.—I have never heard that a system of relays of children had been tried, except in mills working night and day, and the yarn produced in those mills is generally very inferior.

A. 33.—I employed a night set of hands (all eighteen years of age and upwards) in a small part of my mill prior to 1832. They worked then hours and ten minutes each night, or sixty-one hours and thirty minutes per week, receiving the same wages as the day hands who worked sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 34.—I worked a part of my mill by night, in consequence of being short of yarn, to supply the power-looms. Night-work is a bad system, but at that time I found it to be my interest to pursue it. Having since increased my works so as to produce a sufficient quantity of yarn by day, I have entirely given up night-work.

A. 38.



A. 35.—The same set of hands, I believe, work uniformly by night, without any change; it was so in my works.

A. 36.—If I had not worked my mill at night at the time I did, it would have thrown a number of weavers out of work.

A. 37.—The ultimate, if not the immediate effect would be a reduction of wages, to enable the manufacturers to meet foreign competition, now becoming formidable. The hours of labour in America, Germany, and France, are longer than the present working hours in England; and those countries, particularly America, have made great improvements in machinery; some of the latest improvements in spinning being of American invention, and lately introduced and adopted in England.

A. 38.—In the weaving-rooms, which are not heated by steam or in any other manner, from 60° to 70°, card-room 68° to 74°, spinning-rooms 70° to 75°, dressing-room 75° to 85°. I require a temperature of 60° in the weaving-rooms about 66° in the other rooms, except the dressing-room, which should not be below 75°.

A. 39.—75° or 80° is required in the dressing-room.

A. 40.—Twenty men, all upwards of twenty-one years of age.

A. 43, 44, & 45.—My mills have not been worked at night during the last twelve months.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—They are lighted by gas.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—I consider night-work to have a bad moral effect on the habits of the persons so employed; their health is also injured, but not so much as might be expected. In appearance they are pale and emaciated.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea, but the works are not stopped for the latter meal. Those who have machines to attend to get it in the best way they can; the others have the half hour allowed.

A. 54.—They please themselves; nineteen out of twenty do, when the weather is fine.

A. 55.—When they remain in the mill during breakfast or dinner time, it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—The time allowed for breakfast and dinner is entirely at their own disposal. They may go out, or get their meals in the mill, as is most agreeable to them.

A. 57.—If they refuse to do their work, or conduct themselves improperly, they are discharged.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—I cannot remember whether or not I have in direct terms forbidden corporal punishment, but my sentiments are so well known and understood, that no overlooker, or any other person in my employ, would presume to inflict corporal punishment on any of the hands: perhaps, if a boy was found doing mischief an overlooker or some of the men might give him a slap with his open hand; but nothing that can be called punishment is ever inflicted.

A. 63.—No instructions have been given to overlookers in relation to punishment, because punishment is not known in my establishment.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Workpeople do not usually live in the houses of their employers, in Manchester, nor is any control exercised over them after they leave their work; their personal appearance and conduct in the mill is all that is looked to.

A. 66.—I can state generally, that those who have been employed in mills from infancy are very superior, in point of skill and intelligence, to those who commence at a more advanced period.

A. 67.—I think the health and general appearance of the people in my employ greatly improved within the last ten years, which may be ascribed to the cheapness of provisions and clothing, no material change having been made in wages during the period.

A. 68.—No, I do not find it necessary.

A. 69.—My mill is subject to the present act, and has been worked in strict conformity to its provisions.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—If by neighbourhood the town of Manchester is meant, I believe they do.

A. 74.—I believe that two or three have been, but it is some time since.

A. 75.—I believe that one at least was fined.

A. 77.—I do not think that the workpeople in Manchester are afraid: it may be different in the country, where they live in their employers' houses.

A. 78.—I am of opinion that the only means of securing obedience to the present law, or any other legislative enactment for regulating the hours of labour, is to put the restriction on the moving power.

A. 79.—I have only further to observe, that the hours of labour in cotton mills cannot with safety to the trade be reduced much below sixty-nine hours per week, and I know from my own experience, that children enjoy perfect health and good spirits whilst working those hours. At the same time, as the question has been so much agitated, the people will not be satisfied without some reduction, and I think that an effective Bill of sixty-six hours per week, viz. eleven hours and a half for five days, and eight hours and a half on Saturday making eleven hours one day with another, would and ought to satisfy both masters and men,

HUGH BEAVER.

Lancashire.

Hugh Beaver.



Lancashire.

No. 148.

*John A. Beaver.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN A. BEAVER, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing.  
 A. 3.—The mills have been erected at so many different periods, that it is difficult to answer this question.  
 A. 4.—One steam-engine 60-horse power, one 45 ditto, one 36 ditto, one 16 ditto; total 157-horse power: not fully employed.  
 A. 5.—There is not.  
 A. 6.—It does.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of those employed.  
 A. 8.—They are, so far as practicable.  
 A. 9.—I have not; but all the people are expected and admonished to appear cleanly.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; I am not aware that any of them have been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—No; and the only reason they are earlier employed, is because they will work for lower wages.  
 A. 12.—I think fewer.  
 A. 13, 14, & 15.—No.  
 A. 17.—Thirteen hours per day, and nine hours and a half on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—Persons under eighteen years of age are employed twelve hours per day, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and six days, from May 4, 1832, to May 4, 1833.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and ninety-one hours and a half.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and 6-100ths per day.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—In case of an accident to the steam-engine or mill-gearing.  
 A. 26.—I do.  
 A. 27 & 28.—Yes.  
 A. 29.—Cheapness of production.  
 A. 30.—I do; but the proportion I cannot exactly determine.  
 A. 31.—When two persons are employed on one machine, the work is never so regular, and if there is any fault in it, it is difficult to fix it on the right person.  
 A. 32.—It has often been tried, but in my opinion never has, and never can answer, for the reason given above, and many others.  
 A. 33.—I did, some years ago; one set came to work at seven, and worked till six, having half an hour allowed them for their meals at twelve.  
 A. 34.—Because it is imagined, that by increasing the production the cost is proportionally lowered, but I have not found it to be the case.  
 A. 35.—Generally uniformly.  
 A. 36.—I have discontinued it, because I found that it did not pay, and because I found it injurious to the health and morals of the people.  
 A. 37.—The effect would be to enhance the cost of the production, and thereby greatly encourage foreign competition, already severely felt.  
 A. 38.—With the exception of one room, I require no further heat than what is necessary for the comfort of the hands.  
 A. 39.—85°.  
 A. 40.—Thirty-eight male adults.  
 A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—Not at all.  
 A. 46, 47, & 48.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day.  
 A. 52.—Highly injurious, both in a moral and physical point of view.  
 A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All under eighteen are compelled to go out; the others go if they like.  
 A. 55.—Such as remain do so for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—None; but if it was made compulsory, it would be a great hardship to the hands.  
 A. 57.—If they do not do their duty they are discharged.  
 A. 58 & 59.—No.  
 A. 63, 64, & 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—What might be naturally expected from longer experience; they are much more expert at their business, and easier managed.  
 A. 67.—I think that greater cleanliness exists now in factories than did exist some years ago; and that, consequently, the people have generally been more healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—I have once.  
 A. 71.—I was not convicted.  
 A. 72.—The magistrate discharged the information.  
 A. 73.—In Manchester, I think they generally do; but not at all in the neighbourhood.  
 A. 74.—Yes, often.

A. 75.



A. 75.—Yes, in some instances.  
 A. 76.—I think not very readily, because the hands themselves are much against these convictions.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—I think the present hours of labour long enough, and not longer than the hands can and ought to work, and any regulation that would enforce the universal observance of the present Act would do good. I should deprecate any further legislative interference.

JOHN A. BEAVER.

Lancashire.

John A. Beaver.

#### ANSWERS of MATTHEW BINNS, Manchester.

No. 149.  
 Matthew Binns.

- A. 1.—Parish of Manchester, county of Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and weaving cotton.  
 A. 3.—Built in 1824; occupied by me in 1827.  
 A. 4.—Steam; thirty-six horse power.  
 A. 5.—No distinct provision for the ventilation of my factory.  
 A. 6.—Ventilation depends on the opening of the windows, which are two feet square the part that can be opened.  
 A. 7.—At the control of any person; when he, she, or they desire the window or windows open, they have the power to do it.  
 A. 8.—Fenced off.  
 A. 9.—None, further than pegs in the wall, and convenience for washing.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. Do not know.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—I do not consider that recent alterations have made it necessary to employ a greater number.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours; no difference.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety days.  
 A. 21 & 22.—Three thousand three hundred and thirty-five hours.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and forty-one minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—The regular hours were exceeded when the steam-engine had been out of repair.  
 A. 26.—Certainly not, without considerable loss to the workpeople and employer.  
 A. 27.—I have.  
 A. 28.—I do.  
 A. 30.—Most certainly, in all branches.  
 A. 31.—I do not work extra hours, and therefore have no occasion for two sets of hands.  
 A. 32.—Only working regular time, I did not find it necessary to employ above one set.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—I have not sufficient experience to answer this question satisfactorily.  
 A. 38.—60°; from 55° to 65°.  
 A. 39.—65°.  
 A. 40.—I work all my works with one degree of heat.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Opening the windows.  
 A. 53.—One hour for dinner, half an hour for breakfast.  
 A. 54.—They all go out if they think proper, or stop in, or any part of them.  
 A. 55.—If any remain, it is their own choice.  
 A. 56.—They would immediately say I had no right to interfere with them taking their meat.  
 A. 57.—I give orders for them to be discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—No complaint whatever.  
 A. 65.—Mine do not.  
 A. 66.—Those employed from their infancy are the best hands.  
 A. 67.—For my part I cannot observe any difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 76.—Evidence would be readily obtained if required.  
 A. 77.—I believe they are not afraid.  
 A. 78 & 79.—No.

MATTHEW BINNS.



Lancashire.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM BROWN, Manchester.

No. 150.  
William Brown.

- A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Winding, warping, dressing, and weaving.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5. & 6.—On opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—The windows are opened by any person who chooses to do so.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—The hands are allowed to change their clothes and wash them when they think proper.  
 A. 9.—From nine to ten.  
 A. 11.—Being principally weaving, it does not require any under twelve; but those who are under, are employed at the request of the parents.  
 A. 12.—Not in this mill.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours and a half from sixteen upwards; under sixteen, twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen.  
 A. 25.—When any accident has happened to the engine or principal shafting, half an hour or an hour has been worked.  
 A. 26.—It cannot well be avoided when mills are taken upon leases.  
 A. 27.—Half an hour per day.  
 A. 28.—Not materially.  
 A. 37.—That the hands being generally paid by the piece, by reducing the hours of labour the wages would be reduced in proportion, and cause much embarrassment to the workpeople.  
 A. 38.—From 68° to 72°.  
 A. 39.—From 90° to 94° in the dressing-room.  
 A. 40.—From eight to twelve.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—This is optional on the part of the hands.  
 A. 55.—The engine is kept working for the convenience of the hands, and those who wish to go, do so.  
 A. 56.—If all the mills were to stop for breakfast it would be much better.  
 A. 57.—If they are very obstinate they are discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 78.—I am persuaded that no penalties or laws will be efficient until there is a prohibition of all night-work, and the restriction is laid upon the moving power.  
 N. B. There are several of the questions that I cannot answer, having been but a short time in business on the premises; those I have answered, are to the best of my knowledge.

WILLIAM BROWN.

No. 151.  
Charles Bullock.

## ANSWERS of CHARLES BULLOCK, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, doubling, and weaving.  
 A. 3.—The factory was built in 1824, and a wing added about two years after, for warehouses and blowing-rooms; occupied by me in 1832.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine, thirty-six-horse power.  
 A. 5.—None, except the opening of the windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening of the windows, which are two feet square, the part that can be opened.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all the hands employed.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—It is at the discretion of the hands whether they change their clothes when entering the factory (which they generally do) or not. They are at liberty to wash themselves when leaving the factory, but I have no arrangement to compel them.  
 A. 10.—Ten years; they have not been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours per day.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours per day; and not to employ any under twelve years.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half, and the extra half hour has been lost time when the factory has been unavoidably stopped.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety days.

A. 21.



- A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and thirty-five hours.  
 A. 22.—All carried on together through the day.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and forty-one minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, and the extra half hour has been lost time, when the factory has been unavoidably stopped.  
 A. 25.—The regular hours were exceeded when the steam-engine had been out of repair.  
 A. 26.—Certainly not, without considerable loss to the workpeople and employer.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Cannot say, not having worked more than twelve hours per day.  
 A. 30 & 31.—Cannot say, not having worked more hours than I do at the present time.  
 A. 32.—Have not worked more than twelve hours and a half in one day, and not changed the hands, as the present Act allows half an hour per day for lost time.  
 A. 33.—Not employed a night set of hands.  
 A. 38.—60°: from 55° to 65°.  
 A. 39.—65°.  
 A. 40.—I work all my works with one degree of heat.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—Gas (in the winter months, night and morning).  
 A. 51.—Nothing more than the opening of windows.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All the children leave at meal times, the other hands suit their own convenience.  
 A. 55.—Some of them live a distance from the works, and they stop for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—Would be no disadvantage to the manufacturer, but would be a great inconvenience to the hands who live at a distance from the factory.  
 A. 57.—If words will not do, I prefer turning them away to punishing them.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—No punishment allowed; the overlookers have instructions, when the hands do not suit them, to get fresh ones.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—Not any that live with their employer.  
 A. 66.—The hands that have been brought up in the factory are more active, and do their work better than those that are taken in the factory at later years.  
 A. 67.—I cannot observe any difference since I have been in trade.  
 A. 68.—None.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—I believe that they strictly conform to the provisions of the present Act.  
 A. 76.—I believe that there has been no information against any manufacturer in this neighbourhood.  
 A. 77.—I believe they are not afraid of displeasing their masters by giving evidence.  
 A. 78 & 79.—No.

Lancashire.

Charles Bullock.

CHARLES BULLOCK.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM CARNETHER, Manchester.

No. 152.  
W. Carnether.

- A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Fine cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Built for the above purpose in 1818.  
 A. 4.—Steam, eighteen-horse power.  
 A. 5.—Ventilation through the windows.  
 A. 6.—By opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of any of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—They are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Every convenience named.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; and am not aware that they have been previously employed.  
 A. 11.—It does require children under twelve years of age, from the nature of the business.  
 A. 12.—They have increased the necessity of employing children from ten to fourteen years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred and five days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighteen hours, or thereabouts.  
 A. 22.—No part has been worked separately.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and eight minutes, or thereabouts.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—When the engine wanted repairing.  
 A. 26.—I consider an occasional excess of half an hour to one hour as unavoidable.  
 A. 27.—Before the present law was passed, I worked longer hours.  
 A. 28.—It does enhance the cost.  
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A. 29.



Lancashire.

*W. Carnether.*

- A. 29.—To reduce the cost of production.  
 A. 30.—The increase is in the weekly hands, but have not noticed the exact amount.  
 A. 31.—There would be a difficulty in getting two sets of hands, or children; and in case of bad work, there would be no proof which set had done it.  
 A. 32.—I have never tried it, for the above reason.  
 A. 33.—I have never employed hands in the night.  
 A. 37.—To reduce the present hours of labour, I should have to reduce the wages more than the mere difference of the time, on account of the capital sunk in mill and machinery.  
 A. 38.—74° to 78° is the usual temperature, and 70° to 74° is the lowest I could have the work done.  
 A. 39.—Never exceeds 78°.  
 A. 40.—One hundred and sixty.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour.  
 A. 54.—Every hand may leave the mill at breakfast and dinner, if they think proper, and generally do.  
 A. 55.—Whenever they stop in the mill, it is from their own choice; and is generally on account of the weather, or some convenience of their own.  
 A. 56.—They are very generally taken out of the mill.  
 A. 57.—Discharging them.  
 A. 58.—Never, to my knowledge.  
 A. 62.—I have forbidden the punishment upon children, and should discharge any one found doing so.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—Not generally in large towns.  
 A. 66.—It would be very difficult or impossible to make a good hand, except they had been brought up to it from their infancy.  
 A. 67.—I am not aware that there is any difference in the general health for the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 77.—Certainly not.  
 A. 78.—I think, if the present law could be rigidly enforced, it would satisfy the justice of the case.

WILLIAM CARNETHER.

No. 153.

*Paul Chappe.*

## ANSWERS of PAUL CHAPPE, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester, Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and thread-making.  
 A. 3.—The buildings were erected at different periods, some thirty years ago, others as recently as last year.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5 & 6.—Depends on the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the hands employed.  
 A. 8.—All are.  
 A. 9.—A pump of spring water, and a pipe of warm water always running in stone troughs whilst the engine works.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—It does, one for each spinner.  
 A. 12.—I have not made any alteration in that department.  
 A. 13.—One, for a mechanic.  
 A. 14.—Bound by his parents.  
 A. 15.—They go home to meals twice in each day.  
 A. 16.—Their parents.  
 A. 17.—From half past five till seven at night—twelve hours and a half; and on Saturday half past five till four—nine hours and a half; in all seventy-two hours a week.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours all.  
 A. 19.—One part (the doublers, but none under twenty-one) are now working from half past five to half past eight at night—thirteen hours and a half; and on Saturdays half past five to half past six—eleven hours.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-three days and a half.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-two hours.  
 A. 22.—Usually twelve hours per day, but at present the spinning twelve hours except Saturdays, and the doubling thirteen hours and a half, except Saturdays, which is two hours and a half less.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours, all but Saturdays, which are nine hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—When time has been lost, it has been worked up according to the present Act.  
 A. 26.



A. 26.—It was not avoidable, inasmuch as it was requisite to make up their weekly earnings.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—That he may have a greater produce, attended with less expense.

A. 30.—Certainly; in all branches the expenses are greater in proportion for a short than for a long period of time.

A. 31.—I should think it advantageous for the children's health to have two sets, to work six hours each.

A. 32.—I have never tried it, because it never was demanded from me.

A. 33.—I have not.

A. 37.—A reduction of working hours would, in my opinion, cause a reduction of wages, and of course produce.

A. 38.—70°.

A. 39.—From 75° to 80°.

A. 40.—Seventy-one hands out of three hundred hands (about the number I employ), the remaining rooms being kept to temperate heat.

A. 46.—No part of it works more than I have stated above.

A. 47.—Twelve hours.

|                      |   |                |               |
|----------------------|---|----------------|---------------|
| A. 48.—Scavengers,   | - | 9 to 13 years, | } Both sexes. |
| Piecers              | - | 17 to 20       |               |
| Spinners             | - | 30             | Males.        |
| Doublers, upwards of | - | 20             | Females.      |
| Card-room hands      | - | 14 to 24       | Both sexes.   |
| Winders and ballers  | - | 16 to 24       | Females.      |

A. 49.—Because it is necessary for the production of my manufactures.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea.

A. 54.—All may leave for breakfast and dinner, and a part for tea.

A. 57.—I do not find it necessary to use any particular means.

A. 58.—They are not.

A. 64.—No complaint was ever laid against me.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Never had an opportunity of ascertaining it, but certainly the longer the practice, the more perfect they are.

A. 67.—Do not know. Should think that there is no difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—I should not wish mine to be so.

A. 78.—The most effectual way of preventing night-work would be, in my opinion, to put a restriction on the moving power, whether it be steam or water; limit it to only a certain number of hours in the twenty-four.

PAUL CHAPPE.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH BELL CLARKE, Manchester.

No. 154.  
J. Bell Clarke.

A. 1.—Ashton Street, Manchester.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and weaving. We have a woollen mill not included in this return.

A. 3.—All erected within the last nine years.

A. 4.—One eighty-horse steam-engine; one sixty.

A. 5.—A window on each side of the mill.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Principally by the foreman; but each workman can alter it if his work be affected.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—None.

A. 10.—Nine years of age. The children being engaged and paid by the operatives, cannot answer the last question.

A. 11.—We could do with children to commence at twelve years of age; but in some cases it would be a great hardship to the poor.

A. 12.—See answer to No. 11.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on the Saturday (except the engineer, who has longer hours).

A. 19.—When we had to make up lost time, we have worked thirteen hours; and in the card-room, for three days, thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days; this is about the average number of days for each year with us.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and ten hours.

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T t

A. 23.



Lancashire.

J. Bell Clarke.

- A. 23.—Sixty-nine hours per week, during the time of working.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—After an accident.  
 A. 26.—It is to be avoided.  
 A. 27.—Yes; before the last act of parliament.  
 A. 28.—The capital being fixed, the cost is more according to the less quantity produced, and the profit upon the lost quantity also lost to the master.  
 A. 29.—The production to a spinner being his sole profit, the more he produces, the more he gets, and the less he produces, the more does the product costs per lb.  
 A. 30.—The cost is more in all branches.  
 A. 31.—By changing children it would be impossible to keep them from being worked in two mills (and reduce their earnings).  
 A. 32.—In my opinion impracticable.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—If night-work was prohibited, it would be a national benefit.  
 A. 37.—The cost will be more: yarn and goods now produced being consumed, the effect would be, new mills would be built, until the demand was met; unless the extra cost stop the foreign demand.  
 A. 38.—Weaving-room, 50°; cotton-room, 50°; card-room, 70°; throstle-room, 70° to 75°; spinning-room, 70°.  
 A. 39.—100° in the dressing.  
 A. 40.—Fourteen adults.  
 A. 43.—Not at all.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 53.—Thirty minutes breakfast, sixty minutes dinner, ten to fifteen minutes tea, which we don't work up.  
 A. 54.—They do as they please.  
 A. 55.—If they stop, it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—Where it is allowed, a general benefit.  
 A. 57.—Discharged.  
 A. 58.—Sometimes by the men who employ the children.  
 A. 59.—By employers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Without my knowledge or sanction.  
 A. 62.—In one case a man was made to pay 30s. for loss of time to the child and medicine.  
 A. 63.—General orders not to beat the children, but it cannot always be prevented.  
 A. 64.—None that I know of.  
 A. 65.—They do not; none by us.  
 A. 66.—Not able to answer this.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 72.—None.  
 A. 73.—They do not all conform to the Act, and conviction is next to an impossibility.  
 A. 74.—In some instances.  
 A. 76.—Very difficult to get.  
 A. 77.—Yes.  
 A. 78.—That no engine shall start before a certain hour in the morning, nor work longer than a certain hour at night; and personal punishment.  
 A. 79.—If the commissioners send for me, I shall answer any questions that may be put.

JOSEPH BELL CLARKE.

No. 155.  
Clogg & Norris.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. CLOGG and NORRIS, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—One part was purchased by us fifteen years ago, but it was built for a mill; and another part was built during last year, and is what is termed a fire-proof mill.  
 A. 4.—A steam-engine of eighty-horse power, and regular.  
 A. 5.—Every possible ventilation by windows.  
 A. 6.—The centre part of every window.  
 A. 7.—Partly by overlookers appointed to each room, or by any of the hands employed, if necessary.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are entirely and securely fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have places where to hang and deposit their clothes; and also a plentiful supply of water for each person to wash themselves.  
 A. 10.—We are allowed by the Act to employ them at nine, but we have very few under twelve.  
 A. 11.—No; only a very small number are employed by spinners, and their labour but trifling.



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Clogg & Norris.

A. 12.—We employ a less number, but still one boy, or girl about twelve, is wanted by every mule-spinner.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 20.—Owing to an alteration we were making in our mill, we only worked two hundred and forty-one days.

A. 21.—Sixty-nine hours per week, or two thousand seven hundred and sixty hours.

A. 22.—All work and stop at the same time.

A. 23.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—If any accident had occurred, the Act allows us to work half an hour per day extra.

A. 26.—Yes; by stopping the wages of the hands for the time lost.

A. 27.—Before the late Act of Parliament, we have worked seventy-two hours per week.

A. 28.—A reduction in the wages of the weekly hands took place in proportion with the reduction of time.

A. 29.—Never having worked our mill during the night, we cannot positively state the inducement of others; but certainly it is impossible to work a mill day and night without a change of hands.

A. 30.—Yes, certainly, in every branch, but not to a great extent, owing to our mill never having worked many more hours per day than at present allowed.

A. 31.—None, if we could bring ourselves to work day and night, because it would be absolutely necessary.

A. 32.—Never having worked extra hours, it has not been necessary to try it.

A. 33.—No, never.

A. 34.—We only work legal hours, and therefore have no need of two sets of hands, and no interest we have ever heard of would induce us to work at night.

A. 35.—We cannot say, but we believe there is not any change.

A. 36.—We cannot say, never having worked in the night.

A. 37.—To reduce the present working hours would have an immediate effect in reducing the wages of the employed, and reduce the value of capital embarked in such property, by a diminution of product, and rendering us less able to compete with foreigners.

A. 38.—65° to 70°, as we spin low numbers.

A. 39.—In our dressing-room 80°.

A. 40.—Only eleven men.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—During the winter months we light with gas.

A. 51.—None.

A. 52.—Never having examined any mill working day and night, we cannot state, but feel confident the result must be morally and physically bad.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, and half an hour at tea.

A. 54.—All have the opportunity and the liberty.

A. 55.—Some stop for their own convenience, because they live at a distance, but none stop for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—It would be a great inconvenience to some who bring their meals, especially females, if they were compelled to go into the street, or to some public house.

A. 57.—It is generally known, if not obedient they will be discharged.

A. 58.—Certainly not.

A. 63.—Our instructions are, if any boy or girl will not do their work without punishment, discharge them immediately.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Not any.

A. 66.—We give a decided preference to the hands that have been employed from an early age, and a great many of our people have advanced regularly in the different grades of the mill, and the general character is good. All have our advice from the youngest to the oldest, and we have been specially careful to induce them to attend some Sunday school for instruction.

A. 67.—Improved; and we attribute it to the regularity of the work and hours of labour: with a strict observance to their cleanliness we have very few indisposed, and during the awful visitation of last year we had not one fatal case of cholera.

A. 68.—Never, on account of any injurious effects of any process in our mill, only when one employment affords better wages than another.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We hope so; or we have no doubt the informers would adopt means to enforce obedience.

A. 77.—Not generally.

A. 78.—We think the present Act quite sufficient, if means be taken to bring it fully into operation.

A. 79.—We think the present hours should not be exceeded, nor do we think them excessive. Night working should not be allowed under any circumstances. We do not take any person under twelve years, unless in extreme cases, as a widow with a child of ten years old,  
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Clogg & Norris.

old, for whom the parish make no allowance. We have taken many hand-loom weavers into our mill, and we can very soon perceive a decided improvement in their health and general character, from the better wages they receive, the regularity of the work, and also the very much improved atmosphere to work in.

CLOGG &amp; NORRIS.

No. 156.  
M'Connel & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. M'CONNEL and Co., Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and doubling.  
 A. 3.—First, in 1796; second, in 1800; third, in 1802; fourth, in 1805; fifth, in 1818; sixth, in 1820; seventh, in 1825.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power; one hundred and fifty-six horses.  
 A. 5 & 6.—The only mode of ventilation is by opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—In some cases by the overlooker of the room; in others, where greater heat is required, by the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are generally fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople have always had the power of changing their clothes and washing themselves with warm water; but we have no rooms set apart nor other special arrangements for these purposes.  
 A. 10.—Ten years. Very few have been previously employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—No; unless a sufficient number of children above twelve cannot be obtained.  
 A. 12.—We are not aware that the proportion has varied.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours on the first five days in the week, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and thirty-seven minutes.  
 A. 20.—One mill, O. F., during all or part of 301 days.  
     — L. F.     -     -     -     304 —  
     — S. F.     -     -     -     303 —  
 A. 21.—One mill, O. F., was carried on 3435 hours.  
     — L. F.     -     -     3463½ —  
     — S. F.     -     -     3451 —  
 A. 22.—We have no memoranda wherewith to obtain this information. Accidents are constantly occurring, by which one part of the works is stopped, while the others are still carried on.  
 A. 23.—In one mill, O. F., 10 hours 58½ minutes.  
     — L. F. 11 — 4 —  
     — S. F. 11 — 1½ —  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and thirty-seven minutes.  
 A. 25.—January 16th, 17th, and 18th, and October 31st, were the only days in 1832 on which we worked more than twelve hours; and these stoppages were occasioned by accidents in the main machinery.  
 A. 26.—If the proprietor is willing to forego the making up of lost time, he has the power of avoiding any excess.  
 A. 27.—Previous to August 1825, we worked seventy-two hours in the week.  
 A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity has been so much affected by a variety of circumstances since the period above stated, that we are unable to answer the question; but other circumstances being the same, we have always found the cost to be enhanced by reduction in the hours of labour.  
 A. 29.—The object of the manufacturer in having only one set of hands, is to avoid the trouble of change; to attach the responsibility of the work to one and the same individual, and to be enabled, by increasing the earnings, to procure or retain good hands. The manufacturer who works thirteen hours, paying the same rate of wages in proportion to the time, will have considerable advantage in the selection of workpeople over the manufacturer who works only eleven hours.  
 A. 30.—The cost of production is enhanced by a reduction in the hours of labour. Many expenses are constantly going on, which cannot be lessened with the time; such as interest upon capital or rent, depreciation of machinery by the introduction of improvements, repairs and depreciation of the building, salaries of the principal overlookers and others, &c., &c. We cannot say what would be the effect: but it is certain that the rate of wages of those who now receive what is barely sufficient to maintain must either be advanced, or they must have recourse to parish relief; either of which alternatives is injurious to the master-spinner.  
 A. 31.—See Answer 29.  
 A. 32.—As we have very seldom required extra time, and that, at most, only thirty-seven minutes, it has not been worth our while to attempt to obtain a relay of hands.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—Inasmuch as the cost of production would be increased, the consumption would probably be lessened, both in the home market and, more particularly, in foreign countries, where the British manufacturer is exposed to foreign competition. This latter effect is certain, from the fact that, even now, at the present cost, the consumption of British yarns has



has materially diminished, comparatively, indeed, ceased in coarse numbers in Switzerland, where there is no import duty, in consequence of the successful competition of Swiss manufacturers. The foreign manufacturer has been subjected to many disadvantages which are now daily diminishing; such as the scarcity of good workmen, both in the making and repairing of machinery, and in the process of manufacturing, the great expense of original outlay in machinery, the high value of capital, &c. &c. It is therefore evident that, with his decrease and our increase of cost, his competition will be still more successful, and the foreign trade of this country, in cotton goods of all descriptions, must be materially injured. It is scarcely necessary to point out the consequences to the workpeople of any measure which would vitally injure the cotton trade; and we would merely allude to the want of employment which would ensue from a diminution of yarns manufactured among the weavers, bleachers, dyers, printers, dressers, &c. &c.

A. 38 & 39.—The usual temperature of the rooms (except those employed for spinning, peculiarly so called,) is from 55° to 70°. In the spinning-rooms, from 70° to 80°.

A. 40.—The number of persons employed in spinning, is about eight hundred.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53 & 54.—The engine stops from eight to half past eight for breakfast, and from twelve to one for dinner; during which times all the workpeople have the option of leaving the works. From four to half past, those only are allowed to go out to tea whose work is independent of the engine.

A. 55 & 56.—Long custom is the principal reason. In consequence of the engine not being stopped from four to half past, the children are enabled to leave half an hour earlier, and attend evening schools. But any general wish on the part of the workmen would induce us to alter the practice.

A. 57.—In case of neglect they are discharged.

A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 59, 60, 61, 62, & 63.—We do not allow corporal punishments to be inflicted; and the foremen and overlookers are strictly ordered to discharge immediately any person who transgresses. The rule is so absolute, that the employers, and even parents of the children, complain that they cannot make them do their duty.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—Not generally in Manchester. In the few cases in which our workpeople live in our houses, no superintendence is exercised over them more than over those of our tenants who are not employed by us.

A. 66.—We adhere as much as possible to the practice of teaching from childhood those we employ, and seldom engage others who have not been so taught. We are, therefore, not competent to estimate the difference.

A. 67.—We have not sufficient data to decide the comparison.

A. 68.—No; and though it might, in some few cases, be desirable to make such selection or change, the persons would, most probably, be deficient of the skill necessary to work at a process to which they are unaccustomed.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—In Manchester, generally, the Act is obeyed; but in the neighbouring country, it is grossly neglected. For some time a number of proprietors associated in Manchester to prosecute those in town, and the neighbouring districts, who transgressed the law. But the difficulty of obtaining evidence was such, that very few convictions took place; we believe, only about five in one hundred cases: and the society is now dissolved.

A. 74, 75, 76, & 77.—Many proprietors have been taken before the magistrates; but very few fined. The fear of displeasing the masters by giving evidence exists to a great extent; and the friends and parents of the workpeople are very unwilling to expose any instance of a breach of the law, when their own pecuniary advantage might be endangered.

A. 78.—We should approve of a clause attached to the present Act, obliging the proprietor to swear every half-year, that, to the best of his belief, the Act has not been transgressed in his works during the preceding six months. As it is yet uncertain that a law will not be made, which, by an unreasonable reduction in the hours of labour, say to ten hours, must ruin the cotton trade, and destroy our property, we feel some hesitation in offering any suggestions which might have the effect of preventing us from eluding that law.

A. 79.—We have no objection to a law which would strictly force the manufacturers of all the staple commodities of the British empire not to employ children under eleven years, and not more than eleven hours as the average of every day in the year. But, unless the law is framed in such a manner as to prevent all possibility of its being eluded, it will, like the present law, benefit those who elude, and injure those who observe, its provisions.

M'CONNEL & Co.

Lancashire.

M'Connel & Co.



Lancashire.

ANSWERS of EDMUND DODGSHON, Manchester.

No. 157.  
E. Dodgshon.

- A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and weaving.  
 A. 3.—About two thirds erected in 1824, and the other one third in 1829.  
 A. 4.—Steam.  
 A. 5 & 6.—No distinct provision; we ventilate by opening windows, in each of which is an opening of four squares of glass.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all or any; when the hands find a room too warm, they open the window nearest to them.  
 A. 8.—All our shafting, which we consider at all dangerous, is fenced or boxed off.  
 A. 9.—Any of the workpeople may change their clothes on entering and leaving the mill, and many do it, and in each room buckets of water are provided for them to wash in; we whitewash all the walls, ceilings, &c. once a year, and wash the principal floors each four to six weeks.  
 A. 10.—Nine years. I believe we have no children that have been in any other employment.  
 A. 11.—I can't say that we require them under twelve years of age, but we prefer them small in size, for the convenience of passing each other.  
 A. 12.—Not with us.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 16.—No apprentices or children that we lodge or maintain.  
 A. 17.—Twelve for five days, and nine one.  
 A. 18.—All our hands, young and old, work twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred or three hundred and one, or fifty full weeks of sixty-nine hours to the week.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.  
 A. 22.—For about ten days, when we were repairing a boiler, we worked one room during the night, and not during the day, in consequence of not being able to drive the whole of our machinery at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturdays.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When we have lost time through any accident in our main shafting or engine, we have regained such lost time, by working one hour extra, as allowed by Act of Parliament.  
 A. 26.—It certainly is avoidable, but there would then be a proportionate reduction in the earnings of the workpeople.  
 A. 27.—We commenced spinning in 1825, and have never worked more than sixty-nine hours in the week.  
 A. 29.—To get his work done cheaper than his neighbours.  
 A. 30.—Can't say, having always, as before stated, worked sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—The earnings of the workpeople would be reduced, and the cost to the manufacturer would be increased in proportion to the decrease of his production, his fixed expenses, such as rent, taxes, insurance, &c. being the same.  
 A. 38.—We seldom if ever exceed 72° and can work at 64°.  
 A. 39.—68° to 72°.  
 A. 40.—50° to 60°.  
 A. 41.—Never, with the exception of one room for a few nights, as stated in answer to question No. 22.  
 A. 42.—In the room alluded to above, they were all adults, men from twenty-five to forty years of age.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—Same as the day.  
 A. 53.—One hour and three quarters.  
 A. 54.—Nearly all.  
 A. 55.—Generally, from their living at too great a distance. For the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 57.—If they persist in disobedience, by a small deduction from their wages.  
 A. 58.—Never, to our knowledge.  
 A. 59.—It's very likely overlookers do sometimes strike children, but if it comes to our knowledge we discharge them.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—Not ours.  
 A. 66.—Hands accustomed to mill work from childhood are more expert, generally, than those that go to it at a later period of life.  
 A. 67.—I am not aware that there is any alteration.  
 A. 68 & 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—I believe all the mills in our immediate neighbourhood now conform to the provisions of the Act.

A. 77.



A. 77.—I have no reason to think they are.

A. 78.—Stopping the moving-power of the mill, would compel all manufacturers to adhere to the legal time of working.

EDMUND DODGSHON.

Lancashire.

*E. Dodgshon.*

ANSWERS of Messrs. J. C. DYER and Co., Manchester.

No. 158.  
*J. C. Dyer & Co.*

A. 1.—Township of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Wire-drawing, card-making, and machine-making.

A. 3.—The principal building was erected about thirty years since, and the additional buildings about ten years, the former of which has been employed for the present businesses about seventeen years.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of twelve-horse power.

A. 5.—Yes; casement openings in the windows, adapted to open and shut with hinges.

A. 6.—On the openings in the windows as above.

A. 7.—The casements are opened for ventilation, at the discretion of the persons employed, without any particular direction from foreman or overlooker.

A. 8.—Yes; fenced off.

A. 9.—They wash and clothe themselves agreeably to their own discretion, but no specific arrangements are made for those purposes.

A. 10.—From ten to twelve years; but we employ only thirteen children, five of whom are under twelve years of age, and we believe they have not been employed in other works.

A. 11.—No, it does not. Those under twelve years of age, are boys employed to assist the workmen in watching, cleaning, and supplying the machinery, which might as well be done by older boys.

A. 12.—We are not aware that the present state of our machinery does in any case require children under twelve years of age as an indispensable condition for working it.

A. 13.—No; we formerly did, but have discontinued the practice for many years.

A. 15.—None of the children we employ are orphans; their parents and guardians seldom visit them at the works, though they might if they chose.

A. 16.—No; they work under the directions of the overlookers in respective departments.

A. 17.—Monday to Friday inclusive, eleven hours each day; Saturday, eight only, averaging ten hours and a half per day.

A. 18.—No difference is made; all work the same time.

A. 19.—Eleven hours, and no extra time has been worked during the last year.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-one days and a quarter.

A. 21 & 23.—Three thousand and fifty-eight hours, averaging nine hours 8-10ths per day.

A. 24.—Eleven hours.

A. 26.—Any excess beyond the regular hours of work is avoidable, if the parties will forego the making up of lost time by stoppages.

A. 27.—No; our present time is the same as we have always worked, excepting in some few instances we have worked longer, to make up for stoppages, for accidents, and for holidays.

A. 29.—I believe it to be the desire to perform a greater quantity of work with the same amount of fixed capital in the mill, machinery, driving power, &c.; but it is obvious that they cannot continue working through the night without any change of hands.

A. 30.—This answer is included in the last, because if you can obtain a full complement of hands to work night and day, there must be a decrease in the average cost of production compared with day work only; but this supposes the number and efficiency of the workpeople to remain unimpaired, which would not be the case for any length of time, if the practice of night-work or of excessive hours were general. Query No. 31 is also included in this answer, because if the effect of extra hours upon the workpeople be bad, such ought not to be required or practised by fresh sets of children.

A. 32.—We do not know what trials of this sort have been made by others, or their effects, as none have been made by us.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 34.—We have not so worked; the extra profit above alluded to not being considered a just reason for such practice.

A. 37.—We think that no children under twelve years of age should be allowed to be employed in any work driven by power; and that the question as to a further reduction of the working hours should be left for subsequent legislation, if found necessary to the health of the people.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—The rooms are heated during cold weather, from 50° to 60°, only so as to make them comfortable, as the manufacture does not depend upon temperature.

A. 50.—By oil lamps in winter, mornings and evenings.

A. 51.—The same as in the day.

A. 53.—For breakfast and tea half an hour each, for dinner one hour.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—Most of them do, it being optional to themselves.

A. 57.—Discharge, if they do not perform their duties.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 58,



Lancashire.

J. C. Dyer & Co.

A. 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—No corporal punishments have been allowed for the last ten or twelve years; formerly, when we had four or five apprentices, they were once or twice corrected by the manager, but the effect was bad, and we discontinued the practice, and took no more apprentices; that being the only class of persons to whom the fear of dismissal, as a coercion, could not apply.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—No; and we have no knowledge, nor exercise any superintendence concerning their domestic arrangements or morals, when absent from the works.

A. 66.—There is no observable difference; but those who first came as adults and learnt the business in youth elsewhere.

A. 67.—There has been no difference in the average health of the people in these works at different periods that has been observed; generally, they have been healthy.

A. 68 & 69.—No.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Not relevant.

A. 77.—We think that the workpeople, when obliged to give evidence against their masters, do so in general with reluctance.

A. 78.—This question appears too broad to admit of a satisfactory reply in a small compass, but we think a restriction on the time of running the driving power, would be the fairest and simplest mode of enforcing obedience to the law.

A. 79.—We have only to repeat the suggestion in reply to Query No. 37, that the simplest and most effectual remedy for the existing evils connected with the employment of children in factories, would be to forbid the employment of any under twelve years of age.

J. C. DYER & Co.

No. 159.

S. Faulkner & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. S. FAULKNER and Co., Manchester.

A. 1.—Jersey street, Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Spinning cotton.

A. 3.—The principal part was built in 1825; a small addition was made in 1828.

A. 4.—Steam-engine.

A. 5.—There are flues in the walls (a sort of chimneys) which act as ventilators, and are generally open.

A. 6.—In addition to the flues mentioned above, there are casements in each window, which may be opened.

A. 7.—As regards the windows, the workpeople have the entire regulation, the persons who work next to each opening or closing it at their discretion.

A. 8.—All the machinery considered dangerous is fenced off.

A. 9.—Every opportunity is afforded to the workpeople to change their clothes and clean themselves on leaving work, but nothing compulsory is done, except obliging them to keep water always provided.

A. 10.—Nine years is the youngest; generally, we suppose they will not have been employed previously at any other trade.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require children under twelve years of age; they are employed under that age, because capable of doing the work required, and obtainable at lower wages.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each of five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—Same as persons above twenty-one years, viz. twelve hours per day for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—About three hundred days.

A. 21.—As nearly as we can state, fifty weeks, and sixty-nine hours each week, making three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.

A. 22.—All the works have been carried on at one and the same time.

A. 23.—The average of the hours of work of each day in the last year will not exceed eleven hours and a quarter; our regular time for work, sixty-nine hours per week, eleven hours and a half per day; but holidays and occasional stoppage for repair of machinery will reduce the annual average of actual work to less than eleven hours and a quarter.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—The regular hours of work, as stated above, have never in one instance been exceeded.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—There can be no question that the cost of production must be increased by reducing the hours of labour, unless wages are also reduced.

A. 29.—The inducement is, undoubtedly, that the cost of production may be less than it would be working a shorter time; for supposing the workpeople were paid wages fully proportioned to the extra hours, still the rent, taxes, and interest of capital would be saved, on the additional work performed.

A. 30.—We have already stated that the cost of production must necessarily be increased by reducing the hours of labour. In our branch of business, we calculate, if the time of working were reduced two hours per day, the effect would be to increase the cost of our manufacture



manufacture as much as would be equivalent to a reduction of 20 per cent. on the rate of wages; that is, to produce goods at the same price, we must reduce wages 20 per cent.

A. 31.—In our branch of business, such an arrangement has never been attempted, and we are unable to give any opinion on the subject.

A. 33.—We have never worked by night, or employed more than one set of hands.

A. 37.—In our opinion, the effects would be very injurious; one bad consequence, among many others, would be a great reduction in the rate of wages, for an advance in goods equal to the increase in the cost of production is neither likely nor possible. The manufacturers both on the Continent of Europe and in the United States of America have made great progress, and are already become very formidable opponents. Within the personal experience of the writer, British manufacturers have been materially injured in various foreign markets by the productions of the States.

A. 38.—Usual temperature 74° to 78°, but the workpeople are able to regulate it to please themselves; lowest suitable temperature about 73°.

A. 39.—76°.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Every individual is allowed half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for tea.

A. 54.—The engine is stopped during the several meal-times last mentioned, when every person may leave the mill if they think fit; but, as a convenience to themselves, many choose to have their food brought to them.

A. 56.—Any compulsory measure to effect this would cause great inconvenience to the workpeople, as in the event of bad weather, and the party living a distance from the mill.

A. 57.—They are discharged if found not to suit.

A. 58.—The children are generally engaged by, paid, and under the more immediate control of the spinner; but corporal punishments (at all severe) are not practised, and would not be permitted.

A. 62.—We do not recollect a single case in which it has been necessary for us to interfere.

A. 63.—No case having occurred, no instructions on the subject have been given.

A. 64.—Never at any time.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Almost all employed (with very few exceptions) have been employed in spinning mills from infancy, and more skilful than they could be if it were not so.

A. 67.—We think the health of people employed in cotton mills is better than ten years ago; we attribute this principally to the improvement in ventilation, and to the greater cleanliness in mills.

A. 68.—We do not conceive that any process in our business is injurious to health.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—We have no means whatever of knowing whether or not the mills in our neighbourhood strictly conform to the act; but, as far as we are able to judge, we should say that in Manchester the law is not materially infringed.

A. 76.—We have no knowledge on this subject.

A. 77.—Certainly not in this town; whether it may be otherwise in country places, we are unable to say.

A. 78.—We are not able to suggest any measure that would be efficient, and at the same time not so vexatious and oppressive to mill-owners as to prevent them carrying on their business with comfort and satisfaction. The prohibition on the moving power would be best calculated to effect the object as far as regards the hours of labour, but this we suppose would be objectionable, because necessarily interfering with the labour of adults.

SAMUEL FAULKNER.

Lancashire.

S. Faulkner & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. FRANCE and BOARDMAN, Manchester.

A. 1.—Parish of Manchester, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Weaving and dressing. N. B. There are several other tenants in our mill carrying on various trades, over whose hands we of course have no control or knowledge. The following is therefore only descriptive of our own hands.

A. 3.—The old part of the mill, being about three fourths of the whole, was built about thirty years ago; and the other parts, being two wings, were built about eleven or twelve years ago.

A. 4.—Fifty horse steam-engine regular.

A. 5.—Casements in two thirds of the windows, and ventilators in the dressing-room to take out damp air, &c.

A. 6.—In the weaving-rooms on the opening of the casements, and in the dressing-room the ventilators are always open.

A. 7.—At the discretion of any person employed.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are fenced off.

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X x

A. 9.

No. 160.  
Messrs. France &  
Boardman.



Lancashire.

Messrs. France &  
Boardman.

A. 9.—We have no arrangements except hooks and nails in each room for them to hang up their extra clothing, and they have also access to water for washing, and always have had.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age.

We have 29 children from 11 to 17 years of age have always been employed in the mill.

|   |   |   |          |   |                               |
|---|---|---|----------|---|-------------------------------|
| 8 | - | - | 12 to 17 | - | been hand loom weavers.       |
| 3 | - | - | 12 to 13 | - | in a silk mill.               |
| 2 | - | - | 13 to 17 | - | in a dye work.                |
| 1 | - | - | 15       | - | in a print work.              |
| 1 | - | - | 14       | - | an errand boy in a warehouse. |

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—We think not.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday twelve hours and a half each day, and Saturday nine hours; making seventy-one hours and a half per week.

A. 18.—All persons under eighteen years of age are only employed twelve hours on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, each day, and nine hours on a Saturday; making sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two days of eleven hours and a half each.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and seventy-four hours.

A. 22.—All carried on together.

A. 23.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, eleven hours and forty-seven minutes each, and Saturday nine hours. We commenced working twelve hours and a half for five days in the week on the 1st of April 1833, for all people above eighteen years of age.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—In consequence of lost time, which was only for about ten days last year, at half an hour per day.

A. 26.—Unavoidable; because accidents cannot be prevented, and it would be hard not to be allowed to work up such lost time.

A. 27.—Never.

A. 29.—Because the production is increased, and the fixed expences are the same.

A. 30.—Certainly in all branches, as the fixed expences are generally about one fourth to one third of the cost of production.

A. 31.—Because a change of hands is always attended with inconvenience and actual loss in quantity produced.

A. 32.—We have never tried it, because we are convinced it would be attended with loss.

A. 33.—Never employed night hands.

A. 36.—None.

A. 37.—We conceive it would be injurious in no small degree, as the cost would certainly be increased, and thus we should have a greater difficulty in competing with other countries.

A. 38.—About 60° in all rooms except the dressing room, which is from 80° to 90°, and these degrees of heat we consider to be as low as the various works will allow. The dressers regulate the heat themselves.

A. 39.—From 80° to 90° in the dressing-room.

A. 40.—Six dressers.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast; one hour for dinner; and tea is always carried round at four o'clock in the afternoon, but the engine does not stop.

A. 54.—About three fourths of the persons leave the mill at meal-times generally.

A. 55.—It is quite optional, and those that stay do so entirely for their own convenience.

A. 56.—It would have no effect at all upon ourselves.

A. 57.—None whatever, but discharging in case of disobedience.

A. 58.—Never to our knowledge.

A. 63.—We have never given any instructions on the subject; but should we hear or see any thing of the kind, we should immediately put a stop to it.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—None.

A. 66.—Those that have been at the same work the greatest length of time are generally the best hands.

A. 67.—We cannot say that we have perceived any difference.

A. 68.—Never.

A. 69.—Certainly.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—We have not.

A. 78.—We think the present law might be made effective, if proper persons were employed to see it enforced. We believe it to be chiefly in the country where it is not effective.

A. 79.—We think night-work ought to be done away with. We are of opinion that twelve hours per day, and nine hours on Saturday, is not too long for any person in health above twelve years of age to be employed.

FRANCE & BOARDMAN.



## ANSWERS of PETER EWART, Jun., Manchester.

Lancashire.

No. 161.

*Peter Ewart.*

A. 1.—Manchester, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning and manufacturing cotton, viz. scutching, carding, drawing, roving, spinning, reeling, making-up, &amp;c.; winding, warping, dressing, weaving cotton.

A. 3.—The old mill was erected in 1802 and 1803, and the new mill in 1814 and 1815; and both these buildings have always been employed for their present purposes. The weaving mill was erected in 1825; one room has been employed as a card-room from the first; the remainder of this building has been employed for weaving purposes during the last two months.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—In two rooms, in which there is the most dust, we have fans to carry it off, by sending a constant current of air out of the rooms. In all the other rooms ventilation is produced by opening the windows, all of which are made to open.

A. 7.—The workpeople are allowed to keep the rooms as cool as they wish, by opening the windows, except in one room (a card-room), in which the ventilation is regulated by the overlookers. In all the rooms the overlookers are provided with thermometers, and directed to keep the temperature under 70°.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery, which can be fenced off, are done so, as effectually as possible; but even then, accidents from carelessness cannot be avoided at all times: in a mill, however, there are many parts of the machinery which cannot be fenced off; from these, though they cannot be called dangerous, accidents sometimes arise through carelessness.

A. 9.—We have no particular arrangements for the workpeople to change their clothes; in all the rooms, they have always had vessels in which they wash their hands and faces: when the children come to the mill dirty, they are sometimes sent back home to be washed.

A. 10.—We never employ children under nine years of age; the youngest we now have is ten. All the persons in our employment who have worked at other trades are the following:—Robert Bradbury, aged thirty-one years, was two years a stocking weaver; Thomas Adams, aged twenty-six years, was three years a fustian cutter; Ellen Makin, aged twenty-six years, was eight years as house servant; Jane White, aged twenty-three years, was three years as house servant; Mary Cassidy, aged twenty years, was three years an artificial flower maker; George Rowe, aged nineteen years, was six years at calico printing; John Wood, aged nineteen years, was two years a tallow chandler; James Williams, aged sixteen years, was seven years an errand boy; Thomas Partington, aged twelve years, was two years at a dye-works.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have not rendered any change necessary in the employment of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 15.—We have not more than one or two orphans in our employ, and these live with their relations.

A. 17.—From Monday to Friday inclusive, that is, or five days, all our workpeople are employed twelve hours each day, except the mechanics, who work eleven hours; on Saturday, all work only nine hours.

A. 19.—We have had one or two rooms working, for a few days, ten or twenty minutes more than twelve hours per day; but this has been only to make up time lost by accident to the engine, and never for more than three or four successive days.

A. 20.—Three hundred and one days and a quarter; we have had ten and three quarters week days, holidays.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and sixty-two hours.

A. 22.—All the parts are carried on at the same time.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—All the time cannot be stated, because, owing to their seldom occurring, we keep no account of them: on one occasion, April 20th 1833, half an hour was lost in one mill, owing to an accident to the engine; and, on April 22d, 23d, and 24th, that mill was worked ten minutes each night longer than usual.

A. 26.—We consider all excess in mills driven by steam-power is avoidable.

A. 27.—We never worked more than eighty-four hours per week; and, since the time has been limited by Act of Parliament, we have never exceeded the legal limits.

A. 28.—This must be the case; a smaller quantity being produced from the same fixed capital.

A. 29.—To produce the greatest possible return for his fixed capital.

A. 30.—We find an increase in the cost of production, from the limitation of the hours of work in every branch to the extent of the reduced return of the fixed capital.

A. 31.—The objections are, that there would be great difficulty in preserving order, and in maintaining proper attention to the machinery, as in cases of neglect, each set would blame the other.

A. 32.—We have never tried a change of hands, for reasons stated in the answer to the last question.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 37.



Lancashire.

*Peter Ewart.*

A. 37.—We think that the earnings of the workpeople must necessarily be reduced in a greater proportion than the reduction of the working hours, because this reduction involves a smaller return on the fixed capital, and because the price of the manufactured article is not ruled by the cost of production more than, or so much as, by the competition we meet with from foreign manufacturers, whose wages are much lower than ours; and it must be borne in mind, that fully two thirds of the cotton manufactured in Great Britain is exported.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is 68° to 72°. The lowest temperature at which the works can be conducted is 66° to 68°.

A. 39.—The highest degree of heat required, is 70° to 72°.

A. 40.—About fifty or sixty hands are employed where that heat is required.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—In the winter months our mills are lighted by coal gas, morning and evening.

A. 51.—The same as by day, stated in answer to Question 7.

A. 53.—All our workpeople have half an hour allowed for breakfast, and one hour for dinner. The reelers, makers-up, and mechanics have half an hour for tea; the remainder get their tea while they are working.

A. 54.—During breakfast and dinner-time all are allowed to leave the mill, except the overlookers and ten or twelve other hands.

A. 55.—We offered lately to stop all the mills half an hour for tea, and to make up this half hour at night; but all the hands preferred our present plan.

A. 56.—As explained above, all the meals, except tea, are taken out of the manufactory.

A. 57.—Chiefly the fear of being dismissed,

A. 58.—They are.

A. 59.—By the manager, or one of the partners, or the parents.

A. 60.—They have.

A. 61.—Not with our sanction, except by the manager or one of the partners.

A. 62.—We have strictly forbidden the infliction of corporal punishment by any but the parties above mentioned; and when informed of such punishment having been inflicted by other persons, they have been dismissed or severely reprimanded.

A. 63.—The overlookers have been often told that they must on no account beat the children.

A. 64.—No such case has ever occurred to us.

A. 65.—Our workpeople do not live in our houses.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed by us from their infancy are more skilful at their work and more intelligent than those who have been taken into employment at later periods.

A. 67.—We have not perceived any difference in the health of the people during the last ten years.

A. 68.—If we see any persons in our mill suffering from any particular employment, we change them to one that appears to be less injurious to them.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—We have never been informed against.

A. 73.—Some of the mills in our neighbourhood appear to work longer hours than we do; but we do not know whether they conform to the provisions of the Act or not.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe so.

A. 78.—We think the most effectual means of securing obedience to the present law, would be to limit the hours of working of the moving power.

A. 79.—If the parents of children employed in factories could, by any means, be induced to be more orderly and economical in their habits, to attend better to the welfare of their children, and to depend less upon the earnings of the children for their own support, that class of people, young and old, would be greatly improved in their condition in life.

PETER EWART, Jun.

No. 162.

*James Fernley.*

## ANSWERS of JAMES FERNLEY, Manchester.

A. 1.—Gaythorn cotton works, Manchester, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Mule and throstle spinning, and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—In the years 1824 and 1825 it was built, and filled with new machinery, and a small addition was made in the year 1831.

A. 4.—A seventy horse power steam-engine is employed.

A. 5.—The windows are purposely constructed to ventilate the rooms, four squares in the centre or one ninth part opens on a pivot, by which means they can let in any quantity of air that may be required.

A. 6.—It depends upon opening the windows.

A. 7.—Any persons working the nearest to the window opens and shuts it at their pleasure.

A. 8.—Yes; the upright shaft that goes from the engine to the top of the mill is fenced off; and in the spinning departments there is one yard allowed for passages between the wall and spinning machines, in addition to which any dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—On entering the mill they generally throw off their coats, cloaks, shawls, bonnets, &c. and hang them up on pegs that are provided for that purpose, or put them in the window-seats, they



Lancashire.

James Fernley.

then put them on again when they leave; there are slop stones provided in every story for washing, and a pipe connected to take away the refuse water, and a large cistern in the middle of the yard continually supplied with fresh running water, to which many repair for the purpose of washing. There is a necessary in every story, and the refuse falls to the bottom in a waggon provided for that purpose, which is emptied every night.

A. 10.—Nine years old is the lowest. I should, they have not been previously employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—It does, for the purpose of removing the canes when they are filled with carding from the cards; a child of ten years old will remove four at once, and generally more active than older; and for the purpose of doffing or taking the bobbings off when they are full from the throstles, and cleaning under the mules.

A. 12.—As respects my own mill, I should say, a much less number of children under twelve years of age are employed to what used to be, for in hand spinning children of that age were employed, which are now done away with, for the purpose of feeding or supplying the cards with cotton.

A. 13.—No apprentices are employed.

A. 15.—Some children I employ may be orphans; in that case they lodge, and maintain themselves, with some persons near the works, but generally they have parents, and live with them in the neighbourhood.

A. 16.—A Sunday school is provided in the neighbourhood, where the manager and different persons in the works take an active part.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on the Saturday.

A. 18.—There is no difference made, all work the same time.

A. 19.—In one or two instances, through the year, I have worked thirteen hours per day for a week or ten days together, to make up for loss of time through some breakage of the steam-engine or geerding.

A. 20.—In Easter I stop a part of two days, and in Whitsun-week three days, and Christmas day; probably one week is lost in the year.

A. 22.—This only applies when they are short of power, when they work one part of the machinery at one time and the other part at another time. This is not my case.

A. 23.—Sixty-nine hours per week; less the week lost.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours in case of lost time being made up.

A. 25.—In case of lost time being made up, from some breakage having taken place.

A. 26.—It would be a great hardship if, when an accident takes place, I was not allowed to work up the lost time, as some of the hands are paid by the work, and they would much rather work up the time than be deducted for it; but the greater part are paid for what they get, and would think it an hardship not to work it up.

A. 27.—Before the last act of parliament, the mill was worked one hour per day longer, or six hours per week.

A. 28.—The cost of production certainly is enhanced as you produce a less quantity of work, because interest of money expended, depreciation of works, insurances, taxes of all sorts, chief rents on land, some of the wages remaining the same; and, if the hours were now shortened, wages must be reduced in proportion which would increase our poor rates, already too high, and be an additional bonus to foreign competition.

A. 29.—Because the more that is produced from a mill the less it costs, and such persons who work over the regular time are enabled to afford their goods for less, and consequently effect sales when another cannot.

A. 30.—The cost is certainly more for the above reasons; I consider the cost would be one twelfth for every hour more.

A. 31.—The objection is, that without you work the whole of the twenty-four hours with two sets of hands they could not make sufficient wages, and where two sets are employed that care is not taken of the machinery which is when only one set is employed, as neither set are answerable.

A. 32.—Only in case of night work.

A. 33.—Yes; for about a year when I had a large order that must be got in, the day hands began at four and worked till half past seven at night, allowing one hour for dinner and half an hour for breakfast; the night hands came at half past seven and worked till six in the morning.

A. 34.—It would be to any man's interest, in a pecuniary point of view, to work night and day, under proper management, but very deteriorating to the morals of the people under the best management, and, for that reason, highly objectionable to any one who has the welfare of his people at heart.

A. 35.—They used to work uniformly.

A. 36.—The effects produced is a less production, greater cost, but more care taken of the machinery, and the morals of the hands better watched over.

A. 37.—Any further reduction would be attended with many bad consequences; as, from the competition in trade already with foreign markets, there is little or no profits, and wages must be reduced in proportion to the time shortened, and the cost increased; and already we are more than sufficiently taxed upon trade, and this would be an additional one, and capital to a very large amount is required to be invested in a concern of any magnitude, and there is no necessity for it whatever, as the hands are not at all over-worked, and any diminution of wages would increase our poor-rates.

A. 38.—About 65°.

(APP.—D. 1.)

Y y

A. 39.



Lancashire.

James Fernley.

A. 39.—About 80°, only in one room.

A. 40.—Eleven men as dressers for power-loom weaving.

A. 41.—From January till 7th September.

A. 42.—None under eighteen years old.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 51.—The same as day.

A. 52.—The effects are highly pernicious, and gets them into many bad habits; if they are discharged generally turn out to thieving and plunder, encouraged by the facility of getting drunk at all hours in the pests and abominable places for manufacturing districts—the beer shops.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner, and half an hour for breakfast.

A. 54.—Generally they all leave the mill; they have all the option of doing so.

A. 55.—For their own convenience, when they live at a distance, they prefer it.

A. 56.—They are generally taken out, upon choice.

A. 57.—I never knew any other means taken beyond that of being looked after and admonished by the overlooker of the room, and, if repeated, discharged.

A. 58.—I never knew of any, nor had I ever any complaints made to me of any.

A. 63.—I have given instructions to my managers that no corporal punishments shall be inflicted.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Some of the workpeople do live in my houses; but it is optional. The manager, who lives near the work, distributes religious tracts to them on the Sunday, and holds also social and religious meetings in some of the houses in the week nights. Sabbath schools are also instituted in the neighbourhood, and are well attended.

A. 66.—There is always that superabundance of labour in the market that I can always attain a sufficiency of hands who have been accustomed to the work, and brought up in it, I suppose; which are always preferred.

A. 67.—I should think the health is much improved in the persons employed for the last ten years, for the reasons that mills are built with loftier rooms; mine are 9 feet 8 inches high, and kept of a regular heat, with a line of steam-pipes; and formerly they were much more exposed to cold and heat than they now are. Now better ventilated. It is a rare case for a person to leave sick.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Yes, once an information was laid, but withdrawn by the party that laid it, because it was false.

A. 77.—In the country they are afraid, I should think, but not in a large town.

A. 78.—It would be very desirable that all mills should be made to work the same time, and that some creditable person should be appointed for that purpose, and not to be subject to the common informers.

JAMES FERNLEY.

#### RULES to be observed in this FACTORY.

##### *General Character.*

1. All persons employed here are expected to be of good moral character, and to evidence their regard for the Sabbath by attending some place of public worship or Sunday school.

2. While at work their behaviour must be commendable; avoiding all shouting, loud talking, whistling, calling foul names, all mean and vulgar language, and every kind of indecency.

3. Any person swearing or singing profane songs, or found intoxicated, will be subject to severe reprehension, and fined five shillings for each offence.

##### *Overlookers.*

1. Every Overlooker is to be in his department the first and the last, and never to leave his hands during working hours, except absolutely necessary, and then to return as soon as possible; strictly and uniformly to adhere to the instructions given him, and to see that the hands under his care maintain the same discipline; not to give leave of absence to any of his hands, without the approbation of the master; never to interfere with the department of another, but to respect every other Overlooker as he wishes to be respected; on no account to send any message or order to any of the hands in another department, but only to the Overlooker; never, under any pretence, to admit a stranger into his department without the presence of, or a note from one of his employers.

2. To guard against fire, each Overlooker is considered responsible for the danger arising from friction and lights in his department; he is not to allow sweepings to accumulate, nor any smoking of tobacco: he is also responsible for windows broken, the expence of replacing which he must deduct from the person's wages who did the damage, and if that person cannot be discovered, it is to be borne by equal subscription of all employed in the room.

3. Any



3. Any Overlooker permitting liquor to be brought into his room clandestinely, shall forfeit ten shillings and sixpence; and any Overlooker knowing this offence to be committed in the Factory, and not giving immediate information at the counting-house, shall be considered unworthy of his place; any person so sending for liquor or bringing it into the Factory, shall be fined five shillings. No Overlooker shall suffer any drinking parties to be formed amongst the workpeople in his room, without immediately giving information of such impropriety at the counting-house.

4. No footings or changings shall be exacted from, or paid by any hand under any pretence; any person claiming or asking such a thing, shall forfeit five shillings; and any person paying a footing or changing, shall forfeit five shillings; and any Overlooker knowing this to be done in his department, and not giving information at the counting-house, shall be deemed unworthy of his place.

#### General Rules.

1. Every person is responsible for the business he undertakes, and must be answerable for any deficiency, unless properly and satisfactorily explained; and any person screening or covering a fault, mistake, deficiency, or damage, whereby a loss is sustained to the concern, either by himself or another, shall be considered unworthy of confidence.

2. All persons employed here are strictly to conform to the rules laid down for their department; not to use any abusive language to their Overlooker, but to pay particular attention to his directions; to be punctual in attending their work in proper time; not to sew or knit in working hours; to be careful of the property passing through their hands, not allowing any part to be wasted; to take great care of the machinery at which they work, keeping it very clean, and oiling it, according to the directions given; if any part thereof is injured, through their neglect, such persons will be judged unworthy of their place.

3. Any hands forming conspiracies or unlawful combinations against their employers, will be discharged without notice.

All fines to be given to the Manchester Dispensary.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS FLINTOFF, Manchester.

No. 163.  
Thomas Flintoff.

A. 1.—In the township of Manchester, in the parish of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Mule and throstle spinning.

A. 3.—My mill is of modern erection, having been built about eight years, and was then employed for its present purpose.

A. 4.—It is entirely by steam-power, which is regular.

A. 5.—There is no particular provision for ventilation beyond what is stated below.

A. 6.—It depends on the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—It is at the discretion of the overlooker.

A. 8.—All the upright shafts and dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—I have none. I am not aware any are required.

A. 10.—The lowest age is nine years. I have no reason to think any of them have been previously employed at any other trade; if so, such employment has been accidental.

A. 11.—It does not; but the wages of a child of nine years of age would be less than one of twelve years of age.

A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery have had a tendency to require the more general employment of children, but not more particularly those of under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—I do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—The children I employ, are generally (if not in every case) the children of parents working in my mill.

A. 17.—Sixty-nine hours a week. Twelve hours every day but Saturday, and nine on that day.

A. 20.—I am unable to state exactly the number of days that my manufacture was carried on during the last year, but never more than sixty-nine hours a week.

A. 21.—The above is an answer to this question.

A. 22.—My mill has been carried on uniformly at the same times, during the same day. I have had no separate department.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours in the week, with the exception of Saturday of nine hours.

A. 25.—The usual hours of work I do not exceed, except as is provided for in case of accidents by Sir J. C. Hobhouse's bill, which has been very trifling.

A. 26.—My opinion is, that any excess beyond the regular hours of work is avoidable, except in cases of unforeseen accidents, which will occasionally occur.

A. 27.—Before the passing of the last Act, my mill worked thirteen hours to thirteen and a half a day.

A. 28.—When I worked thirteen hours and a half a day, I paid my hands for the extra time that they then worked beyond what they do now. So far as respects the wages, the cost of producing a given quantity will not, in my opinion, be increased.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 29.

Lancashire.

James Fernley.



Lancashire.

Thomas Flintoff.

A. 29.—The inducement to the manufacturer to have his work protracted, is to get a larger and greater return from the capital he employs.

A. 30.—The increase in the cost of production from limiting the hours of work from twelve to ten hours per day, may possibly be about one per cent on the value of the article produced; but, in my opinion, not more, supposing (as it is almost morally certain would be the case) that wages are reduced in proportion to the reduced time.

A. 31.—So far as I have the means of judging with respect to my own mill, I do not think that double the quantity of children could be found.

A. 32.—I have had no relays or change of hands, not having worked more than twelve hours. I think to get a relay of hands of children alone would be very difficult.

A. 33.—Between three and four years ago I worked another mill day and night, and I was enabled to do so from the circumstance of a neighbouring mill being burned down where the work was mixed; the hands employed settled it among themselves.

A. 35.—They did not change.

A. 36.—In my opinion, so far as a spinner is concerned, few, if any, benefits can arise from night-working.

A. 37.—I think the first effect will be a reduction in the amount of wages, in proportion to the less number of working hours. But, by continuing to work twelve hours, I think that (from over-production, and consequent low prices,) a reduction in the rate of wages is inevitable; and that the workpeople will shortly, upon the twelve hours' system, receive only the same amount of wages, for that period of labour, as they will now receive for working ten hours. It is my opinion that the extra cost of production will be about 1 per cent on the selling price of the manufactured article; but I think that if the production continues at its present amount, the value of our manufactures will sink more than 1 per cent from the effects of home competition much more than from any competition of foreign nations. I think a ten hours' bill would have a beneficial effect on the domestic comfort and moral conduct of the operatives. In the first place, it would allow the married woman to devote two hours more per day on the economy of her household; it would afford to the young woman an opportunity of learning and practising those duties which are so essential to the comfort of the married state; and by giving the men time for recreation and relaxation on the work-days, it would, I think, induce a better observance of the Sabbath. For after a state of labour, continued without intermission (except what is necessary to recruit their energies) from Monday morning at five, to Saturday night at five, can we be surprised to see men devote their only spare time to such a course as will most readily excite their exhausted system? Or can we reasonably expect that, after a week's unceasing confinement, the generality of men will again voluntarily confine themselves by attending to the religious observance of the Sabbath? We all know that it is their duty and interest so to do, but we know also the weakness and imperfections of human nature. I think another effect of a ten hours' bill, would be to equalize the rate of wages; and, in some degree, to protect the poor oppressed hand-loom weavers, of whom I may venture to say that they are the poorest, and yet most peaceable and respectable of all our operatives, and who are nevertheless, by the introduction of machinery and by the length of time it is allowed to work, reduced to the most abject state of poverty. It is a fact, that in the manufacture of almost any kind of cotton goods, the spinner of the weft is getting from 24s. to 40s. per week, while the poor hand-loom weaver, of that same weft, is compelled to slave on and starve on with a weekly pittance of from 5s. to 10s. A ten hours' bill would have a tendency to equalize wages in this way: by reducing time to ten working hours, I have no doubt that more factories would be built, these would of course require workpeople, and it would give the poor hand-loom weaver an opportunity of getting a more profitable employment for himself and his family than he can now do. In conclusion I would ask this question. Why should the operatives in a cotton factory be compelled to work more hours and to earn more money than the bricksetters, the carpenters, the mechanics and labourers of all classes, who have been employed in erecting that factory?

A. 38.—I am under no necessity of having any high degree of temperature; I imagine about 70°.

A. 39.—All alike.

A. 40.—None in any particular branch.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 46.—They are not. I have none.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour at noon for all.

A. 54.—They all leave at meal-times, with the exception of five adults out of about one hundred and forty hands, who are employed in cleaning the mill gearing, and for which they have extra payment.

A. 55.—If any stay in the mill, it is for their own convenience, with the exception of the five above mentioned.

A. 56.—Very little, if any.

A. 57.—The means taken to enforce obedience are fines for neglect, and occasionally moderate corrections.

A. 58.—Occasionally so.

A. 59.—By overlookers; but the manager has orders to prevent any improper degree of punishment.

A. 60 & 61.—No excessive punishment has been inflicted with my knowledge, or with my prior or subsequent sanction, with one exception, by a foreman, for which I discharged him.

A. 62.



A. 62.—I never did or ever will sanction any improper punishment of any hands employed by me, and I have never had any complaint but the one above mentioned.

A. 63.—Children employed have had so little to complain of in this respect, that it has not been necessary to give any particular instructions. Both parents and children, in my employment, well know that I am both willing and anxious to investigate any complaint.

A. 64.—No complaints have been made.

A. 65.—Some few of my workpeople are my tenants. I exercise no control as to their moral and social improvement, nor are there any arrangements made to enforce domestic cleanliness on my part.

A. 66.—There is, undoubtedly, a greater advantage in being employed during infancy in almost every branch of the cotton manufactory; especially as those so employed from infancy exhibit more skill and ability.

A. 67.—I am not aware that it has deteriorated; but, without further opportunity of considering the matter, I am not prepared to give an opinion.

A. 68.—Having no particular processes which are attended with more injurious effects than are consequent upon the labour in my mill generally, I have made no selection.

A. 69.—It is; it has been my endeavour to comply with the provisions of the present act or acts.

A. 70.—I have been informed against for infringing on one occasion; but

A. 71.—I have never been convicted; as I endeavoured to comply with the act.

A. 72.—I have had none; but I am satisfied, from what has occurred within my own knowledge, that the present act may be easily evaded.

A. 73.—The mills, in the immediate neighbourhood of Manchester, generally do conform to the provisions of the present act; steps have been taken to enforce those who do not, but they have been ineffective.

A. 74.—In several instances the proprietors have been taken before a magistrate, but they have

A. 75.—Very seldom been convicted, owing to the difficulty of proving the fact against them.

A. 76 & 77.—Evidence is not readily obtained, because those persons in work will not, for fear of displeasing their masters, give evidence; those out of work generally have not the means of furnishing it.

A. 78.—I am not prepared to suggest any other scale of penalties, as it appears to me to be of little importance, while the almost insurmountable difficulties of obtaining evidence to lead to a conviction remain so great. I am afraid the employers, and those they employ, in too many instances, are united in preventing any scale of penalties becoming effective. I have known many cases, in which the parents, in order to obtain employment for their children, have not hesitated to make false statements as to age, and the same with respect to the giving of false certificates; thereby imposing upon the employers.

A. 79.—From a careful consideration of the operation of the various acts of Parliament relating to persons employed in cotton mills, and the knowledge of the partial manner in which such acts have been carried into effect, I am most strongly convinced that no legislative enactment can ultimately be successful, without a restriction upon the moving power, and I am certain that it is highly desirable that some effective legislative provision should be enacted. On behalf of children there is not much reason to complain as to improper treatment; but their condition may be materially relieved by effectually shortening the hours of their labour in cotton and other mills.

THOMAS FLINTOFF.

#### ANSWER of SAMUEL FORSTER & Co. Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester.

A. 2.—Spinning and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—Erected at once, except some additional loom-sheds during the last five years.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5 & 6.—Yes; opening of windows.

A. 7.—Left generally to the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have no special place for these purposes, but the female part of the hands are many of them in the practice of cleaning themselves and changing their clothes before they leave the mill.

A. 10.—Nine years of age.

A. 11.—A few children under the age of twelve years are almost indispensable.

A. 12.—None for many years.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day, except on Saturday, and that day nine hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Having had many stoppages on various accounts of alterations, &c. can't answer this correctly.

A. 22.—For about three weeks the card room, in which no hands under sixteen years of age are employed; worked 13 hours a day, except Saturdays.

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Z z

A. 25.

Lancashire.

Thomas Flintoff.

No. 164.  
Samuel Forster.



Lancashire.  
 Samuel Forster.

A. 25.—We have sometimes, in consequence of a break down, worked beyond the usual hours, but never exceeded the weekly average.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.—We did formerly work 72 hours a week.

A. 28.—A little, but not to the extent of the time diminished.

A. 29.—A more extensive manufactory with less capital.

A. 32 & 33.—No.

A. 37.—We apprehend that at present a diminution in the hours of labour would produce a diminution in the earnings of the workpeople; therefore a reduction of one hour each day would be more to the advantage of the workpeople, and more likely to be carried into effect, than a greater reduction, provided it be generally adopted.

A. 39.—We have not kept a barometer, but we believe about 65 is a proper temperature for spinning, and about 80 degrees in the dressing-room.

A. 40.—Four persons.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All are at liberty to leave at meal times.

A. 55.—When they remain it is to suit themselves.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—None by our consent.

A. 60.—Yes; corporal punishments have been inflicted that have afterwards come to our knowledge, but without our prior or subsequent sanction, and we have forbidden the use of it, and threatened the party doing it with being discharged from our employment if continued.

A. 63.—We forbid any foreman or overlooker punishing children. This has been done verbally.

A. 64.—None to our knowledge.

A. 65.—Don't live in any houses under our control.

A. 67.—We have not been in this business the length of time mentioned.

A. 68.—We have no employment that we consider injurious to health.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—Not as far as regards ourselves.

A. 78.—No alteration in the law would, as we conceive, be of any advantage, except it could be made of universal application in all parts of the country; and as the Twelve Hours' Bill is not strictly observed in many parts, as we are informed, we apprehend a law to diminish the number of hours of work, would become, in country places especially, totally neglected. We believe that children are not ill-treated in factories.

A. 79.—None.

SAMUEL FORSTER & Co.

#### ANSWERS of ROBERT GARDNER and THOMAS BAZLEY, JUN.

No. 165.  
 R Gardner, & Co.

A. 1.—Manchester.

A. 2.—Fine cotton spinning.

A. 3.—About 40 years ago, the first part of the works was erected, and the additional part a few years subsequently, but the present occupants have only had possession seven years.

A. 4.—Steam power.

A. 5.—No, excepting windows.

A. 7.—The workpeople chiefly regulate the ventilation.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—The workpeople change their clothes at their own discretion, and are allowed to wash when they think proper; and this system has been sanctioned by the proprietors from the commencement of the concern.

A. 10.—Nine; occasionally some children have been previously employed in silk-mills, &c.

A. 11.—Children of twelve years and upwards can certainly perform all the labour we require, but at an earlier age the fingers of the children become best adapted to the art of "piecing."

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not lodge, feed, or clothe any children.

A. 17.—Twelve hours during five days, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 18.—Sixty-nine hours weekly.

A. 19.—Twelve and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-six hours.

A. 22.—As a fixed rule we make no difference.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve and a half.

A. 25.—From accident in the steam-engine or machinery.

A. 26.



A. 26.—Accidents in machinery are unavoidable, and it appears only fair both to masters and workpeople, that lost time should be allowed to be regained.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—If we did work fewer hours than we now do, the cost of production would be increased in the ratio of the diminished hours, to the fixed expenses.

A. 29.—The general charges, of interest upon capital, rent, &c. apply to the quantity produced, and if one manufacturer can contrive to produce double the quantity of any article, with a given fixed charge, which any of his competitors produce, then an evident advantage is obtained, commonly inducing night-working.

A. 32.—Responsibility in any artisan contributes to the perfection of the work engaged in; and, as in fine spinning, a "set of work" cannot be completed in the continuous time which any hands are capable of working, in case of inferior work and faults, it would be impossible to detect the negligent or offenders where two parties are employed at intervals to produce the same article.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—The answers to 28 and 29 show the inexpediency of great restrictions; in addition, the well known fact that our foreign competitors work an average of not less than 80 hours weekly, further indicates the injurious effects which would result from the limitation to ten hours.

A. 38.—Seventy-two degrees, our usual and proper temperature for spinning, &c.

A. 40.—Two-thirds of our hands are obliged to work in warm rooms.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Winter mornings and evenings we light our works with gas.

A. 51.—Only by the windows.

A. 53.—Twenty-five minutes for breakfast, 50 minutes for dinner, and 15 minutes for tea; during which intervals the workshops and all hands have free egress and ingress.

A. 54.—As many as like.

A. 55.—The workpeople please themselves.

A. 56.—The food of our hands is now chiefly eaten off the premises.

A. 57.—Admonitory remonstrance.

A. 58.—Never with our knowledge or sanction.

A. 61.—Subsequently, though very rarely, we have learnt that personal chastisement has been used.

A. 62.—It is our fixed rule to discharge all hands whose refractory conduct we cannot verbally correct.

A. 63.—Yes; uniformly to discharge children who cannot be managed without beating.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—The most efficient hands are those who have from early ages been initiated in the particular branch of our business which they are engaged in, but there are a few exceptions.

A. 67.—Our workpeople commonly enjoy good health—we have witnessed no general deterioration.

A. 68.—We do not think that we have any occasion to do so.

A. 69.—Certainly.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—Our work-people are always at liberty to speak for themselves, and we are not aware of requiring the suppression of any truth.

A. 78.—Whatever legislative enactment be determined upon, we only desire that it may be binding upon all.

A. 79.—If the present bill were effective, and if the factories in other trades had been subject to it, abuses probably would have been unknown.

For ROBERT GARDNER and Self, THOMAS BAZLEY, Jun.

## ANSWERS of JOHN GERRARD, Manchester.

No. 166.  
John Gerrard.

A. 1.—Township of Manchester, parish of Manchester, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning, doubling cotton thread, bleaching, dying, winding, balling, and making up the cotton thread so spun and doubled.

A. 3.—The works were all erected in the year 1825, and were first set to work in the year 1826.

A. 4.—The power employed is a steam-engine of sixty horse power.

A. 5.—There is a distinct provision for the ventilation, viz. in each window there is a sheet of nine squares, or one seventh part of the whole window made to open.

A. 7.—The ventilation is left to the workpeople themselves, they open or shut the windows as often and when they choose.

A. 8.—All the upright or vertical shafts are enclosed in a wooden box, these are the only parts considered dangerous.

A. 9.—There is water conveyed from a cistern in the factory to every room, from which the workpeople supply themselves; they change their clothing in their own aisle or place of working,  
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Lancashire.

John Gerrard.

working, every hand invariably changes part of their clothes on coming to and going from their work.

A. 10.—We have one (a boy) ten years of age, he was previously employed at similar work ere he came to us; we have two girls eleven years of age who were never at work before; all our others are above twelve years of age.

A. 11.—No, the few we have are taken in charity, their parents being very poor.

A. 12.—Neither.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—All our hands work twelve hours every day but Saturday, which they work nine hours.

A. 19.—Twelve.

A. 20.—Three hundred.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.

A. 22.—Our works all commence and close at the same hour.

A. 23.—Eleven and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve.

A. 25.—They have not been exceeded during the last year, and never previously, more than half an hour caused by some accident.

A. 26.—As accidents cannot be avoided or foreseen, a time not exceeding six hours per week, should be allowed to work it up, otherwise the workpeople would have a deduction made in their wages for the time lost.

A. 27.—We formerly worked our mill three hours per week more than we now do, but on the passing of Hobhouse's Bill we conformed to it.

A. 28.—The difference is more than made up by improvements in machinery.

A. 29.—The realising of greater profits, which he undoubtedly will do.

A. 30.—As machinery can only be driven to a certain speed (and I believe all are driven at the maximum) the keeping it in motion a greater length of time will produce more goods, and of course for a proportionately less cost.

A. 31.—If there were children in sufficient numbers for relays (of which I have my doubts) and they could be had for half the wages, no objection would then exist.

A. 32.—As we do not work extra hours, cannot say.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—My opinion is, that the hours prescribed by Mr. Hobhouse's Bill are, if strictly adhered to, the best time that can be fixed, and any shortening of the hours would cause a corresponding increase in the expense of production, and, consequently, give foreign competition a farther advantage over us, and truly the accursed corn laws are quite sufficient.

A. 38.—As we spin coarse yarns only, we do not require any more heat than to make the rooms comfortable to the workpeople.

A. 39.—See answer to 38.

A. 40.—Three hundred and forty hands are employed in all our manufactory.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All who choose.

A. 55.—Any that stay, do so for their own convenience.

A. 56.—The effects would be to make the workpeople generally dissatisfied.

A. 57.—Remonstrance and discharge.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Strictly forbidden, and we should discharge any person (except the child's parent) who makes use of it.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Our workpeople live where they think proper, therefore no control can be exercised over them.

A. 66.—We have not perceived any.

A. 67.—We have not observed any difference for a many years; in fact, we hear no complaints, and we have several hands that have been with us twenty years.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—Should think not.

A. 78 & 79.—I would suggest that restrictions be put on the moving power only, that no children be employed in any mill or elsewhere before they are twelve years of age, and that no manufactory be allowed to work during the night; if there is not sufficient time in the day for us to work, and be able to meet foreign competition, then let the trade be abandoned to the foreigner, or seek out the true cause of it, and remove that, but let us have no night work. I would also suggest, that the overseer of the poor be required to see the provisions of the Act strictly enforced, or subject him to penalties for not doing so. Should the overseer not bring a case of breaking the law before a magistrate within three months, then any person knowing of such case might be allowed to inform of it, and if the overseer could be proved to have neglected, intentionally, then fine him as well as the owner of the mill. I would strictly confine inquiries as to whether the mill had worked more than sixty-nine hours per week, and if that could be proved, levy a fine, and let the fines be small at first, to



to be doubled on every conviction, and recovered as all other debts are. The ages of children might be ascertained by the parents getting their registers, and they should have them countersigned by the overseer: this would at once remove all obstacles as to age. I consider all further interference unnecessary; and the more provisions an Act contains, the more chances there are of escaping a conviction. Acts of Parliament, like machinery, should be as simple as possible.

JOHN GERRARD, of the house of NEHEMIAH GERRARD & SON.

Lancashire.

John Gerrard.

ANSWERS of THOMAS GOUGH, Manchester.

No. 167.

Thomas Gough.

- A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning.
- A. 3.—The whole of the factory built in 1817.
- A. 4.—Steam engine, 70 horse power.
- A. 5 & 6.—There is a ventilator in each window, which is attended to by the overlooker.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off with tin and iron.
- A. 9.—Plenty of water, and time and opportunity sufficient for them to wash themselves in the course of the day.
- A. 10.—None under nine years of age; can't say if they have been employed previously or not.
- A. 11.—No.
- A. 12.—Less.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours the first five days, and nine on the Saturday.
- A. 19.—Not exceeding thirteen hours per day, and that only three days, in working up lost time from a break-down of the engine.
- A. 20.—Two hundred and sixty-four days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand one hundred and seventy-seven hours.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 25.—To work up lost time occasioned by break-down of engine.
- A. 27.—Not since the passing of the act, only to make up time.
- A. 28.—Of course; it is materially so.
- A. 29.—There can be no inducement but gain; but I condemn the system of night-work altogether—it is so much more unhealthy, and the operatives have a decided objection to it themselves.
- A. 31.—Might evade the act by working at two separate establishments in the same day.
- A. 32.—Have never had occasion to try it.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 37.—A reduction of the hours of labour would necessarily reduce the wages of the operatives, because the interests, chief rents, taxes, insurances, &c. &c. would be the same.
- A. 38.—Not exceeding 70°, or summer heat.
- A. 39.—Not more than 70° at any time.
- A. 40.—The same heat through the mill.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—Mornings and evenings in winter by gas.
- A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast and one hour for dinner.
- A. 54 & 55.—They are at liberty to do so; there is no control, either by overlookers or managers.
- A. 56.—Of no importance to the master, but likely, occasionally, to be inconvenient to the hands, in wet weather, or cold, &c.
- A. 57.—By fines or discharge.
- A. 58.—No, I do not permit the overlookers or spinners to keep either stick or strap about the premises.
- A. 59, 60, 61 & 62.—Never had occasion to do anything of the kind, having never known of such a thing as corporal punishment on the premises.
- A. 64 & 65.—No.
- A. 66.—Those who have been employed from infancy are much more active than those engaged at a late period of life.
- A. 67.—Generally healthy, and I have not had occasion to give recommendations to the Infirmary more than three or four times in the course of a year.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Strictly so.
- A. 70.—Once, and paid the penalty of ten pounds; it was a custom for many years to close the mill during Whitsun week, but pay the wages as though they had been at work, and endeavour to work up the time by a few minutes each day, and this at the entreaty of the hands themselves; and for these few minutes of time over the regular hours, I was convicted.
- A. 73.—The cotton-mills in my neighbourhood do so, strictly; but we are quite aware that in the country the Act is infringed upon, which takes from us a fair chance of competing with them in the same market.



Lancashire.

Thomas Gough.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe that they are afraid.

A. 78.—I know of no plan that I can imagine would be effective, save that of fixing the hours upon the moving power, whether steam or water.

THOMAS GOUGH.

No. 168.  
B. Gray.

## ANSWERS of B. GRAY, Manchester.

A. 1.—A cotton factory, in the parish of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Fine mule spinning, and doubling fine yarns.

A. 3.—Rather less than half of the buildings (not fire-proof) was erected about 1803; most of the other part (fire-proof) about 1815, 1816.

A. 4.—Steam only.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—By opening casements or windows, as needful.

A. 7.—By the parties working entirely.

A. 8.—All are fenced off.

A. 9.—Cleanliness is recommended to all employed in my works. And amongst the rules respecting the spinning branch, I have a clause (that has been in force for many years) signed by each spinner, by which he engages to keep his own person clean, and to see that the children, who piece or work under him, are also kept clean.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age. And only fifteen, in all, from nine and ten.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—I perceive no material difference.

A. 13.—Four in the mechanic department.

A. 14.—None are from parishes.

A. 15.—The four above-mentioned apprentices live with their relatives.

A. 17.—Five days per week, twelve hours each day; one day (Saturday), nine.

A. 18.—Same as above, except the mechanics, who work five days per week ten hours and a half each day, and one day (Saturday) eight hours and a half.

A. 19.—For two or three weeks last year, thirty or forty persons (none below eighteen years of age) worked two hours extra: this has since been discontinued.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and thirty-eight hours, subject to the small deviations as per 23 and 24.

A. 22.—The whole of the works have been carried on, with trifling exceptions.

A. 23.—The average hours have been, and are, nearly eleven hours and a half per day, except when accident has occasioned stoppage, which has been worked up, or partly, in the same week in which the accident occurred, and not exceeding one hour per day.

A. 24.—I only employ one set of hands, who work the legal time, twelve hours. Unless it be for loss of time by repairing breakage, in which case see No. 23.

A. 26.—I should prefer the hours of labour to be extended from sixty-nine to seventy hours weekly, and thereby all excess of work might be prohibited.

A. 27.—Not since Sir R. Peel's Bill passed into a law.

A. 28.—I have no doubt of it.

A. 29.—No doubt the masters have in view their own advantage, and the inducement to the workpeople may be supposed their obtaining better wages.

A. 30.—Yes; in every branch and operation of my manufactory of spinning and doubling.

A. 31.—I conceive the objection would arise from the children and other workpeople not being able to earn wages adequate to their support.

A. 32.—I can give no opinion upon this.

A. 33.—I only employ hands in the day.

A. 37.—A farther reduction of working hours would be decidedly a great advantage in favour of foreign manufacturers—would tend to lower wages—and, in every view, I consider it as highly impolitic.

A. 38.—70° to 75° is the usual, and I consider the best, temperature for fine spinning.

A. 40.—I employ about 450 hands altogether.

A. 50.—My mill is lighted with coal gas: but that only happens in winter, when lighting becomes the practice of the trade. In this case the law is not violated, as the twelve hours are not exceeded.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and fifteen minutes for tea.

A. 54.—A number leave at breakfast-time, and nearly all go out to dinner.

A. 55.—Of the few hands that remain at dinner-time, all stop of their own accord; except two adults to oil and clean the shafting, for which they are paid extra, and are allowed time for dinner afterwards.

A. 56.—So few take their meals in the mill, that the exceptions are not worthy of remark.

A. 57.—No coercive means are used by me, or any one under my control, with my knowledge or consent.

A. 58.—I forbid all corporal punishments.

A. 63.—My regulations are directed to the protection of all my workpeople from bad usage. This is well known to my overlookers. And I hold each spinner, in my employ, bound



bound to treat the children that piece for him with every degree of kindness and indulgence, consistently with the due performance of their duty. The spinner is forthwith discharged should he infringe upon these rules.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in the neighbourhood of the mill, but not in my houses, and are not under my control.

A. 66.—With few exceptions, spinners were in childhood employed as piecers. Persons who have been brought up from infancy in spinning are more expert than those who enter into that employment in after life.

A. 67.—The increased care which is taken in ventilating and whitewashing the rooms, leads me to suppose that the workpeople are employed in a purer atmosphere than they formerly were, and therefore their health may be supposed to be improved.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—I have always adhered to the existing Act.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—I think they conform strictly to the law.

A. 78.—I cannot suggest any thing respecting penalties, other than they should be such amercements as are likely to insure obedience to the law. And as to the treatment of children in factories, I can add nothing beyond what is set forth in my answers to the preceding questions. But to render the hours of labour uniform in mills, I am satisfied that no measure whatever will effect uniformity, but by placing restraint on the moving power; and for this simple reason, that it is the surest way to prevent evasion, and the most certain to arrive at conviction.

A. 79.—My opinion is decidedly that the hours of labour in factories ought not to be reduced below what is allowed under the existing law, namely, sixty-nine hours per week. Further reduction, I consider, would be hurtful to all the interests concerned. It would be a national injury, as it would enhance the cost of our productions, and consequently give a superiority to foreign countries, where, I believe, no restriction is imposed. It would also be prejudicial both to the master and workpeople: it would operate against the former, as he would not be able to compete on fair terms with the foreign manufacturer; it would have an effect equally injurious upon the latter, as it would cause a diminution in their wages, and consequently circumscribe their comforts. This will apply to the children in a similar way. As to night labour, my opinion is, that it is hurtful to trade generally, and injurious to the health and morals of workpeople, and that an enactment to put an end to it will confer a great benefit upon the nation at large.

B. GRAY.

Lancashire.

B. Gray.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES GUEST, Manchester.

No. 169.  
James Guest.

A. 1.—Manchester.

A. 2.—Carding, spinning, and weaving cotton.

A. 3.—Cannot state the period of erection. It has been used by me three years for its present purposes.

A. 4.—Steam power—about 90-horse.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—Regulated by the overlookers.

A. 8.—The most dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—At the entrance to the mills I have a fountain, which gives a constant supply of fresh water for the use of the workpeople; was introduced at the commencement of the works.

A. 10.—Nine years of age; no previous employment to my knowledge, and only fifteen out of about seven hundred under eleven years of age.

A. 11.—It does not.

A. 12.—I do not conceive they have made any difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, except Saturday, on which day nine hours only.

A. 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and seven hours.

A. 22.—This never occurs, except in case of accident to some particular machine.

A. 23.—Saturday, nine hours; other five days, eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—At no time.

A. 26.—There has been no excess beyond the regular hours of work.

A. 27.—Previous to the passing of what is called Hobhouse's Act, I worked a manufactory twelve hours and a half each day, (Saturday excepted, nine hours only).

A. 28.—I find the cost is enhanced by a reduction in the hours of working.

A. 29.—The fixed charges of the manufacturer in the shape of rent, taxes, salaries, and interest of capital invested in machinery, being very heavy, and the same whether the works are carried on more or less hours, it is evident that the manufacturer by protracting the hours,

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Lancashire.

James Guest.

hours, and thereby increasing the production, the article is produced at a proportionately cheaper rate. As to working the same set of hands night and day, I do not think it is either practised or practicable.

A. 30.—There is an increase in the cost of production generally, from the limitation of hours of work, but in what proportion I am not able to say.

A. 31.—The objections appear to me two-fold: first, in those branches where relays could be employed, the expence would be increased; secondly, in other branches, particularly the weaving, I conceive it would be impracticable.

A. 32.—Not to my knowledge.

A. 33.—In the carding and spinning branch, about three years ago, I employed a night as well as a day set of hands; the day set worked from six in the morning until half-past seven in the evening (including an hour and a half for meals), when the night set exchanged with them, and remained (including meal-times) until the day set came in the morning.

A. 35.—When I employed night hands, they worked uniformly by night.

A. 36.—I think it is very little practised now, and I conceive it would be well to prohibit it altogether.

A. 37.—It would inevitably advance the cost of the manufactured articles, and thereby give an additional advantage to the growing competition of the foreign manufacturer.

A. 38.—60° to 70° in the carding and spinning department; in the weaving department no artificial heat is required or used.

A. 40.—About two hundred hands.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Breakfast from eight until half-past, dinner from twelve to one.

A. 54 & 55.—All are allowed to leave the works, except a few adults, who remain to oil and clean the machinery; some who live at a distance remain for their own convenience.

A. 57.—If they neglect their work, or refuse to conform to the rules of the mill, they are discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—A few of my workpeople (promiscuously with strangers) are tenants under me, but I do not exercise any control over them in their domestic capacity.

A. 66.—From the short period my works have been established, I am unable to answer this question.

A. 68.—I have never known any to require such changes.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—Generally I believe they do.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—I decline giving any opinion to this question.

JAMES GUEST.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HARBOTTLE, Manchester.

No. 170.  
Thomas Harbottle.

A. 1.—In the township of Manchester.

A. 2.—Preparation of and spinning of cotton, with power-loom weaving, and weaving with handy looms.

A. 3.—The factory was erected about ten years ago, and a small addition about six years since.

A. 4.—Steam power only is employed.

A. 5 & 6.—The only provision for ventilation is a portion of each window of about two feet long, and one foot wide, so constructed that the persons employed can open or shut them at their discretion.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the persons employed generally.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are all fenced off.

A. 9.—The only arrangement, as here described, are hot water morning and evening for those that take tea or coffee, and always plenty of clean water, either to drink or for washing; there are no particular arrangements for change of clothing, but there is no difficulty in finding places for such additional clothing as may be brought in winter.

A. 10.—The lowest age is nine years at which any are employed by me, and I do not suppose that they have been differently employed previously.

A. 11.—I do not think that children under twelve years of age are required.

A. 12.—Many of the spinners bring their own children much too young; the alterations in machinery require fewer rather than more.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day, except Saturday, and on that day only nine hours.

A. 18.—All the persons in my mill work the same number of hours, whether children or adults.

A. 19.



Lancashire.

*Thomas Harbott.*

A. 19.—The factory has not been worked more than twelve hours; the card-room only has occasionally been worked an hour extra, when those under twenty-one years are sent home; one hour extra in case of lost time.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty-four hours.

A. 22.—All carried on together.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty-six minutes.

A. 24.—Not exceeding thirteen hours.

A. 25.—Were never exceeded by children, except after an accident which occasioned delay.

A. 26.—There is no necessity to work beyond the regular hours, except to work up lost time.

A. 27.—I have not worked longer than I do at present during the present Act of Parliament.

A. 28.—The cost of the article will necessarily be enhanced by a reduction of time.

A. 29.—The inducements are various; but, especially, the longer he works his machinery, the greater his profit on his production.

A. 30.—Not having varied the time of working, cannot state the precise answer to this enquiry.

A. 31.—The objection would arise both on account of the difficulty of getting fresh hands, and more particularly in weaving the work would be totally spoiled.

A. 32.—It was tried some years ago, but found quite impracticable, the work in the looms being frequently injured, and neither quantity nor quality realized.

A. 33.—I did employ a night set of hands, but have given it up; one set worked from six to half-past seven, the other set the alternate hours.

A. 34.—The only inducement is to obtain double proceeds from the same machinery, by which it is presumed a larger profit arises.

A. 35.—The same set of hands worked uniformly by night, without any change.

A. 36.—The general effect is greatly beneficial to the health and morals of the hands, on which account I have given it up.

A. 37.—A small enhancement of the cost of the article produced, a probable increase of mills, and possibly a small reduction of wages.

A. 38.—Weaving-room about 50° to 60°, spinning 70° to 80°, throstle 70° to 80°.

A. 39.—Dressing-room about 90°.

A. 40.—Only two at present.

A. 41.—None.

A. 46.—None.

A. 52.—Very injurious.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, and about twenty minutes tea.

A. 54.—At the option of the hands.

A. 55.—There is hot water on the premises, and many who live at a distance prefer remaining.

A. 56.—The effect in general would be better, if the distance would admit.

A. 57.—They are discharged.

A. 58.—It is sometimes done by the spinners who employ children, but all corporal punishments are strictly prohibited.

A. 59.—By the operatives.

A. 63.—No persons are allowed to beat the children, but it is difficult always to prevent it.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—About fifteen families live in my cottages, but without any interference from their employer.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Once.

A. 71.—Yes, paid ten pounds.

A. 72.—For having a person working at night under twenty-one years of age, although I had her own certificate and that of her parents to her being above twenty-one years of age.

A. 73.—Most in the immediate neighbourhood do conform, but very few in the country towns.

A. 74.—Scarcely ever.

A. 75.—No.

A. 76.—Evidence in the country cannot be obtained.

A. 77.—Yes.

A. 78.—All penalties are equally unavailable where you cannot obtain evidence against the offenders; and the only possible mode to make this or any other bill effective, is to put a restriction upon the term of the moving power. Those masters who conform to Act of Parliament are working to a great disadvantage against such as are now working thirteen, fourteen, and even fifteen hours a day, whilst we are only working twelve hours. It is only required that we should all be put upon the same principle, and in which case I do not think that eleven hours would be objected to.

THOMAS HARBOTTLE.



Lancashire.

No. 171.  
*H. Harsden.*

## ANSWERS of H. HARSDEN, Manchester.

- A. 1.—A cotton mill, known by the name of the Commercial Mill, situated in Trafford Street, Manchester.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning.
- A. 3.—Employed as a cotton spinning factory upwards of twenty years. An additional engine-house with spinning over it about ten years.
- A. 4.—Steam-engine.
- A. 5.—Each window may be opened.
- A. 6.—The workpeople are allowed to open the windows when they think fit.
- A. 7.—By the persons employed.
- A. 8.—All fenced off.
- A. 9.—Yes, we always have had such arrangements.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age. Not that we know of.
- A. 11.—No.
- A. 12.—Less.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Sixty-nine hours each week.
- A. 19.—Not exceeding twelve hours.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.
- A. 25.—Not exceeded.
- A. 26.—No excess.
- A. 27.—Yes; but have always paid respect to enactments.
- A. 28.—Yes.
- A. 29.—We never did work our hands during the night, therefore cannot answer the question.
- A. 30.—Every part.
- A. 32.—We disapprove very much of night-working or extra hours.
- A. 37.—Our opinion is, the workpeople would be the greatest sufferers by a reduction of working hours, as they are paid according to the number of hours they work.
- A. 38.—Not lower than 65° and not higher than 74°.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—All are at liberty to do so.
- A. 55.—If any of the workpeople do not leave during meal-time, it is for their own convenience.
- A. 57.—A threat of discharge.
- A. 58.—Not by us or our overlookers, or by our orders.
- A. 64.—Never.
- A. 65.—We do not provide any of our workpeople with houses.
- A. 67.—No change.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—It is.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—Never interfere with our neighbours.
- A. 77.—Yes.
- A. 78.—By limiting the moving power to certain hours.

HORATIO HARSDEN.  
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM.  
PETER GASKILL.

No. 172.  
*Heywood & Jones.*

## ANSWERS of Messrs. HEYWOOD and JONES.

- A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.
- A. 2.—Cotton spinning and doubling.
- A. 3.—March, 1830.
- A. 4.—Twelve-horse steam-power.
- A. 5.—Every other window has a part that will open.
- A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.
- A. 7.—At the discretion of the hands employed.
- A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have no particular arrangements, only that they may have water for fetching, and many of them avail themselves of that opportunity, and wash themselves twice a day previous to leaving the mill.
- A. 10.—Ten years.
- A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.
- A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, five days in the week, and nine on Saturday; making sixty-nine in the week.

A. 19.



A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half, to work up loss time, agreeable to Act of Parliament.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and eighty-one hours.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter.

A. 24.—We have only one set of hands.

A. 25.—We never exceed the usual number of hours, except for loss of time, agreeable to Act of Parliament.

A. 26.—We do not think it at all necessary to exceed the usual number of hours.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—We believe that the inducement is, that he may lessen the cost of production.

A. 30.—The cost of production must, of course, be increased by limiting the hours of work.

A. 31.—This is very objectionable, and is open to abuse in various ways.

A. 32.—We have never tried it, because we never approved of night-work: for this reason, we think it injurious to the morals as well as the health of the persons employed.

A. 37.—A further reduction would increase the cost and put us under disadvantageous circumstances with foreign competition.

A. 38.—75°, and part as low as 60°.

A. 39.—75°.

A. 40.—One half.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and an hour at dinner.

A. 54.—They are all at liberty to leave.

A. 55.—Convenience of the workpeople.

A. 57.—If they do not mind their work, we turn them about their business.

A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—The difference is much in favour of those who have been brought up to it.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—None.

A. 73.—We believe that the mills in Manchester generally do conform to the provisions of the Act; but in the country it is notorious that they do not.

A. 77.—In the country we believe they are.

A. 78.—We believe that no law will be effectual but by stopping the moving power.

HEYWOOD & JONES.

Lancashire.

Heywood & Jones.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS HOPE, Manchester.

No. 173.  
Thomas Hope.

A. 1.—Oak Street, Manchester.

A. 2.—Tapes and small wares.

A. 3.—June 24th, 1828.

A. 4.—Steam; 9½lbs. to the square inch, and 17-horse boiler.

A. 6.—Ventilated by the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is left to the discretion of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—There is no necessity for changing their clothes, and they have plenty of water to enable them to keep themselves cleanly.

A. 10.—None under nine years old.

A. 11.—Yes, because they are useful in assisting their parents, in winding pins for their looms and putting them into the shuttles.

A. 12.—Has made no difference.

A. 13, 14, & 15.—No.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, except Saturday, which is only nine.

A. 18.—No difference we make, although the Act allows us to work people above twenty-one years of age in the night, but have had no occasion for night-work.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, in order to fetch up lost time by accidents occurring to the machinery and engine, which time the Act allows us to work up.

A. 20.—Three hundred and twelve days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-six hours.

A. 22.—Not carried on at different times.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twelve minutes.

A. 26.—In some cases it is not avoidable, when we are wanting to execute an order in a given time, and calculating no misfortune happening to the engine or machinery.

A. 33, 34, & 35.—No.

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A. 37.



Lancashire.

Thomas Hope.

A. 37.—A still further reduction of the working hours would cause a reduction of wages in the like proportion, because there would be a sixth less work done, and the profits would not admit of such reduction of time without a reduction in wages, and this would be the only means we could resort to, as rent, taxes, and other expenses would be the same as working twelve hours.

A. 38.—It is governed by the heat of the weather.

A. 39.—Require it no particular heat.

A. 50.—Gas lights.

A. 53.—Three-quarters of an hour at breakfast, an hour and a quarter at dinner, and three-quarters of an hour to tea.

A. 54.—They please themselves.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—It would be a great loss to them, as they invariably measure their work during the hours allowed them for meals, and were they compelled to leave the factory during these hours, their looms would have to stop.

A. 57.—If disobedient, they are discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—Was any punishment inflicted on any of the children, the foreman has instructions instantly to dismiss the party offending.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Have had no proof to ascertain the difference; we should always prefer people who have been brought up to the trade from infancy, because from long experience must be more perfect.

A. 67.—Perceive no variation.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77, 78, & 79.—No.

THOMAS HOPE for THOMAS & ROBERT HOPE.

No. 174.

H. Houldsworth.

## ANSWERS of H. HOULDSWORTH, Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester, Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning and doubling of fine cotton yarn.

A. 3.—No. 1 mill was built previous to 1795.

No. 2 - ditto - about 1803.

No. 3 - ditto - ditto 1807.

No. 4 - ditto - ditto 1813.

No. 5 - ditto - ditto 1825.

No. 6 - ditto - ditto 1810.

No. 7 - ditto - ditto 1825.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of one hundred and thirteen horse power, working to one hundred and sixty horse power.

A. 5.—None, except the windows.

A. 6.—Opening of the windows.

A. 7.—Ventilation is regulated in each room by the persons who work therein.

A. 8.—All the exposed parts of mill-work more than usually dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have no specific arrangement for these purposes. A tacit permission is given to the workpeople to wash and dress previous to meal-times.

A. 10.—All the children employed by us are represented to be at least nine years of age. Having one hundred and eighty-four children twelve years and under, (none of whom are directly employed or superintended by ourselves or overlookers) we have never made such enquiry as to enable us to answer this question.

A. 11.—In spinning fine yarns, a certain proportion of children, from twelve to ten years of age, are advantageous to our spinners, being cheaper than older hands, and sufficiently effective: one hundred and eighty-four such children, whose wages average 2s. 11½d. per week, are employed in our mills. If children of twelve to fourteen years of age were substituted, the average of *their* weekly wages being 4s. 5d., the extra expence would be 700l. per annum.

A. 12.—Indirectly, improvements in the machinery have rendered a less number of children for piecers necessary, and the reduction in number in our mills has been more among those between the ages of nine and twelve than twelve and fifteen.

A. 13.—Four or five as mechanics.

A. 14.—Apprenticed by parents or guardians.

A. 15.—We presume many children employed in our works are orphans, but we neither lodge nor maintain any.

A. 17.—Twelve hours on the first five days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.



A. 18.—The hours of labour are the same with us for all ages.

A. 19.—Four days - 12 hours 45 minutes.

One day - 12 hours 40 minutes.

Four days - 12 hours 10 minutes.

Three days - 12 hours 5 minutes. The remaining days either twelve hours or a shorter period.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-one hours and twenty minutes, having worked short time during part of the winter.

A. 22.—One or two such cases may have occurred from accidental causes of stoppage in different mills, but it is impossible to specify them.

A. 23.—Monday, eleven hours twenty-six minutes; Tuesday, eleven hours thirty-six minutes; Wednesday, eleven hours forty minutes; Thursday, eleven hours forty minutes; Friday, eleven hours fifty-five minutes; Saturday, eight hours fifty-seven minutes; being, if Saturdays are taken, at eight hours fifty-seven minutes; about eleven hours forty-five minutes for the other days; or, if Saturdays are included, eleven hours twelve minutes.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and forty-five minutes.

A. 25.—First, on the occurrence of accidents to the engine or mill-work; second, at Easter fair and occasional holidays, when it is usual to work up during the previous week two or three hours of the time then allowed.

A. 26.—Permission to work up lost time is frequently as much desired by the workpeople as by the master; it is a permission not absolutely necessary, and which has certainly tended to conceal infringements on the Time Bill.

A. 27.—Yes, previous to legislative interference.

A. 28.—Certainly; but so far as the restriction of time has yet been carried, the increased cost has not probably been in proportion to the reduction of time.

A. 29.—To work moderately long hours with one set of hands rather than with two sets, is preferable to the master, because more economical in wages, and less troublesome in the time and wage departments; and because the responsibility, both as regards the quality of work turned off by, and trim of, each machine, is borne by one individual. This remark applies to all our hands except pickers and piecers.

A. 30.—Yes, in every branch. The ultimate, although probably not, in its fullest degree, the immediate effect, of further reducing time, will be to increase the cost per pound weight for fixed charges, nearly in inverse proportion to the hours of labour; and as regards wages, the increase of cost will be in direct proportion to any rise per pound or per hour which may take place in them. We estimate the extra cost which would arise on 1 lb. of No. 100 from the effect of the fixed charges, if time were reduced from sixty-nine to fifty-eight hours per week, at rather more than 1*d.*, which would be an increase of 5 per cent. on the cost, leaving out the value of the cotton. The increase of cost on 1 lb. of No. 200 we estimate from the same cause at 3½*d.*; but if our workpeople were to receive the same earnings for fifty-eight hours' work which they now do for sixty-nine, the increase of cost on 1 lb. of No. 100 would be 3*d.*, and on 200 13½*d.*, which on their respective sale price is from 9 to 12 per cent.

A. 31.—It would be difficult, if not impossible, in a large mill to insure strict conformity to any law framed on this principle.

A. 32.—We have no experience herein.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—It is stated in Answer 30, that a reduction of working hours would increase the cost of factory production. If this increased cost is borne by the public, the consumption of factory production will be reduced in proportion, and no increase of mills or employment for workpeople will arise from the measure. If the factory owners suffer the loss, no increase of mills can be expected under present circumstances; for even now the profits do not lead to an extension of business adequate to provide work for the unemployed. If the workpeople themselves suffer the loss, they must change their habits, and reduce their expenditure to a degree which is inconsistent with any idea of comfort or contentment for years to come. It follows, therefore, that no forced reduction of working hours below what is necessary to secure the health of the people should be attempted, for in the end it must injure the working classes themselves. A reduction of hours beyond what is called for by a due regard to the physical condition of the workpeople, will unnecessarily increase the cost of production, and encourage foreign competition. The maximum duration of factory labour, consistent with health, can only be ascertained by a system of statistical returns, and continued impartial investigation. The minimum duration of factory labour which it would be expedient to adopt, seems dependent upon the habits of the people, the current rate of profit, and the degree of foreign competition. Reduction of working hours produces increased cost (see Answer 30), which in the same proportion lessens consumption; hence, no increase of mills or extra demand for workpeople can arise from a reduction of time, unless the cost to the consumers remains as at present. To accomplish this, if time is reduced, masters must forego part of their profits, or workmen part of their wages; but the workpeople are deeply interested in the profits of the master being kept up, for upon these depend the increase of mills, or, in other words, the supply of employment. If, during the last few years, these profits have not been sufficient to encourage an outlay of capital in new mills and machinery, sufficient to provide full employment for all who are able and willing to work, a reduction of that

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profit would most certainly still less encourage the building of mills; the unemployed would therefore increase, and all persons in work would suffer by the competition, and burden of those who were out of work. Any reduction of the profits of the master beyond what will encourage the outlay of capital fast enough to give employment to the workpeople as they grow up, must, in the end, fall upon the working classes. If it is not the interest of the workmen, that their employers' present profits should be reduced, the increased cost arising from the reduction of working hours must be borne by the workmen themselves. Suppose a ten hours' bill were adopted, the reduction of time, if they were to bear the loss, would reduce their wages more than one-fifth; for they would not only have to bear their own loss of time, viz., one-sixth, but would have to compensate their employer for the increased cost arising from the smaller return on his fixed charges. Can the working classes, or any class, submit to the sudden change in their habits, which a loss of one-fifth part of their income would impose? The question resolves itself into this: will the working classes think themselves as well off with ten hours labour, and one-fifth less wages, as with twelve hours work, and their present wages? Knowing the amount of our own workpeople's earnings, and looking at the question abstractedly, I should say, that in a majority of cases, ten hours work, even with one-fifth less wages than at present, would best accord with a rational existence; but taking into view the effect of habit which has rendered many things now indispensable, which in themselves are not essential to bodily health, I believe a great majority of our workpeople would submit to the extra labour rather than to the reduced wages. The sure consequence of a sudden reduction to ten hours labour would be general turn outs and misery.

A. 38.—About  $74^{\circ}$  in the spinning rooms, and  $60^{\circ}$  to  $65^{\circ}$  in the other rooms.

A. 39.—Fine spinning requires a temperature from  $70^{\circ}$  to  $76^{\circ}$  of heat. In dry winds and frosty mornings, or very damp weather, the high degrees are most wanted.

A. 40.—About one hundred and nine male spinners, and two female spinners, above twenty-one; and about three hundred and thirty-nine male piecers, and one hundred and twenty-eight female piecers, all but thirty-three, below twenty-one years of age; being five hundred and seventy-eight persons in all.

A. 42.—None.

A. 50.—Partly by candles, and partly by gas.

A. 51.—None but windows.

A. 53.—Thirty minutes for breakfast; sixty minutes for dinner; a tacit permission to take tea, during which time many of the machines are stopped from five to ten minutes. The engines are not stopped.

A. 54.—All who please.

A. 55.—Many do not leave; some sleep, others sew, others read. Their remaining or not is entirely optional, and for their own convenience.

A. 56.—Injurious in cold and wet weather, and fatiguing to those who live at a distance.

A. 57 & 58.—Three hundred and forty-one of the children, from nine to sixteen years of age, are employed and paid by the spinners; over these we exercise no direct control, nor is any general system of enforcing obedience adopted. Each spinner acts as he pleases. Seventy-five children of the same age are directly employed and paid by ourselves. Obedience is sometimes enforced by a small fine imposed by the overlooker. No system of corporal punishment is adopted. Overlookers sometimes inflict a trifling correction, but by no orders from us. No case of correction by an overlooker was ever brought under our notice except one, in which a mischievous boy was injured by a chance blow, and for which the overlooker was obliged by us to make pecuniary reparation. Those who neglect their duty are usually discharged.

A. 60.—Never.

A. 61 & 62.—Cases, amounting to one or two in a year, have occurred in which a parent has lodged a complaint against a spinner for improper correction, and, in such cases, investigation has taken place, and unnecessary severity of punishment been condemned, and sometimes the spinner has been discharged or required to make reparation.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Not in our houses; nor is any superintendence whatever exercised over them, except when at work.

A. 66.—This must vary in different departments. We teach none but young persons ourselves, and know so little of the history of those we employ, who have been taught elsewhere, that we can give no satisfactory answer.

A. 67.—We have no positive proof to give of improved health among our workpeople; but our impression is, that it has not deteriorated. The vice of drinking has certainly diminished. Their earnings have not fallen so much as provisions and clothing, from whence we infer they have a greater command of the comforts of life. They, however, work harder than they did ten years ago.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—The Act is adhered to pretty generally in Manchester, except in the clauses relating to cleaning machinery, whitewashing mills every year, registering of mills, and some minor points. A society was formed to enforce the bill, but found it difficult to convict.

A. 74 & 75.—There have been some cases.

A. 76.



A. 76.—Have understood evidence was not easily obtained.

A. 77.—This must be the case in isolated country mills, or in neighbourhoods where the Act is generally disregarded.

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A. 78.—The factory system may be said to combine the energies of three distinct agents, viz. steam or water power, adult labourers, and children. These three, for the most part, act simultaneously, the help of one is essential to the effective action of the others. Any restriction on the working hours of the children necessarily restricts the working hours of the adult labourer and moving power, hence the following answer to Query 37 will apply to the effect of a general restriction rather than to one on children only. Hitherto, enactments for regulating the hours of labour in factories appear to have been ineffective from three causes:—1st. Because the provisions have applied to children only, who are confessedly little under the control or superintendence of the proprietor; 2dly. Because exceptions are allowed to, and irregularity permitted in the prescribed number of daily working hours; and 3dly. Because the Bill is not self-operative, that is, does not contain any provision for securing obedience to the law, but by means of convictions. The present Bill is unjust, because it prescribes regulations, with penalties for non-observance, which in practice are impracticable; such is the prohibition against cleaning machinery during the dinner hours, a provision which no proprietor can insure without turning all his people into the street at meal-times. A Bill to be effective must limit the working hours of all who work in factories, not of children only. If more good than evil will follow such an enactment, it ought to be a sufficient answer to those who oppose legislating for adults, merely because an abstract principle says, "labour should be free;" such abstract propositions are generally only strictly true when applied to mankind in a perfect state. In factories, the moving power is more under the control of the proprietor than either class of work-persons. If, therefore, the proprietor is to be made solely answerable for the observance of the law, the restrictions ought to be placed upon the moving power. If legislation is to apply only to young persons, then fairness requires that the workman who employs the child should sustain the greater part of the responsibility. The simplest and most efficient law would be that which would prescribe the exact hour to start the moving power in the morning, the exact hour of stopping and starting at meal-times, and the exact time to stop at night, so that all factories should start and stop at the identical same hour, and none be allowed to make up lost time; infringement without detection would then be impossible. One hour and a quarter should be allowed for dinner, with liberty to clean machines. The proprietor should periodically send in a solemn declaration, or make oath that he had ordered the Bill to be strictly adhered to in his works; that he had made full enquiries as to the practice in his works during the last months, and, from his own knowledge, confirmed by the report of his managers and overlookers, he solemnly declared, that, to the best of his belief, no instance of infringement of the Bill had taken place in that time. Such a declaration every honest man could make, and few persons of any property or standing in society would dare to evade it. In water-mills such a declaration would be absolutely requisite, for the same regularity in stopping and starting such mills is not practicable; probably, in such parishes, a mill-warden, who should be partly responsible for the due observance of the Act, would be required. In factories where steam power is let off for other than factory purposes, the steam-engine ought not to be permitted to work for a full hour before or after the prescribed working-hours in the factory.

A. 79.—The disinclination to legislate for adults constitutes the chief difficulty in framing an effective Bill; in most cases they are virtually legislated for already, but by endeavouring to exclude them from the provisions of the Bill, while they are effectually included under its operation, much unnecessary complication is involved, and many impracticable provisions are imposed. Humanity is the ground on which legislation for children is advocated; the same reason, but in a still stronger degree, exists to justify legislation for adults. With the large sunk capital, and heavy fixed charges incidental to the factory system, and sometimes with the temptation of a high profit, it is the interest of the proprietors to push production to the utmost possible extent: hence arises the tendency to prolong the hours of labour to the utmost limit which human endurance will submit to; and be it remembered, that one or two proprietors working on this principle, almost compel the others, in self-defence, to adopt the same course. A similar remark applies to the workpeople; in such cases the aged and delicate dare not complain: it is the feelings of the robust, and comparatively independent, which under such circumstances regulate the hours of labour, and the stimulus of larger earnings, or, rather, the fear of smaller earnings if time is shortened, too frequently leads to a sacrifice of health and comfort for the sake of present indulgence. Children are more independent than adults; less is required to keep them; they have fewer dependent on them, and more to support them, and if delicate can, with less inconvenience, and more benefit, absent themselves from work.

H. HOULDSWORTH.



Lancashire:

No. 175.  
John Heap.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HEAP, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—Understand one half to have been erected in 1788, the other in 1804.  
 A. 4.—Steam only.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated by and at the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—All fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Water is kept in each room for the express purpose of making the hands keep themselves cleanly. The workpeople have an opportunity of renewing it as often as they wish.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years; cannot answer the last question positively, but understand at no other.  
 A. 11.—Children of small stature are requisite, for the purpose of cleaning and keeping in order those parts of the machinery which larger persons could not reach.  
 A. 12.—The form of the machinery used at our mill will require little or no alteration in the number of hands under twelve.  
 A. 13.—Do not employ apprentices.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours, five days, weekly; and nine hours, one day, viz. Saturday.  
 A. 18.—The same hours as above, except the youngest children, from nine to twelve, who are allowed to go out occasionally, and are not expected to attend strictly to the mill hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred, or thereabout.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty, or thereabout.  
 A. 22.—All at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve.  
 A. 25.—Never.  
 A. 26.—No circumstance has occurred to cause an excess of the regular hours of work necessary.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—No doubt the cost of production would be enhanced by a reduction in the hours of working.  
 A. 29.—That the capital employed may produce the greatest possible return.  
 A. 30.—The value of the produce of machinery is in proportion to the quantity produced in a given time.  
 A. 31.—Greater impurity in the atmosphere breathed.  
 A. 32.—Has not been tried by us.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—A benefit.  
 A. 37.—A reduction would be desirable, if there were no foreign competition; but, under present circumstances, it would be a boon to the foreign manufacturer.  
 A. 38.—From 68° to 72° of Fahrenheit.  
 A. 39.—72°.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—Windows, as in the day.  
 A. 52.—Injurious, morally and physically.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast; one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All, except such as request to be allowed to remain, from living at a distance, or any other cause.  
 A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—A convenience to us.  
 A. 57.—Remonstrance, in case of negligence; and discharge if persisted in.  
 A. 58.—Not to our knowledge.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—The residences of the workpeople, and the cleanliness thereof, are under the control of the workpeople, and we have known of no occasion to call for our interference.  
 A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are preferable to those taught at an advanced age.  
 A. 67.—Improvements in machinery, and an increased attention to ventilation and cleanliness, have tended to keep the general health of the workpeople good during the time we have been proprietors, say, seven or eight years.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 77.—Not in large towns, but in smaller or country places, we believe it is the case.  
 A. 78.—I know of no effectual means of securing obedience to any prescribed hours for labour, but that of restricting the moving power.

A. 79.



A. 79.—If to benefit the children be the sole or principal motive of these proceedings, we think the direct and most certain mode of attaining the object would be by restricting the sale of spirits, either by extra duty, or as may be deemed most effectual, and also by closing beer shops; as we consider these to be temptations to parents or natural guardians of children to compel them to work extra hours, in order that the parents may have more of their earnings to spend at such places.

JOHN HEAP.

Lancashire.

John Heap.

ANSWERS of THOMAS BROOKES, Manchester.

No. 176.  
Thomas Brookes.

- A. 1.—Mill in the parish of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning and power-loom weaving.  
 A. 3.—It has been employed by us some eighteen years, as it now is, for its present purpose.  
 A. 4.—By steam only; twenty horse power.  
 A. 5.—There is in almost every window in the mill a casement for ventilation, which lets out foul, and admits fresh air.  
 A. 6.—It depends on the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—It is regulated by the foreman, conjointly with the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—They are all fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Some four years we have had fresh water brought into the yard, by the Stone Pipe Company, every morning, and have buckets and jugs in the rooms to wash in it, and hooks for hanging their clothes on.  
 A. 10.—None under nine years of age, and not previously employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—It requires about twelve under that age on account of the trifling nature of the work and the smallness of the wages.  
 A. 12.—We have made no alterations as to render it necessary to employ either a greater or less number of children under that age.  
 A. 13.—Not.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge and maintain any.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—All twelve hours five days, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seven and a half.  
 A. 22.—All alike.  
 A. 23.—Eleven and a half.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen.  
 A. 25.—For ten successive days only one hour, to make up in part for loss of time through engine breaking.  
 A. 26.—Not avoidable, because we turn by the same engine a small mill adjoining, and our tenant demanded the making up so much of the time lost as the Act would admit.  
 A. 27.—Some seven years ago, half an hour more daily.  
 A. 28.—A trifle.  
 A. 29.—Because the rental of the mill being a part of the cost of the article produced, the cost is lessened according to the quantity produced.  
 A. 30.—Certainly, in every branch, according to the diminution of hours, so far as the rental is considered.  
 A. 31.—The strongest possible objections exist to having fresh sets to work at night, because of the demoralizing and physical effects thereof.  
 A. 32.—It has not been tried by us, and from what we have heard of those who have, we have the utmost disinclination to do so.  
 A. 33.—Not.  
 A. 36.—Every good effect, whether moral, physical, or commercial.  
 A. 37.—We apprehend that a further reduction of more than half an hour per day would be injurious to the morals and circumstances of the operatives generally, as well as injurious to the interest of the masters, because of foreign competition.  
 A. 38.—50° to 60°.  
 A. 39.—80° to 90°.  
 A. 40.—Five men engaged in dressing yarn.  
 A. 46.—Not.  
 A. 50.—In the evening by gas.  
 A. 51.—In the evening nearly the same as by day.  
 A. 52.—Midnight we believe very bad.  
 A. 53.—Eight, twelve, and four o'clock.  
 A. 54.—All.  
 A. 56.—They are taken out, excepting at tea-time, four o'clock.  
 A. 57.—Chiefly verbal reproof, and only, and but seldom, a slight box.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64 & 65.—None at all.

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A. 66.



Lancashire.

*Thomas Brookes.*

A. 66.—The skill of those employed from their infancy in the works is far superior to those who have been taken into the employment at later periods.

A. 67.—It has been improved evidently, by their appearance, the mills being better ventilated and cleaned.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—Believe the best and only successful means for these purposes is to restrict the moving power to time, so that no man be tempted to take the advantage of his neighbour.

THOMAS BROOKES.

No. 177.

*James Kennedy.*

ANSWERS of JAMES KENNEDY, Manager of JAMES KENNEDY & Co. Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton, yarn, and thread.

A. 3.—Part about 1803 or 1804, and parts from 1814 to 1824, and employed immediately after those periods.

A. 4.—Steam; 120 horse power.

A. 5.—Windows and ventilation chimneys.

A. 6.—On the proper opening and closing of said windows and ventilating chimneys.

A. 7.—At the option and in the power of both employer and employed.

A. 8.—Generally speaking, they are.

A. 9.—Plenty of water, and orders to use it. Date of orders not known.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—Not necessarily, except from the scarcity and expence of those above twelve years.

A. 12.—More children from ten or eleven to fourteen years.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—On the average, eleven hours and a half for forty-nine or fifty weeks per annum. Twelve or eighteen days per annum are generally lost by holidays; such as races, fairs, Good Friday, elections, &c.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-six days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eight hours.

A. 22.—Generally the same.

A. 23.—Reckoning fifty-two weeks per annum, 10.92 hours; reckoning forty-nine weeks and a half per annum, 11.48 hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—On account of time lost, in consequence of accidents to the machinery, and to the extent of five or six days last year.

A. 26.—Quite unavoidable, except at increased expence, on account of fixed charges. See 29.

A. 27 & 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—In order that, by increased produce, the proportion of fixed charges (or expences; viz. rent, taxes, interest of capital invested, salaries, &c.) per given quantity may be less.

A. 32.—Not in our mill.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—Reduced wages; increased expence of production; increased foreign competition; ultimately ruining the export or foreign trade.

A. 38.—From 60° to 75° or 80° Fahrenheit.

A. 39.—75° or 80° Fahrenheit.

A. 40.—Not more than forty: say, 10 above 21, 10 above 14, 10 above 12, 10 above 9 years of age.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—During winter afternoons by gas.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 53.—All classes have, for breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour; tea, a quarter of an hour.

A. 54.—All may, at breakfast and dinner-times.

A. 55.—To please themselves.

A. 57.—Orders and scolding, and if that will not do, discharging them, as an example.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 63.—Merely that if children will not behave properly, and duly attend to their work, they must be discharged.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Some of ours, but not many, and generally of too high a class to be intruded upon; where we can, we encourage cleanliness.

A. 66.—Early habits are advantageous in this, as in most other occupations.

A. 67.



A. 67.—No apparent change on the aggregate.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Once.

A. 71.—Never.

A. 77.—No. They can, and frequently do, leave us on Saturday night without any notice, and without our ever knowing more of them.

A. 79.—None. The Commissioners will always find us ready and anxious, to the best of our power, to give every information required.

JAMES KENNEDY.

Lancashire.

James Kennedy.

#### ANSWERS OF JOHN LATHAM, Manchester.

No. 178.

John Latham.

A. 1.—Parish and township of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Preparing and spinning cotton yarn.

A. 3.—Cannot state exactly the time when the material portion of the building was erected. It has been occupied by myself and partner about twenty years, and I believe was built in or near the year 1799, and has been used from the commencement for the present purpose.

A. 4.—Steam only.

A. 5.—There is no specific and distinct provision for the ventilation of the factory, except

A. 6.—The opening of windows, which

A. 7.—Is left to the control of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Have no parts of the machinery that I consider dangerous.

A. 9.—They change their clothes on entering and leaving the factory, and have the opportunity of washing on leaving. This has always been the case.

A. 10.—Nine years; two have previously worked in a ropemaker's-yard, and one has been employed about a farm.

A. 11.—I think it not positively necessary, but there is one part of the work which may be done by younger children without injury to themselves.

A. 12.—Yes, fewer.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, excepting Saturday, when only nine are worked.

A. 18.—The same as above, no difference being made.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, when making up lost time.

A. 20.—On parts of three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eight hours.

A. 22.—All the works have been carried on at the same time.

A. 23.— $11\frac{2}{10}$  hours per day, or  $67\frac{4}{10}$  hours per week.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours, which has only occurred when working up lost time.

A. 25.—In consequence of accident to the engine and mill gearing.

A. 26.—Cannot be prevented, though seldom happening.

A. 27.—Yes, formerly I worked seventy-four hours per week.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—Because a larger quantity of work is produced, while fixed expences, which are large, remain the same.

A. 30.—Yes, in all branches, as the same burden of fixed expences falls upon a smaller production in proportion to the reduction of time.

A. 31.—A change of hands, even of a few, at any time, is attended with inconvenience and loss.

A. 32.—I have not tried it, nor am I aware that it has been attempted.

A. 33.—I have never had any night-work, having a strong objection to it, although to do so would lessen the cost of production.

A. 37.—One effect would be to increase the cost of the article produced, and consequently cause a difficulty in disposing of it to advantage, as we have to compete with persons in the same business, not only in this but in other countries also. Another effect I should anticipate would be a diminution of the manufacture in this kingdom, and an increase abroad. The ground of this opinion is formed from the difficulty we have already experienced in competing in some articles of our production with those who are under no restriction as to time of working; and further to limit our hours would, in my judgment, operate as a bounty to foreign manufactures, and therefore give an impetus to increase, whilst at home it would have a contrary result.

A. 38.—The usual temperature  $65^{\circ}$ , which is necessary.

A. 39.—No difference is made.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour.

A. 54.—The engine is stopped at each meal-time, and the greater part go home.

A. 55.—With those who stay, it is a matter of their own convenience.

A. 56.—Of no importance.

A. 57.—By discharging them.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 58.



Lancashire.

John Latham.

A. 58.—No.

A. 60.—There have been cases; but, on coming to my knowledge, instant investigation has taken place, and proper steps for suppression adopted.

A. 64.—No.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—Those persons who have worked at the business from youth are, in most of the processes of work, more skilful than those who have entered into it at a more advanced age.

A. 67.—Ten years ago there were more persons left their work as sick than have done of late, but I am of opinion that this arose more from intemperance than real want of health. This is now abated, in consequence of there being a superabundance of working people, which makes those who are employed afraid of losing their situations.

A. 68.—I do not.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—One information has been laid, but could not be supported. The informer never appeared in court. He was discharged for misconduct a few days before the information for alleged infringement of the Act was laid. I had strictly adhered to its provisions.

A. 73.—I believe they do.

A. 77.—I have no reason to suppose so.

A. 78.—My opinion is, that nothing will prevent the infringement of the present law but a legislative enactment to limit the moving power working more hours than the Act now in force allows, for any of the purposes of manufacture, and in this, I believe, the proprietors of the factories in Manchester would gladly concur.

A. 79.—The only further suggestion that occurs to me at this time, is to state, that I think it desirable that some law should be passed by which all persons engaged in the same business shall be placed on an equal footing, and that none shall be able to take advantage of others.

JOHN LATHAM.

No. 179.  
Leigh Slater.

## ANSWERS of LEIGH SLATER, Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester, county of Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected at one time in 1818.

A. 4.—Steam, 16-horse power.

A. 5.—No.

A. 6.—Upon the opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 8.—All the upright shafts are fenced off; no other part can be considered dangerous.

A. 9.—No specific arrangement, any further than that the hands have access to clean water, and have been provided with vessels for washing.

A. 10.—Nine; none of that age have been employed at other trades.

A. 11.—No, but the prohibition to work children under that age might cause a scarcity of workpeople.

A. 12.—Neither.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 18.—Twelve for five days, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—Three hundred and two.

A. 21.—From three thousand four hundred and seventy to three thousand four hundred and eighty.

A. 22.—All have been worked together.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—No child under eighteen has, to my knowledge, worked more than twelve hours, except in a very few cases where time had been lost by accident to the engine, and in no instance more than thirteen.

A. 25.—In the evenings, and occasionally during part of the dinner hour.

A. 26.—Not easily avoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To reduce the price of production, and to obtain a profit upon an additional quantity.

A. 31.—That unless the additional hours are sufficiently long no wages can be afforded that would be a living for the children.

A. 32.—I am not aware that it has been tried, except in cases where the work has been continued throughout the night.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—The consequence of a further reduction of the hours of labour would be an increase to the cost of yarns, owing to a smaller quantity being produced from the same amount of fixed capital; and we at present find so great a difficulty in competing with foreigners in their own markets, as to render any impulse to their manufactures, or check to our own, highly hazardous. To those classes of workpeople who are paid by the piece, the



the effect would be an immediate reduction of wages to the full extent of the alteration in time; and those who are paid by the day must experience the same result; and, I have no doubt, as immediately.

A. 38.—We attend very little to the temperature.

A. 39.—I should think 65° quite sufficient, but have never used a thermometer in the mill.

A. 50.—By gas in the evenings.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and time to take tea in the mill.

A. 54.—All have the option, and most do leave the mill during breakfast and dinner-time, but none are compelled.

A. 57.—They have the option of obeying orders or leaving the mill.

A. 58.—By no means.

A. 64 & 65.—No.

A. 66.—Those brought up to the business have doubtless a great advantage, but cannot give a very confident opinion, as I conceive that few enter the business after they are grown up.

A. 67.—I have occupied it little more than two years.

A. 68.—I make no particular selection; each branch, as far as regards the workpeople, is a distinct trade, consequently such a change is scarcely practicable.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—To the best of my knowledge, they do conform strictly.

A. 77.—I think it very likely that they are.

LEIGH SLATER.

Lancashire.

Leigh Slater.

#### ANSWERS of LIONEL LLOYD, Manchester.

No. 180.

Lionel Lloyd.

A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Carding and spinning cotton.

A. 3.—Principal building, thirty years; small building, fifteen years.

A. 4.—Steam-engine.

A. 5 & 6.—By the opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all, both overlookers and hands.

A. 8.—The main wheels fenced off, and the minor ones placed out of danger.

A. 9.—Whitewashing, and fumigating with tar-oil. The hands put off their extra clothing when they come into the mill, and put it on when they leave it.

A. 10.—Twelve years.

A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.

A. 17.—Five days, twelve hours and a half; and on Saturday, nine hours and a half.

A. 18.—Persons under eighteen years of age work twelve hours five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 19.—We have never worked more than twelve hours and a half on any one day during the last year.

A. 20.—The holidays during the last year have been seven days and a half.

A. 22.—The only difference is, in the carding engines stopping three hours on Saturday.

A. 24.—I have only one set.

A. 27.—Ten years ago, we sometimes made an extra half hour, to make up half a day of holiday.

A. 28.—I do.

A. 29.—A mistaken idea.

A. 30.—I find an increase of costs in all branches, to the amount of 1½ per cent.

A. 31 & 32.—I think this plan very objectionable.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 37.—It would injure the spinning trade of this kingdom, by the competition with other countries.

A. 38.—The temperature of my room is 60°, and they are all of the same temperature.

A. 39.—Never above 60°.

A. 40.—The whole number of my hands are from 140 to 150.

A. 41.—Not any.

A. 50.—By the best sperm oil.

A. 52.—To persons who work all the night, bad.

A. 53.—Persons under eighteen have an hour and a half per day; those above, one.

A. 54.—The hands under eighteen leave their work at all meal-times; and those above eighteen, at noon.

A. 55.—The hands who breakfast in the mill do so partly for their convenience, and partly for the owner's.

A. 56.—Loss to the hands and loss to the owner.

A. 57.—Remonstrance, but never coercion.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—I let no houses to any one; and the hands, when out of the mill, are quite from under my control.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 E

A. 66.



Lancashire.

Lionel Lloyd.

A. 66.—Persons who work in mills early are more efficient hands than those who begin later in life.

A. 67.—The hands in my mill are, and always have been, healthy; and the average of sick does not exceed two per week.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—It may be so or not.

A. 78.—If the restriction was laid upon the moving power, and no children admitted under twelve years of age, most of the evils now complained of would be remedied.

LIONEL LLOYD.

No. 181.  
S. M. Moore.

ANSWERS of SAMUEL M. MOORE, Ancoats, Manchester.

A. 1.—Mill Street, Ancoats, Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Fine spinning of cotton, from No. 160 to 220, of 840 yards to the number.

A. 3.—Erected in 1804; some small additions were made in 1824 and 1826; always has been used for the same purpose.

A. 4.—Steam-power only.

A. 5.—Yes; there are sashes in each room, of the same nature as those in a dwelling-house, with the addition of movable squares or panes, by which means the rooms are properly ventilated.

A. 6.—Principally upon the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by me; but in my absence by the overlooker; frequently by the hands, when they find it necessary, to which there is no objection.

A. 8.—All which are considered dangerous are boxed off.

A. 9.—There are accommodations in the rooms for the hands to hang up their clothes, and the privilege of fetching in water to wash themselves.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age, nor any of them employed previously at any other trade.

A. 11.—Yes; the nature of our work requires it, because there are more breakages in fine spinning; consequently we require more piecing, and which can be done more advantageously by children, many of whom are under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—Yes, decidedly, a greater proportion under that age, in my branch of the trade.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—The first five days of the week, twelve hours; Saturday, nine hours; or sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 18.—All ages work the same number of hours.

A. 19.—On some occasions, when a loss of time has been unavoidable, half an hour, or so, extra has been worked to make up the loss; but at those times those under age have been sent home at the regular hour.

A. 20.—Two hundred and seventy-five in the year 1832.

A. 21.—Three thousand one hundred and sixty-two hours and a half in the same year.

A. 22.—All parts of the manufactory are so dependent on each other that they are seldom or never worked separately.

A. 23.—Eleven hours thirty minutes, average for 1832.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—The usual time has so seldom been exceeded, that no record has been kept, but the causes are stated under A. 19.

A. 26.—Accidents to the machinery, and stoppages consequent upon them, are unavoidable, and an excess of hours is essential to make good the time lost.

A. 27.—Yes, prior to Sir R. Peel's bill.

A. 28.—The cost of production is not increased, if the great improvements in machinery since that period are taken into consideration: I speak of my own branch of the trade.

A. 29.—With a view to a greater production in a given space of time, in order to lessen the cost on the general average of the whole.

A. 30.—The cost must increase in proportion to the limitation of the hours of work, and very much so in certain branches, which are not so susceptible of improvement.

A. 31.—No hands will engage for less than a full day's work; so that if you want a few extra hours each day, a fresh relay of hands cannot be procured.

A. 32.—Yes, where you work day and night; though, generally speaking, I think it has not answered well.

A. 36.—I do not consider it would be any injury to me, whilst I am allowed to work twelve hours per day.

A. 37.—There can be no doubt but it must ultimately ruin the whole trade, which would, in these times, soon leave the country. We are so reduced in price, that we must have quantity, or the general average is too high to meet the market. Curtail the quantity, by the reduction of hours, without a corresponding reduction of all the expences attending the same, the result will be as first stated. It may be said that we would obtain better prices, as there would be less competition in England. Such persons cannot know any thing of our foreign



foreign relations or foreign competition. Our capital and our talents are at a great premium in other countries, and care should be taken that they cannot find a better market.

A. 38.—70° Fahrenheit. The lowest temperature at which the manufacture may be carried on is 65° in my branch of the trade.

A. 39.—70° Fahrenheit.

A. 40.—One hundred and twenty-four persons.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—Gas-light, morning and evening, in the lighting-up season.

A. 51.—Same as in the day, mornings and evenings.

A. 52.—I should think injurious.

A. 53.—All the hands are allowed from eight till half past in the morning for breakfast, and from twelve to one at noon for dinner; during which times all the works are stopped. At four o'clock all their refreshments are brought to them, but the works at that time do not stop.

A. 54.—All of them.

A. 55.—If they do stop, it is for their own convenience and comfort.

A. 56.—I think it desirable that all the hands should take their meals out of the mill.

A. 57.—No means, that I am aware of, beyond words.

A. 58.—No, decidedly not.

A. 64.—No, nor previously.

A. 65.—In Manchester, the hands generally do not live under their employers, as tenants, and consequently the masters have little control over their domestic affairs.

A. 66.—Hands brought up to the business from their youth are the best workpeople.

A. 67.—I am not conscious that there is any change in the health of my workpeople.

A. 68.—No; the nature of their employment in my mill does not call for it.

A. 69.—Yes, in every respect.

A. 70.—No, never.

A. 77.—I do not believe that they are.

A. 78.—I am decidedly opposed to all legislative enactments to control free labour, and I cannot suggest any means that would secure obedience to the present law, without doing more injury to the whole trade and state than the whole value of the labour of all children employed in cotton mills under twelve years of age is worth. I am not opposed to a legislative regulation for the hours of labour for children under twelve years of age, nor would I object to their being excluded from work before ten or eleven years of age; but I cannot agree to a law that shall destroy a whole fabric for the sake of a fractional part, which will not be found so much out of repair as the remedy called for. In mills in this neighbourhood, where children may be found ill fed and worse clothed, the causes are to be traced to their parents, who are mostly Irish, living in miserable abodes of the most loathsome kind, far more injurious to health than the places where the children work. The parents receive all their earnings, and dispose of it in the worst manner, in idleness, to the exclusion of every comfort to their offspring. This is an evil out of the reach of employers.

SAM. M. MOORE.

Lancashire.

S. M. Moore.

#### ANSWERS of GEORGE MURRAY, Manchester.

No. 182.

George Murray.

A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—The spinning of cotton yarn only.

A. 3.—About one fifth of the present building was erected in 1798, another fifth in 1801, and the remaining portion was completed by 1806; since then additions have been made, but the material portions were erected at the above specified periods. No other business than the manufacture of cotton yarn has been carried on, in any part, since it was erected.

A. 4.—Steam-power; to the extent of from ninety to one hundred horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—None but a casement in every window.

A. 7.—The ventilation is entirely under the control, and at the discretion, of the persons employed.

A. 8.—The whole of the mill-work is fenced off so high as to prevent any accident. The machinery is not considered of a kind to require fencing off.

A. 9.—There is a closet in every room, and buckets of water are taken into the room several times every day for washing. We have no arrangement for clothing, but the people take off their upper clothes when they commence working, and put them on when they have finished. As to personal cleanliness, that is attended to as being desirable, and almost necessary for the cleanliness of the work. The workpeople have no very dirty work to do, and are in general cleanly in their personal appearance.

A. 10.—We do not employ any child under nine years of age, to the best of our knowledge, but parents are sometimes known to employ their own children below that age, for various reasons. I am not aware that any children at nine years of age have been employed at other work before being employed in cotton mills.

A. 11.—The nature of our work requires the employment of children, because they are less expensive, and their size enables them to clean many parts of the machinery more perfectly, and much more easily, than grown up persons could do.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 12.



Lancashire.

George Murray.

A. 12.—The improvements in the machinery for fine spinning tend to increase the proportion of children employed, because a man can manage much larger machines, and the number of piecers required is in proportion to the size of the machines; but it is not necessary that the children should be under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—We do not lodge any children.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—The hours are the same for persons under twenty-one years of age as for those above, with the exception of the younger children employed to clean the machinery. It is not necessary that they should be employed so long.

A. 19.—I am not aware that we have, at any time during the last year, prolonged the time of working beyond the usual hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days and a quarter.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eighty-eight.

A. 22.—There has been no difference in the time of working in the different departments.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half is the average number of hours for six days of the week.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—I am not aware that the regular hours of work have been exceeded during the last year.

A. 26.—Any excess is avoidable: but, under particular circumstances, it might be very inconvenient not to be allowed to make up lost time.

A. 27.—Yes.

A. 28.—The consequence of shortening the hours of labour must have the effect of enhancing the cost of production; but I have no data which enable me to say to what extent it has had that effect in my establishment.

A. 29.—I believe the inducement is the rendering his capital more productive, that is, the being enabled to do nearly twice as much with his capital, by working day and night, or at least with that portion of his capital which is sunk in buildings and machinery, as the manufacturer whose machinery is worked during the day only.

A. 30.—I believe the cost of production to be increased in every branch, because there are many expences which do not vary with the variation in the hours of working.

A. 31.—I should object to a relay of hands in an establishment such as mine, because I should consider the system injurious to the work. I speak of my own establishment, where the fine qualities of cotton yarn are made. The objection, I apprehend, is not so strong in manufactories where the ordinary qualities of cotton yarn are made.

A. 32.—I have never had any particular inducement to work extra hours, and have no experience as to this question. I do not know whether it has been tried in other establishments or not.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 37.—In a manufacture such as mine, an increase of the speed of the machinery would injure the quality of the work, so that any reduction of the hours of working would be accompanied by a proportionate reduction in the quantity produced; consequently the cost of production would be increased.

A. 38.—We endeavour to keep the rooms at about 75° Fahrenheit; our directions are, that no steam be put into the mills if the rooms are at that temperature.

A. 39.—No process in my mills requires more than 75°, except when very fine numbers are being spun, when the temperature ought to be four or five degrees higher.

A. 40.—We very seldom have to spin any numbers which require more than 75° of temperature. No answer can be given to this question, as it is a very rare occurrence to have to spin those very fine numbers.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—During the winter months our works are lighted with gas in the morning and evening.

A. 51.—None more than the casements in the windows. We are ignorant what mode of ventilation is adopted at works where persons are employed during the night.

A. 52.—We have no experience on this subject.

A. 53.—To all the persons employed in our establishment, half an hour is allowed for breakfast, and an hour for dinner; for which periods the engine is stopped. Tea is brought into the rooms, and is taken at the people's convenience, between four and five o'clock.

A. 54.—The whole of the persons employed may go home to their breakfast and dinner, if they please; it is entirely at their option. No work is required from them at those times.

A. 55.—Some of the people seem to prefer taking their meals in the manufactory for some convenience of their own. The taking their tea on the premises, I have always considered to be for the convenience of all parties.

A. 56.—I see no objection to the meals being taken out of the manufactory, except that those who live at a distance from the works, if compelled to leave the premises for their meals, might be driven to resort to public houses for them.

A. 57.—The only means I ever approved of is to admonish them, or, if that will not do, to discharge them; but where parents employ their own children, it is not likely that the latter mode would be adopted.

A. 58.—They sometimes are, but not with our permission.

A. 59.—By parents, or by the workmen who employ the children.

A. 60.—Yes.



A. 61.—No; on the contrary, I have always expressed my disapproval of them.

A. 62.—I have both forbidden them, and taken steps for their prevention.

A. 63.—I have never given any instructions to any of my workpeople on the subject; but when any case of corporal punishment has come to my knowledge, I have never failed to express my disapprobation.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Our workpeople do not live in houses belonging to their employers, with, perhaps, five or six exceptions; we have no control or superintendence over them, except on our premises.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from infancy we should consider preferable; but in most branches of our business, a young active person would soon acquire sufficient skill.

A. 67.—So far as I can judge, there is no change in the health of the workpeople. There is almost always an obvious falling off when they are discharged and are obliged to take to some other employment; the reason of which is, that most persons employed in cotton mills earn good wages, much better than they can earn in almost any other employment, and they consequently live better.

A. 68.—No; I am not aware that any process in our manufacture is injurious to health.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—I believe they do; but it is hardly possible to ascertain whether they do or do not.

A. 74.—One, I know, has been taken before a magistrate; and the manager of another factory has been also taken before a magistrate.

A. 75.—I believe they have.

A. 76.—I believe there was some difficulty in obtaining evidence, but I do not know why.

A. 77.—As most of the children are engaged by the workmen, and as the mills are never worked more than the legal number of hours without the concurrence of the workmen, I believe they are, on those accounts, disinclined to give evidence. It is always in the power of the workmen to observe the laws if they choose; but children under the legal age may be employed, or children may be made to work more than the legal number of hours, by order of the workmen, without the consent or knowledge, and even in direct opposition to the instructions, of the master.

A. 78.—The restriction being laid on the moving power would, in my opinion, be the most effectual means of securing obedience to the present law, as regards the duration of work. With respect to the employment of children under the legal age, it is hardly possible to prevent the law being broken, when the parents are ready to give assurance of the children being the legal age: and, in my opinion, the common law provides a punishment for any improper treatment of children, and might easily be enforced; because many persons are employed in the same room, and could not help witnessing any improper treatment.

A. 79.—Without entering into any consideration of the question whether children ought to be put to work at all, I beg to say, that, if they are to work, I know of no employment more suitable for them than that in cotton mills; and, as a proof of the parents themselves being of the same opinion, I can point out many instances of parents putting their children into mills, although their wages have been such that they could, without much inconvenience to themselves, have brought up their children to any other employment, if they considered it desirable.

GEORGE MURRAY.

Lancashire.

George Murray.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. NEDEN & NEPHEWS.

No. 183.

Messrs. Neden  
& Nephews.

A. 1.—Township and parish of Manchester.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and small ware weaving.

A. 3.—The first part was erected thirty years ago, the other part, perhaps fifteen years ago. Prior to the first part being turned to the present purpose, it was used as a warehouse and store for a dye-house concern.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of 36 horses.

A. 5.—The ventilation is good, having windows to open; stands by the river side; not closed up on any side.

A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—Convenience is made that hands may change their clothes, and when the people leave their work, they put on their additional clothing.

A. 10.—The lowest are ten years, and only three at that age; some of the workpeople have worked at other trades, such as weaving, domestic servants, and labourers.

A. 11.—We do not require any under twelve years, but we can always do with a few from nine to twelve years.

A. 12.—No alteration in this respect in our concern.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours each day, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 20.—About two hundred and eighty days; we lost about thirty-three days by repairing and holidays.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 F

A. 22.



Lancashire.

Messrs. Neden  
& Nephews.

- A. 22.—All go alike.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—We have never exceeded the law, which now is sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 26.—We think it might be avoided, no doubt, by submitting to the loss of interest to the proprietors and workpeople; all would suffer, and were not additional factories erected, cotton-yarns would not be in supply to keep weavers in work; the workpeople would suffer in their wages, by not having time to make wages as now.  
 A. 27.—When the law allowed seventy-two hours, we worked seventy-two, never longer.  
 A. 28.—Certainly we do.  
 A. 29.—Not having tried these matters we cannot answer, but this we do know, that no night-work should be allowed, and that all should be compelled to adhere to the law of sixty-nine hours only per week, and this is the most part of the law wanting to be corrected, and must be corrected, else we shall all be forced to follow the law-breakers immediately.  
 A. 30.—No doubt but that if we were to work only ten hours per day, the production would cost us more than at present with sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 31.—We should have no objection could sufficient hands be obtained; we believe they could not be obtained, for as it is we are short of hands often. The workpeople would object to this clause, because half a week's wages would not keep them. The half day would be consumed by running loose and tiring themselves worse than by working, our work being so uncommonly easy.  
 A. 32.—Never tried by us; the reason is, hands could never be engaged for half time, if they could get a place full time.  
 A. 33.—Never employed night hands.  
 A. 37.—The effect would be our production would cost more, and we should be shut out of the foreign markets, with our articles being too dear; other countries would undersell us in time, where labour is cheap, and worked longer days.  
 A. 38.—We keep at about 64° winter and summer; the summer may be 66° by the heat of the weather; in summer we have no artificial heat, it being warm enough without.  
 A. 39.—One part does not require more than another.  
 A. 50.—With gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.  
 A. 54.—Very few eat their victuals in the factory; a few living at a considerable distance do so by choice, not at our wishes.  
 A. 55.—The conveniency of the workpeople.  
 A. 56.—This not applying to us, we cannot answer.  
 A. 57.—Discharged.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 63.—No instructions given for any thing of the kind.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 65.—We have six cottages, wherein our workpeople reside; being managers and head men, it is more convenient for them to be close at hand: the rest provide houses in the neighbourhood. We have nothing more to do with them in those respects.  
 A. 66.—We can state no difference in skill and general character between one and the other; all depends on their own abilities and good disposition.  
 A. 67.—They have improved, being both better fed and clothed, because food and clothing are so cheap now.  
 A. 68.—We have no particular process; every one keeps their own place that they are engaged for, only, when grown older, and fit for a better situation of more wages, we move them higher as vacancies occur.  
 A. 69.—Yes, the spinning part; the small ware weaving is not.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—In Manchester they adhere to the Act, we believe; but in the country places, and some towns, the Act is infringed on, which ought not to be, and a law should be made to compel all to work same time every where.  
 A. 74.—Some have, and some have not.  
 A. 78.—Make the law to compel all to work alike, and which in our opinion is all that is wanting.

NEDEN &amp; NEPHEWS.

No. 184.

Benj. Nicholls.

## ANSWERS of BENJ. NICHOLLS, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Township of Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning of fine cotton yarn.  
 A. 3.—The mill was erected at one time, in the year 1823.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine only.  
 A. 5 & 6.—None, except by opening the windows.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated by the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—There are no parts of the machinery exposed that I consider to be dangerous.  
 A. 9.—I have no particular arrangements in this respect. It is expected of each individual to attend to personal cleanliness.

A. 10.



- A. 10.—None under nine years of age.
- A. 11.—There is no necessity for employing children under ten years of age in cotton mills.
- A. 12.—I do not perceive any difference.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—I have not any in my employ that are orphans.
- A. 17.—Twelve hours per day during five days; and nine hours during one day, viz., Saturday.
- A. 18.—Persons of all ages work the same number of hours.
- A. 19.—Twelve hours per day, never more; except when the steam-engine has been stopped for repairs; and then exceeded only one hour per day for ten succeeding days, as permitted by the present Act of Parliament.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and eight days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty hours.
- A. 22.—The whole is carried on at the same time.
- A. 23.—The average number of hours during the whole year is something under eleven hours and a half per day.
- A. 24.—See answer to Question 18.
- A. 26.—The excess can only be avoided by discontinuing to work up any time that may be lost by breakages or any other interruptions happening to the moving power.
- A. 27.—Yes; but it was conformable with the then existing Act of Parliament.
- A. 28.—Most certainly.
- A. 29.—No doubt, for his own exclusive advantage in competition.
- A. 30.—Yes, notwithstanding a corresponding reduction in the rate of wages may have been made; yet the cost price of the article manufactured will be increased by a reduction in the hours of working, inasmuch as there is the same expence in the outlay of capital, parochial and other local rates, insurance, and sundry incidental expences.
- A. 31, 32, & 33.—Do not work any extra hours.
- A. 37.—It will cause a reduction in the rate of wages; and, probably, increase the cost of production so far as eventually to deprive us of our foreign customers, who now take from us cotton yarns and goods to the extent of about two thirds of our whole manufacture.
- A. 38.—From 75° to 80° in the spinning-rooms only.
- A. 39.—From 75° to 80°.
- A. 40.—About two thirds.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—Do not work in the night; but, during the winter evenings, the mill is lighted with coal gas.
- A. 52.—Do not work in the night; but I am persuaded that, wherever the system prevails, it must be highly pernicious to the health and morals of the persons so employed.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and fifteen minutes for tea.
- A. 54.—All do, or may, leave at breakfast and dinner, but none at tea.
- A. 55.—If any remain in the mill during the time allowed for breakfast and dinner, they do so at their own pleasure, and for their own convenience.
- A. 58 to 63.—I do not order or sanction corporal punishments; and my instructions have always been, to discharge those persons who are habitually disobedient and inattentive, rather than have recourse to coercive measures.
- A. 64.—No; never at any time.
- A. 65.—Not any of my workpeople live in houses belonging to me.
- A. 66.—Persons who have been employed in a cotton mill from infancy are more active and intelligent than those who have been taken into employment at later periods.
- A. 67.—I cannot positively say that there is any difference in the general health of the workpeople employed in the factory during the last ten years.
- A. 68.—I do not make any change, as there is no one process more injurious than another.
- A. 69.—Yes; strictly so.
- A. 70.—No.
- A. 73.—I do not know of any mills not conforming to the provisions of the present Act.
- A. 77.—Having never been so circumstanced, I have no evidence to prove that such is the case.
- A. 78.—I am of opinion that there ought to be an entire prohibition of night-working; and a complete prevention of labour in factories of every description for more than twelve hours per day, and nine hours on the Saturday. Beyond this, I think it would be impolitic at present to proceed. Situated as we now are, we find it difficult to maintain our ground against foreign competition, supported as it is by cheaper food and unrestricted labour.

Lancashire.

Benj. Nicholls.

BENJ. NICHOLLS.



Lancashire.

ANSWER of JOHN HOBSON, for J. &amp; S. OUBSTON, Manchester.

No. 185.  
 John Hobson.

- A. 1.—Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Silk only.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1821.  
 A. 4.—Steam; six horse power.  
 A. 5.—The rooms are ventilated by the opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of all or any of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—Yes, the dangerous parts are covered.  
 A. 9.—There is no occasion for any arrangements of this kind, the rooms and business being perfectly clean and healthy.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—The labour being so very light, only fending of ends and tying knots on silk, that children of tender age are as competent to it as those of riper years.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—If the hours of labour are reduced, a reduction of wages must take place, because the same quantity of work cannot be done in a less number of hours.  
 A. 38.—No heat beyond that of the atmosphere is required in the manufacture of silk; but in winter, the rooms are moderately warmed by steam pipes.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 51.—By opening windows  
 A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, half an hour tea.  
 A. 54.—All leave at dinner-time.  
 A. 57.—Encouragement by small rewards.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—We have no dwellings for workpeople.  
 A. 66.—Those employed at silk from infancy are more expert (and consequently preferred) than those more recently employed.  
 A. 67.—There is no difference, the people are generally healthy.  
 A. 68.—No process in the silk business is at all injurious.  
 A. 70.—No.

JOHN HOBSON, for J. &amp; S. OUBSTON.

No. 186.  
 Charles Pooley.

ANSWERS of CHARLES POOLEY, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Bradford Road, Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Spinner of mule-yarn for export.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1826, was unoccupied until 1829, when first employed for its present purpose.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine fifty-three horse power.  
 A. 5 & 6.—No; but each window is made to open.  
 A. 7.—The windows may be opened by any person employed; but are opened, when the weather permits, during meal hours by order of the manager.  
 A. 8.—All.  
 A. 9.—There is no particular arrangement for the convenience of the workpeople changing their clothes on entering or leaving the manufactory; but personal cleanliness is strongly recommended to all, and to a certain degree enforced. All children under twelve years of age are compelled to appear before the manager on Tuesdays and Thursdays after dinner, well washed, and they have an hour and a half allowed on these days for enabling them to attend to this regulation, which has from the commencement of this establishment been enforced.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age can be made useful; and if older children were to be employed instead, it would incur greater expence.  
 A. 12.—I am not aware that a greater or less number of children, in proportion to other hands, are employed now than formerly.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours, some few twelve hours and a half occasionally, as the work may require. All nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours; some few above eighteen years, twelve hours and a half occasionally, as the work may require.  
 A. 19.—For any person under eighteen years, twelve hours and a half; fifteen hours for ten days for some few above twenty-one, who were paid extra wages.

A. 20.



- A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and thirty hours and a half for the regular work ; but a small proportion three thousand nine hundred and sixty-four hours. (N. B. No person is confined to work these number of hours, for one part of the hands are at their meals whilst the others attend to the machinery.)
- A. 22.—The card engines have worked during the meal hours, but the persons required to attend have been allowed their usual time for meals after the other hands have returned.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half for the spinning department, and all except the card engines ; thirteen hours nearly for the card engines.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, during the making up of lost time.
- A. 25.—After any stoppage by accident, or want of water in canal.
- A. 26.—It is not avoidable, except at an increased degree of expence in the spinning of yarn or manufactory.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—No master will work the same hands day and night, but the principal inducement to protracting the time of working, and in many cases, to work during the night with a different set of hands, is the saving of interest in the cost of the establishment, which is a great item in the cost of spinning and manufacturing.
- A. 30.—Always worked the same number of hours per day.
- A. 31.—The difficulty of the arrangement.
- A. 32.—Neither tried nor required in this establishment.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 36.—A decided advantage ; for part of this establishment would be worked during the night, if it was not a regard to public opinion.
- A. 37.—The produce of this establishment is all for export, and any law to affect the facility of producing the yarn will give a corresponding advantage to the continental spinner.
- A. 38.—65° to 70°.
- A. 39.—65° to 70°.
- A. 40.—Two hundred.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—By gas.
- A. 53.—One hour and a half for breakfast and dinner, and twenty minutes for tea.
- A. 54.—At their own option for breakfast and dinner.
- A. 55.—For their own convenience.
- A. 56.—Unnecessarily exposing the workpeople to all weather, and very inconvenient when they live at any distance.
- A. 57.—Discharged if not very attentive.
- A. 58.—The children are sometimes strapped with a strap, but this is very rarely done.
- A. 59.—By the overlooker or spinner who employs them.
- A. 60.—No.
- A. 64 & 65.—No.
- A. 66.—All the hands in this establishment are accustomed to work in a mill from infancy.
- A. 67.—Only at work three years.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 77.—No.

CHARLES POOLEY.

Lancashire.  
Charles Pooley.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN and JAMES POTTER, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Township of Manchester, county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Mule spinning, water-twist spinning, doubling, and fustian manufacturing, by power looms.
- A. 3.—One half of the principal part was erected about thirty-three years ago ; the other before ; with a small addition, about sixteen years ago. Has been used for the present purpose five years.
- A. 4.—Steam-power only.
- A. 5.—Two vertical flues, with apertures into each room, are used ; but the arrangements are not yet complete.
- A. 6.—The above provision is intended to act independently of the windows ; which, however, may be opened if required.
- A. 7.—No.
- A. 8.—All parts considered dangerous are fenced off.
- A. 9.—They are allowed to wash themselves ; and water can be had on every landing on the staircase. We have no arrangement to enable them to change their clothes.
- A. 10.—None under nine years in the spinning department ; or under fourteen years in the weaving. Cannot answer the latter part of the question.
- A. 11.—No ; it is possible to dispense with all hands under eighteen years of age.
- A. 12.—A less proportion.
- (APP.—D. 1.)

No. 187.  
 J. & J. Potter.



Lancashire.

J. & J. Potter.

- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—We don't lodge or maintain any children.
- A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours each full working-day, and nine hours on a Saturday.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours, in consequence of a break-down.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and six days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and seventy-one hours and fourteen minutes.
- A. 22.—On one occasion (on account of a break-down) the spinning was worked one half the day, and the weaving the other half, for a few days only.
- A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes and a half.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours.
- A. 25.—In June and in December last, in consequence of break-downs of the moving power.
- A. 26.—The hands object to a reduction in their wages in consequence of lost time, and prefer working it up.
- A. 27 & 28.—Yes.
- A. 29.—The rent, interest of capital, poor and other rates, and insurance, remain the same, whatever be the number of hours worked.
- A. 30.—Yes, we do; and this remark applies to all branches of our manufacture in which machinery is employed; but in what proportion we cannot determine.
- A. 31.—We do not see any objection to having relays of children where extra hours are required.
- A. 32.—Not having worked extra hours, we cannot answer this question.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 34.—Hands which work in the night expect the same wages as those who work in the day, and for a less number of hours. We are informed, that, on an average, they turn off only about two-thirds the quantity of work.
- A. 37.—The cost of production would be considerably enhanced, independently of any advance in the wages of the workpeople; and, in consequence of this, and foreign competition, we think a reduction of their wages would probably take place.
- A. 38.—Spinning department, in summer, about 50° to 80°; in winter, 40° to 60° Fahrenheit. Weaving department, in summer, 50° to 80°; in winter, 35° to 45° Fahrenheit. —Lowest temperature: Spinning department, in summer, 50°; in winter, 45° Fahrenheit. Weaving department, temperature same as the atmosphere.
- A. 39.—In the dressing-room, 70° to 80° Fahrenheit.
- A. 40.—Seven men.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—Our works are principally lighted by gas; with the addition, sometimes, of lamps and candles.
- A. 51.—Same as the day.
- A. 53.—All hands alike: breakfast, half an hour; dinner, an hour; and tea, fifteen minutes.
- A. 54.—No; but as many go out to meals as think proper to do so.
- A. 55.—Entirely for the convenience of the workpeople.
- A. 56.—It would put the hands to more inconvenience.
- A. 57.—We employ no means but that of discharging them in case they do not suit.
- A. 58, 59, & 60.—Not with our knowledge or consent; but the bulk of the children are not employed directly by us. We do not think any person in our employ would employ any child under him without permission from the parents to administer moderate correction when necessary.
- A. 63.—We don't remember; certainly, no instructions in writing.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—No.
- A. 66.—We have never remarked any difference.
- A. 67.—In one department, we think, there has been evident improvement, judging from the appearance of the workpeople. We ascribe it to directing and enforcing the means of ventilation.
- A. 68.—No; but, if any individual's health does not suit any department, we allow that individual to change to another which is more suitable.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 77.—We have reason to think that it is probably the case.
- A. 78.—We do not know of any legislative provisions which, simply as such, would be unobjectionable.
- A. 79.—The writer may probably offer a few further observations in a short time.

JOHN POTTER.  
JAMES POTTER.



Lancashire.

No. 188.

J. Ramsbotham,

ANSWER of JAMES RAMSBOTHAM, for JAMES &amp; THOMAS RAMSBOTHAM, Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Throstle and mule spinning.

A. 3.—Erected all at one period, in the years 1824 and 1826.

A. 4.—Steam only, power fifty horse.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—The provision for ventilation depends on the opening of windows.

A. 7.—The overlooker of each room is expected to regulate the opening of the windows in the morning, and closing them at night; during the day, the hands employed use their own discretion.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts are carefully fenced off.

A. 9.—The hands clothe themselves when they come to, and go from the mill, according to the weather: they have a dress to work in, which they leave in the mill, and have convenience for washing themselves before they leave their work.

A. 10.—We have none in our employ under nine years and a half that we are aware of, nor any that have been at another trade.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age; if we have any under this, it is to oblige their parents, not from necessity on our part.

A. 12.—No change in that respect in our mill.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—The children we employ live with their parents or guardians.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours and a half from Monday to Friday, including half an hour allowance for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; on Saturday, ten hours and a half, with the same allowance for breakfast and dinner, making sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 18.—All our hands are in attendance during working hours.

A. 19.—Twelve.

A. 20 &amp; 21.—1832, leap year - - - - - days 366

Sundays - - - - - 53

New year's day, Sunday - - - - - 0

Whitsuntide - - - - - 4

Christmas day - - - - - 1

Easter Monday and Tuesday - - - - - 0½

Accident to engine - - - - - 12

— 70½

Actual number of hours, 3398, or days - - - 295½

Would have been without accident 3536¼ hours, or days 307½

A. 22.—All our machinery works the same hours without variation in parts.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—On no occasion have they been exceeded.

A. 27.—Previous to the Sixty-nine Hours' Act per week, we worked seventy-two hours, or half an hour more per day than at present.

A. 28.—The cost of producing is enhanced in proportion to the number of hours the labour is shortened, the same wages being given, and less produced for the capital invested in the building, machinery, repairs, &amp;c.

A. 29.—We do not consider night-work any advantage, nor have we ever practised it, it being attended with extra expence for labour, lights, &amp;c.; the object of those who do resort to it is, no doubt, to get the greatest possible returns for the capital invested.

A. 30.—We find in all branches the increase in the cost of production from the limitation of hours, including labour and capital employed, to be in proportion of 69 to 72.

A. 31.—Not having either practised or contemplated this plan, we are at a loss how to answer.

A. 33.—We never have.

A. 38 &amp; 39.—We endeavour to regulate our heat to the general average heat of the weather in the month of September; our work does not require more heat than is necessary to the comfort of those employed.

A. 40.—No variation of temperature required.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, relaxation from four o'clock to half past for afternoon's lunch.

A. 54 &amp; 55.—All leave for breakfast and dinner.

A. 56.—It is at the option of all our hands to go out or stay during breakfast and dinner.

A. 57.—A fear that they will lose their situation.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Instructions are given to the overlookers, that unless the hands do their duty in a proper manner, to report them to a principal, when they are discharged.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—We have no houses attached to the mill, the hands provide for themselves.

(APP.—D. I.)

A. 69.



Lancashire.

J. Ramsbotham.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70 & 72.—Previous to the Act of Parliament for enforcing the stopping of the mill during breakfast half an hour, it was our practice to gain the time we lost in Whitsun week, by working the breakfast-time some weeks previously, by mutual consent, and to pay full wages for the whole of Whitsun week; for the same reason, we continued this plan subsequent to the Act, and were informed against, contrary to the wish of our hands, and paid the penalty of 10*l.*; since then we have regularly stopped at breakfast-time, and pay for no more time in Whitsun week than what the hands work.

A. 77.—In our case, the evidence given by the hands was reluctantly given.

A. 79.—No.

JAMES RAMSBOTHAM.

No. 189.  
Peter Rhodes.

## ANSWERS of PETER RHODES, Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Fine spinning.

A. 3.—Built at one time, 1823 and 1824.

A. 4.—Steam, eight-horse power.

A. 5.—Ventilated by opening the windows.

A. 6.—By opening the windows.

A. 7.—By the workpeople themselves.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—They wash themselves in their own rooms.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—They are useful.

A. 12.—No difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours five days, nine hours Saturday.

A. 18.—No difference.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half five days.

A. 20.—The whole of the year, with the exception of the usual holidays.

A. 21.—Not having kept the exact account of the holidays, can't say exactly.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Twelve hours five days, nine Saturday.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.

A. 25.—Whenever a break-down has taken place.

A. 26.—It is to make up lost time.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—Having worked regular, can't say.

A. 30.—Having worked regular, can't say.

A. 31.—No difference.

A. 32.—Have never tried; can't say.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—Not any.

A. 37.—My opinion is, it will cause a farther reduction in wages.

A. 38.—From 76° to 84°.

A. 39.—76° to 84°.

A. 40.—Sixty-two.

A. 46.—Not any.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 55.—All go.

A. 57.—Discharge them.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—No workpeople belonging to me live in any house of mine.

A. 66.—All my hands have been brought up in the factory.

A. 67.—See no difference.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—I think mine would not be afraid.

PETER RHODES.



## ANSWERS of SIBSON RIGG, Manchester.

Lancashire.

No. 190.

Sibson Rigg.

- A. 1.—Parish of Manchester, county of Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected about the year 1826, and employed in the year 1830.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power, fifty horse.  
 A. 5.—No.  
 A. 6.—The windows have an opening in the centre, of one foot ten inches by one foot four inches.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of any.  
 A. 8 & 9.—Yes.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 16.—Yes; overlookers.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours for Saturdays.  
 A. 18.—All persons employed by me, from the age of nine years and upwards, work twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-two days, four hours, and fifty-five minutes, calculating at twelve hours per day.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eight hours and fifty-five minutes.  
 A. 22.—All the same.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours  $\frac{6}{13}$  parts, for three hundred and thirteen days in the year.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—Not before half past five o'clock A.M., nor after half past eight o'clock P.M.; and never have worked more than thirteen hours per day, nor more than twelve hours and a half, unless an accident by engine or mill-gearing.  
 A. 26.—None.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 29.—The reduction in the cost of manufacturing, by the greater quantity produced with the same capital sunk in machinery and building.  
 A. 30.—Yes; an increase of cost in nearly all its branches.  
 A. 32.—I have not tried it.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—That the income of the operatives and manufacturers will be reduced by not being allowed the same advantages as foreign manufacturers.  
 A. 38.—60° to 70°.  
 A. 39.—65°.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—By gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All, with the exception of ten persons.  
 A. 55.—Four persons stay for the convenience of the manufactory, and about six for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—Only by holding out an increase of wages.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—I have always strictly forbidden it; and have threatened any person so doing with an immediate discharge.  
 A. 64 & 65.—No.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 79.—If the legislation do interfere, I wish, if possible, for it to be effectual; either by restricting the moving power, so that no master can have an undue advantage over another. It is my opinion, that it would be better for the operatives if the hours of labour were to remain as they now are; viz., sixty-nine hours per week, and an end put to night-working.

SIBSON RIGG.

## ANSWERS of RICHARD ROTHWELL, Manchester.

No. 191.  
Richard Rothwell.

- A. 1.—Collyhurst Lane, Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Winding, spinning, throwing, and warping of silk.  
 A. 3.—June 24th, 1830.  
 A. 4.—Twenty-four horse power steam-engine.  
 A. 5.—The windows open, and the casements of some of them have ventilators.  
 A. 6.—The windows are open whenever the weather permits.  
 A. 7.—It is regulated by the overlooker of each room.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced with guards and boxes.  
 A. 9.—Conveniences for hanging up their clothes on entering, and water, soap, and towels were provided for the hands in each room, from the commencement.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 H

A. 10.



Lancashire.

Richard Rothwell.

A. 10.—Nine years of age, some of them having been assistants to hand-loom cotton weavers.

A. 11.—Yes, the wages of winding hard silk, upon which the children are employed, would not sufficiently remunerate adults.

A. 12.—The competition of foreign thrown silks renders every improvement possible to be carried into effect, consequently more children are employed.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 19.—From six in the morning until eight in the evening, the hands making one half hour per day over time, for which they are paid.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days last year. hours.

A. 21.—Twelve weeks, 68 hours per week - - - - - 816

Forty do. - 65½ ditto - - - - - 2,620

Total - 3,436

A. 22.—All the same.

A. 23.—Twelve weeks, the average is eleven hours and twenty minutes per day; forty weeks is ten hours and fifty minutes per day.

A. 24.—From six in the morning until eight in the evening, making half an hour per day over time, for which they are paid, also allowing one hour and forty-five minutes for meals.

A. 25.—Not a single instance during last year.

A. 26.—It is customary to work up short time, if any accident occurs to the moving power.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—If the time was shorter, it would enhance the value of the material produced, and a reduction of wages would be the consequence.

A. 29.—To lower the expences of producing the material.

A. 30.—One hour per day shorter would be eight per cent. extra on the labour alone, consequently all the contingent expences would be nearly in the same ratio.

A. 31.—We have not tried this experiment, nor do we consider it practicable. (See 34.)

A. 32.—The children have never worked more than one half hour per day over regular time, and for which they have been paid.

A. 33.—We have never employed a night set of hands.

A. 34.—We could not expect two sets of hands to work for the same wages as one set.

A. 36.—None, but we most sincerely wish to see the practice of night-work abolished, as nothing conduces more to the corruption of their morals.

A. 38.—Five months in the year; no artificial heat is used; the remainder of the year sufficient warmth for their comfort, as it is our interest to keep the rooms as cool as they can work in them.

A. 39.—Temperate heat.

A. 40.—Every room is equally heated.

A. 46.—Not one.

A. 50.—By candles and gas.

A. 51.—By ventilators in the windows.

A. 53.—Twenty minutes for breakfast, sixty-five for dinner, and twenty for tea.

A. 54.—All persons leave for dinner.

A. 55.—The hands could not return from breakfast or tea in a shorter time than what is allowed them for dinner.

A. 57.—Pecuniary rewards for their good behaviour each week; in cases where reproof or punishment is necessary, it is inflicted by the overlooker, subject to the discretion of the manager.

A. 58.—Occasionally, when their parents have requested us to make them more attentive.

A. 59.—By the overlookers, who are married men, with children employed in the mill.

A. 60.—Not until enquiry has been made, and trials given for their better conduct.

A. 61.—Certainly, but in general at their parents' request.

A. 62.—Always an enquiry is made, and, if necessary, the overlooker is admonished or discharged, if the complaint is correct, as the case may deserve.

A. 64.—Not a single instance since we commenced.

A. 65.—They do not live in their employers' houses, and we support and encourage the national and Sunday schools, by visiting them: we do not interfere in their domestic concerns.

A. 66.—We prefer the children we instruct ourselves from the age of nine to twelve years, as we endeavour to make them attached to our employment.

A. 67.—During the severe visitation of the cholera, we had not one attack, and the hands generally healthy, as we enforce cleanliness as far as possible.

A. 68 & 69.—No.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—Not being in the cotton trade we cannot give the requisite information, as we do not know the truth.

A. 77.—Certainly not.

A. 78.—To abolish night-work.

RICHARD ROTHWELL.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. RUTT and WILLIAMS, Manchester.

Lancashire.

No. 192.

*Rutt & Williams.*

- A. 1.—Manchester.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and twisting cotton.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1824.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power.  
 A. 5.—Two panes at the top of every window open, in order to obtain a draft of air through the rooms when desirable.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of persons employed.  
 A. 8.—Yes; fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Each of these arrangements are in constant operation, and availed of by the workpeople.  
 A. 10.—Nine years.  
 A. 11.—Could dispense with children under twelve years of age. Younger ones are pressed upon us by their parents and neighbours.  
 A. 12, 13, & 14.—No.  
 A. 15.—Many orphans. Neighbours provide for them with the earnings they obtain.  
 A. 16.—Neighbours and relatives. They seem to be upon their good behaviour.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten, more or less.  
 A. 21.—Three hundred and ten, more or less, at twelve hours per day.  
 A. 22.—All at the same time.  
 A. 23 & 24.—Twelve.  
 A. 25.—Working up time for breaking down of engine.  
 A. 26.—Similar accidents in machinery will always be liable to occur.  
 A. 27.—Twelve hours and a half previous to the last Act of Parliament.  
 A. 28.—Decidedly yes.  
 A. 29.—More produce for the same capital; and expences on mill, machinery, taxes, &c.  
 A. 30.—Decidedly yes—all branches. Less produce for the same capital and expences on mill, machinery, taxes, &c.  
 A. 31.—Have had no experience in such an arrangement.  
 A. 32 & 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—Prices must be enhanced and wages lowered; less produce for the same capital and expences in mill, machinery, taxes, &c.  
 A. 38.—68° to 74° Fahrenheit.  
 A. 39.—74°.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 50.—Mill lighted with gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, half an hour for tea.  
 A. 54.—All leave breakfast and dinner; stop in the mill for their tea.  
 A. 55.—Mutual convenience.  
 A. 57.—Discharged for inattention.  
 A. 58.—None.  
 A. 63.—The people are too independent to bear or allow of corporal punishments.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Three cottages occupied; no control over the domestic arrangements.  
 A. 66.—All long accustomed to the employment.  
 A. 67.—Appears stationary; no complaints of unhealthiness.  
 A. 68.—No injurious processes.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 78.—Restrict the moving power, while the people are in the mill: with liberty to put the steam on for repairs.

RUTT &amp; WILLIAMS.

## ANSWERS of B. &amp; R. SANDFORD, Manchester.

No. 193.

*B. & R. Sandford.*

- A. 1.—Shooter's Brook mill, Canal Street, New Islington, Manchester.  
 A. 2.—All fine spinning.  
 A. 3.—Old part, about forty years since; second part, fifteen years; third part, six years.  
 A. 4.—All steam, twenty-four horse power, regular.  
 A. 5.—Casements, to open or shut at the discretion of the workpeople, in each window.  
 A. 6.—Opening of windows and ventilation in the mill doors.  
 A. 7.—By foreman or overlooker, as occasion may require; or by the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts fenced off.  
 A. 9.—The hands change their clothes, at their own discretion, at coming to and leaving work. Vessels in every room in the mill. The workpeople wash themselves as often as they think proper.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 10.



Lancashire.

B. & R. Sandford.

- A. 10.—None under nine years; and, as to trades, we do not ask them.  
 A. 11.—Some few as errand-boys.  
 A. 12.—Considerably less.  
 A. 13.—Two mechanics.  
 A. 14.—No parish apprentices.  
 A. 15.—Lodge and maintain no orphans. They are at liberty to visit them three times in each day if they choose.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours per day, or sixty-nine per week.  
 A. 18.—All are included in the above.  
 A. 19.—Carding-room and stretching-room fourteen hours and a half, all hands being above twenty-one years of age.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and twenty hours.  
 A. 23.—Sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 24.—Twelve per day, or sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 25.—By the spinners being short of work, the carding and stretching rooms were obliged to exceed the regular hours.  
 A. 26.—It is not always avoidable, for reasons above, and accidents in the moving power.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Much enhanced by the outlay of the building, and the moving power working less.  
 A. 29.—I cannot say, not having had any night-work.  
 A. 31.—Not possible to procure fresh sets of children for the short time they would have to work.  
 A. 33.—Have not employed night-hands.  
 A. 37.—It would, of course, reduce the workpeople's earnings per week as much as they were shortened; and would also enhance the cost of the article manufactured, as stated in answer to Query 28.  
 A. 38.—From 58° the lowest, to 75° the highest.  
 A. 39.—75°.  
 A. 40.—About two hundred and seventy.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 53.—Eight o'clock till half past for breakfast; twelve to one o'clock for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Every hand in the mill, if they choose.  
 A. 55.—Entirely their own will.  
 A. 56.—Not any.  
 A. 57.—They are dismissed if they do not do their duty.  
 A. 58.—Not to my knowledge.  
 A. 64.—Not any.  
 A. 65.—Some few; but under no control whatever of their employer, who has nothing whatever to do with their domestic affairs; they quit as their own inclination or fancy dictates, and are often changing.  
 A. 67.—I cannot say positively; but am of opinion that their health is improved from the ventilation, washing, and general improved regulation of the mill.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is regulated by it.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 78.—Restrict the moving power to the present Act in force.

BENJAMIN SANDFORD.  
 RICHARD SANDFORD.

No. 194.

Robert Schofield.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT SCHOFIELD, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Newton Street, Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Spinning of cotton-yarn, commonly called mule-yarn.  
 A. 3.—Erected in 1800, and set to work in 1801.  
 A. 4.—By steam; and in general pretty regular.  
 A. 5.—There are sashes and casements.  
 A. 6.—By opening sashes and casements in the windows.  
 A. 7.—The ventilation is left to the discretion of persons employed in each room.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts of my machinery are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—There is room and plenty of clean water for every one who will avail themselves of it.  
 A. 10.—The children I employ are generally from twelve to sixteen years of age and upwards, and have not, so far as I can learn, been at any other trades.  
 A. 11.—No.  
 A. 12.—The recent alterations in machinery does not require more children under twelve years of age. I never take any so young, except at the urgent request of their parents.  
 A. 13, 14, & 15.—I never had any apprentices.

A. 16.



A. 16.—Never having employed children of this description, I have no means of knowing.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours each day for five days, and nine hours on the Saturday, making the whole number of hours sixty-nine per week.

Lancashire.

A. 19.—My works were not going at all last year, nor for three years prior to that period.

Robert Schofield.

A. 20.—None at all.

A. 21.—None.

A. 22.—No difference at all when the works are going.

A. 23.—Not at work.

A. 25.—Never exceeded.

A. 26.—Not always avoidable, because many casualties occur, and in such cases the hours of labour cannot be always regular.

A. 28.—On weekly hands, at certain wages, the reduction of time most certainly must enhance the price of the article produced.

A. 29.—The inducement is, that he may be enabled to produce his article for a less price, to compete with the foreign manufacturer.

A. 30.—If the hours of labour be diminished one sixth, the cost of production will increase in the same proportion.

A. 31.—The objection is, the impossibility of obtaining suitable for the purpose.

A. 32.—I have never tried it, for the reasons above stated.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—The probable effects of a further reduction of the working hours will be a reduction of wages.

A. 38.—From 70° to 75°. The lowest temperature I conceive to be from 70° to 72°.

A. 39.—From 75° to 78°.

A. 40.—The heat required in every portion of my works is the same.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By candles.

A. 53.—At breakfast, half an hour; at dinner, one hour; and at tea in the afternoon, what time is sufficient for that purpose.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—Every person I employ are allowed to go home to their meals; if they do not, it is for their own convenience.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—No corporal punishments whatever are inflicted or allowed on my premises.

A. 63.—Never gave any instructions in my life for the punishment of children, neither do I approve of the measure.

A. 64.—No, never.

A. 65.—None of my work-people live in any house of mine; I have not any for that purpose.

A. 66.—None. Skill, in my opinion, depends upon their own natural ability and ingenuity.

A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference.

A. 68.—No; there are no injurious effects in one part more than another, in fine-spinning concerns.

A. 69.—Yes it is.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 78 & 79. No.

ROBERT SCHOFIELD.

## ANSWERS of GEORGE SMITH, on behalf of JAMES MASSEY &amp; SON, Manchester.

No. 195.  
George Smith.

A. 1.—Manchester.

A. 2.—Spin cotton wool into water twist wholly.

A. 3.—Works erected in 1824; first employed in 1825.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of fifty horses' power.

A. 5.—We have fourteen windows to each room; the rooms are twenty-two yards by fourteen yards. The windows about six feet by four feet; in the middle of each there is a casement window two feet square, on a hung pivot in the centre, and opens inwards or outwards.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the casement windows.

A. 7.—It is regulated by the overlookers in each room, generally, but all the hands have access to the casements, and are allowed to open or close them at pleasure.

A. 8.—All the heavy gearing at all dangerous is fenced; the small clockwork wheels are not so, nor do they admit of it. All the hands in our mill are allowed to fetch in condensed water from the yard, and many of them avail themselves of it, and wash their faces and hands, turned towards the wall at the end of the frame gate, where no person can either stand before them or pass by. The lesser hands go out to the water in the yard. Nearly every hand has a place to deposit any article of dress they may wish to change. Introduced at the commencement of the works.

A. 10.—We do not employ any under nine years of age; generally they have not been employed before.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 I

A. 11.



Lancashire.  
George Smith.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not, but the necessities of poor parents do; and, as we have light work, such as replacing the bobbins on the spindles, &c. we admit them down to nine years. We have no objection to be limited to twelve.

A. 12.—We have not observed any change in this respect during the time we have been spinners.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Hands above eighteen years of age work twelve hours and a half on five days, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 18.—From eighteen years of age downwards, twelve hours on five days, and eight hours on Saturdays.

A. 19.—We do not remember having worked more than twelve hours in any one day, unless, possibly, an hour a day, at the most, when so much time had been lost.

A. 20.—Probably fifty to fifty-one weeks out of the fifty-two, say three hundred to three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—Fifty to fifty-one times seventy-one hours and a half, say three thousand five hundred and seventy-five to three thousand six hundred and forty-six and a half hours.

A. 22.—No different parts.

A. 23.—Probably eleven hours and a half for each day, for the whole three hundred and thirteen working days in the year.

A. 24.—Twelve hours, unless one or two cases of lost time have occurred, which is very seldom in our mill: in that case they may have worked thirteen hours. Not more.

A. 25.—We are not aware of any instance of it; but, if any, probably owing to some slight obstruction to the steam-engine or other parts of the works.

A. 26.—Avoidable; but, as nearly all our hands are paid by the week, both they and we prefer working up small portions of lost time; in our concern, probably not fifteen minutes in a week, on the average.

A. 27.—Prior to the passing of Hobhouse's Bill, we worked our mill seventy-two hours and a half per week; say twelve hours and a half on five days, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 28.—A mere trifle, the reduction in time so small.

A. 29.—The large outlay in capital, the constant improvements in machinery, the rent, parochial rates, &c., make it indispensable that the greatest possible quantity of work should be performed in one year. See also Answer to No. 30.

A. 30.—Yes; because a portion of the cost of production is in the annual rent, wear and tear of the machinery, parochial and other rates, interest of money invested, &c., all which are the same whether a greater or a less quantity is produced. We think a reduction of two hours a day would increase the cost of our yarn from eight to ten per cent, supposing we were not to reduce wages.

A. 31.—It would be highly inconvenient, and attended with some loss or waste, unless the relays were put on when the works were stopped; noon, for instance.

A. 32.—Not tried.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—We do not work in the night; to those who do, it would have the effect of enhancing the cost of the production.

A. 37.—We pay by the week. If any reduction was made in the hours, we should immediately make a corresponding reduction in the wages of the hands also, to cover the additional cost. See 29. and 30.

A. 38.—70°; 65° is sufficient for our works. Since the 2d of May we have not put any artificial heat in our mill.

A. 39.—Poking the fire and packing the steam-engine are warm jobs, but are only of very short duration.

A. 40.—Two; one to each.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas in the evening.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—We think injurious to their morals.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast-time, and one hour at dinner; but we compel all hands above eighteen years of age to take breakfast on the premises.

A. 54.—All the hands are at liberty to go out to dinner; and all those under eighteen years of age, both to breakfast and dinner.

A. 55.—Many of the hands stay on the premises at dinner-time for their own convenience. Those of them who are above eighteen years of age stay in at breakfast-time for convenience.

A. 56.—If all lived near, it could have no bad effect, probably the reverse, especially in country situations, and when the weather is fine.

A. 57.—The promise of their wages only.

A. 58.—Not by us, nor by our orders.

A. 59.—If by any one, the overlookers.

A. 63.—We have given verbal instructions to the overlookers not to inflict any corporal punishment, but rather to impose a small fine, or discharge the offender.

A. 64.—No; nor at any other time.

A. 65.—No: generally with their parents; part, young men and women, in lodgings.

A. 66.—Those employed in mills from infancy are in general more skilful and expert than the others.

A. 67.



A. 67.—We have not observed any change in this respect. Our works have experienced more obstruction from sickness, probably the influenza, within the last three weeks, than during the whole of the time we have been spinners.

A. 68.—No; we do not consider we have injurious processes.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We believe Hobhouse's Act is generally obeyed in Manchester; a few cases of fine have occurred.

A. 74.—We think they were.

A. 75.—We have read in the public newspapers of a few having been fined.

A. 77.—Our hands are not; but we think in the country, or lone situations, or where work is not easily procured, they would be afraid.

A. 78.—We cannot.

A. 79.—We think legislative enactments between masters and workmen improper, and can only be justified on the ground of humanity to the children, each party being at liberty at the end of each week.

GEORGE SMITH.

Lancashire.

George Smith.

ANSWERS of THOMAS SMITH, Assignee of WILLIAM HUGHES and BROTHERS,  
Manchester.

No. 196.  
Thomas Smith.

A. 1.—Parish of Manchester.

A. 2.—Fine mule-spinning.

A. 3.—Not known.

A. 4.—Steam-engine.

A. 5, 6, & 7.—Windows opened as required.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—Water for cleanliness is convenient.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11 & 12.—Only necessary on account of less cost to the operative spinner who pays them.

A. 13, 14, & 15.—No apprentices.

A. 17, 18, & 19.—Twelve hours per day; nine hours on Saturday.

A. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, & 26.—Not above one third in quantity and time; William Hughes and Brothers being bankrupt, and only kept partially at work, in order to make the most of the stock and machinery.

A. 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35.—No night-work.

A. 37.—Consider the decrease of time below twelve hours per day would be an increase of cost to the proprietors and a loss of wage to the operatives.

A. 38 & 39.—70° to 80°.

A. 40.—Not at full work.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner.

A. 54, 55, & 56.—At liberty so to do.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, & 62.—No corporal punishment sanctioned.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Where they choose.

A. 66.—Better brought up to it.

A. 67 & 68.—Generally healthy.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—No complaint.

A. 78 & 79.—Children apparently content.

THOMAS SMITH.

ANSWERS of Messrs. STIRLING and BEEKSON, Manchester.

No. 197.  
Stirling & Beekson.

A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and weaving.

A. 3.—First part in 1822, second part in 1824, and the remainder in 1830; first employed in 1823.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5 & 6.—None, except the opening of the windows and doors.

A. 7.—Discretion of any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes, as far as regards the main gearing; but not the standing machinery, which is not practicable.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 9.



Lancashire.

Stirling & Beekson.

A. 9.—No particular arrangement; but plenty of fresh water, for the purpose of washing, is taken into each room every day; and room sufficient to enable them to change their clothes at their own pleasure.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age. Not previously employed in any other trade.

A. 11.—No; but the necessity of the parent renders it desirable.

A. 12.—Less in proportion.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours per day for the first five days in the week, and nine on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and three days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and seventy-four hours.

A. 22.—All regular; no distinction.

A. 23.—Monday and Tuesday, eleven hours and fifty-two minutes; Wednesday, eleven hours fifty-six minutes; Thursday, eleven hours fifty-two minutes; Friday, eleven hours fifty-four minutes; and Saturday, eight hours fifty-eight minutes.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—Only in cases of breakage, or stoppage of the engine.

A. 26.—Not avoidable.

A. 27.—No; never.

A. 29.—Gain; but we disapprove of night-work entirely.

A. 30.—Cannot say, never having worked more than sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 31.—Because they may be employed by two separate establishments.

A. 32.—Never tried it, and do not approve of it.

A. 33.—Never employed a night set of hands.

A. 37.—The effect of a further reduction of working hours would, in all probability, be speedy ruin to both masters and men. The first would not fail to suffer by a diminished amount of production, while still burthened with the same amount of rent, taxes, interest of money, and other fixed charges which they pay at present: the latter, who are generally, if not entirely, paid by piece-work, would, of course, lose a corresponding proportion of their present wages. How is the difference to be made up to either? And, if it is not, what can be the result, but bankruptcy to the one and starvation to the other?

A. 38, 39, & 40.—We have no higher temperature than that which is required for the comfort of the hands, and which varies from about 65° to 72°; excepting in the boiler-house and gas-house, both of which are detached from the main building.

A. 46.—No; none whatever.

A. 50.—By gas, in the mornings and evenings, during the winter months.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at dinner.

A. 54 & 55.—Not all: some do, and some do not; following entirely their own convenience, without reference to that of the masters.

A. 56.—Of no importance to the masters; but likely, in many cases, to prove highly inconvenient to the work-people.

A. 57.—None; except the risk of being discharged if they are disobedient.

A. 58.—No; none.

A. 62.—Corporal punishment strictly forbid; and the party always discharged by whom it was inflicted.

A. 64.—No; none whatever.

A. 65.—Our work-people all live at their own homes.

A. 66.—Those who have been brought up in a mill from their childhood are the most skilful and most efficient.

A. 67.—We perceive no alteration, the people being almost always healthy.

A. 68.—Occasionally we make a change in the blowing-room.

A. 69.—Strictly so.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—The cotton mills, we believe, do conform.

A. 77.—Cannot say, having had no experience.

A. 78 & 79.—The last two questions seeming to call upon us for a declaration of our sentiments generally, we cannot help saying that they are rather adverse to any legislative interference whatever. How far such may be advisable in the case of apprentices, we have no means of judging, never having had any; but, in establishments like ours, and those of the greater part of this district connected with the cotton trade—where the labour is entirely free—where there is no sort of compulsion—and where every person, of whatever age, is at perfect liberty to come and go at their own pleasure—it humbly appears to us, that all interference (excepting for the prohibition of night-work) is misplaced, and cannot fail to prove either mischievous or useless. If, however, there is to be an Act at all, we have no objection to the present one, for our own parts; nor are we aware that it requires any improvement, except in the following particulars: viz. 1st, By the absolute prohibition of night-work on any pretence whatever; and, 2dly, By the adoption of suitable measures for rendering the other provisions more generally efficient, so as to make sure that, while some parts of the community are honestly obeying the law, others are not deriving an unfair advantage from its evasion. How this is to be accomplished, would require a good deal of consideration. All we can say at present is, that it shall have our best attention; and, with your permission, will take an early opportunity of communicating with you respecting it. Meantime, we can only say that no means ought to be thought of but what are fair and equitable: certainly



certainly not such as those suggested in Lord Ashley's Bill; against which we take leave to enter our decided protest, considering, as we do, its restrictions on the hours of working to be ruinous, its provisions oppressive, its details vexatious, its penalties excessive, and its whole tenour and spirit at variance with the constitution of this country, as well as with the habits, feelings, and condition of the persons for whom it undertakes to legislate. If it be really necessary to regulate the labour of individuals, of certain ages, in so arbitrary a manner as a matter of general principle, surely the operation of that principle ought not to be confined to spinners and weavers only. Why should it not extend to all the other modifications of the articles so produced? to bleachers, printers, dyers, &c. Why not to every other species of handicraft and artisanship? Why not to all other occupations? to miners, potters, and labourers of every description. Again, if it be desirable to increase the severity of the present law of manslaughter, or against the proprietors of the particular sort of mills in question, why not extend the same measure to all others? to the proprietors of corn mills, threshing mills, powder mills? Why not include the proprietors of every kind of machinery in the kingdom, by means of which accidents may happen, as well as that which is driven by steam or water? In such cases, to affect to draw a distinction between one kind of occupation and another, appears to our simple apprehension the very height of injustice, and referable to no better motive than the narrowest prejudice or the grossest partiality.

STIRLING &amp; BEEKSON.

Lancashire.

*Stirling & Beekson.*

## ANSWERS of ROBERT STUART, for Messrs. Hugh Shaw and Co.

No. 198.

*Robert Stuart.*

- A. 1.—Manchester, county of Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Fine cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Half in 1806, half in 1817.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power; say two engines of fourteen-horse each.  
 A. 5.—We have a staircase at each end of the mill, and two windows on each side of the mill, and an extra one in a room where females are employed.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of the windows and doors.  
 A. 7.—In the spinning-rooms by the spinners; and manager in the card-room.  
 A. 8.—Those (if any can be so considered, which we doubt) are fenced off.  
 A. 9.—We have the canal close to our mill, and there is sufficient room by the side of the machinery, and each person has his or her tub or mug; and they wash themselves at their own option, and we have no other place than this.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; none have been previously, that we have at present.  
 A. 11.—It does; and double the number are required in fine spinning to what are wanted in coarse.  
 A. 12.—A greater about twelve years of age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and three quarters.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and eleven hours fifty minutes, or ten hours and fifty-four minutes each day.  
 A. 22.—No part has been carried on at separate times.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours and fifty-four minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and three quarters.  
 A. 25.—From accidents to the steam-engine and shafts.  
 A. 26.—When we can avoid accidents we never work beyond the Act of Parliament, and that Act in case of accident allows us to work over one hour per day for the six following days.  
 A. 27.—Before the passing of what is called Hobhouse's Bill.  
 A. 28.—It is enhanced.  
 A. 29.—To produce at a lower rate of expense.  
 A. 30.—The increase ought to be in proportion of sixty-nine hours to seventy-two, but it will be less than this.  
 A. 31.—By two sets of hands in fine work we should have our work spoiled, and could not tell by whom.  
 A. 32.—We don't know that it has been tried in fine work: and we do not think that upon principle the masters wish to work extra hours, and therefore it has not been tried.  
 A. 33.—We never employed a night-set.  
 A. 36.—It would have a good effect to entirely abolish night-work in all branches of manufacture.  
 A. 37.—It must reduce wages.  
 A. 38.—74° to 78°; the lowest is 70° to 74°.  
 A. 39.—78°.  
 A. 40.—One hundred and ninety-two.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 48.—No such persons.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)



Lancashire.

*Robert Stuart.*

- A. 50.—Gas.  
 A. 51.—The same as by day, when the room is too hot.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, twenty minutes for tea.  
 A. 54.—The doors are open all the time, and every one goes out or stops in just as they please.  
 A. 55.—The weather or their own particular wishes keep them in, and nothing else.  
 A. 56.—Would not be a good one, as it would be interfering with hands, and as it is, they please themselves.  
 A. 57.—None but discharging them.  
 A. 58.—No, except by parents.  
 A. 63.—Our instructions, if any hand in our employ will not do their work right after being told and shown, to be discharged and not beaten.  
 A. 64.—Not in the last twenty years.  
 A. 65.—We have only two houses of our own, and not generally speaking, in large towns.  
 A. 66.—There are so few that we have now but what have been employed from infancy.  
 A. 67.—We have several that have been employed in the same mill from twelve to twenty-six years, and they all say they know no difference.  
 A. 68.—We never had once an occasion.  
 A. 69.—It is subject to the present Act.  
 A. 70.—Never, since the mill was built.  
 A. 77.—Not if just evidence.  
 A. 78 & 79.—No.

ROBERT STUART.

No. 199.

*Sutcliffe & Oxly.*

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SUTCLIFFE and OXLY, Manchester.

- A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Spinning, doubling, and weaving.  
 A. 3.—1820.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power; thirty-six-horse.  
 A. 5.—Large opening in each window.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—Regulated to suit the convenience of those employed in each room.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—None; each hand is at liberty to make their own arrangements, which has never been objected to.  
 A. 10.—Ten years; and not many at that period.  
 A. 11, 12, & 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We lodge and maintain none.  
 A. 16.—Yes.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 18.—Twelve hours. Uniform time.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—At different periods; arising from breakage of engine or shafts; and sundry other causes when time had been previously lost.  
 A. 26.—Certainly it may be avoided; but accidents, and the consequent loss of time, cannot be avoided.  
 A. 27.—Yes; but have at all times endeavoured to keep to the time limited by Parliament.  
 A. 28.—The price of producing must be raised by shortening the hours of labour.  
 A. 29.—Gain.  
 A. 30.—There must be an increase in the cost of production if the limitation shorten the hours of labour, and the extent of that increased cost will depend on the time which labour may be shortened.  
 A. 31.—Never tried it, consequently cannot speak to it.  
 A. 32.—Never tried it; am averse to the principle.  
 A. 33.—Never.  
 A. 37.—It is possible to carry the reduction of hours of labour to such an extent in this country, as to injure it in its power to compete with the manufacturer of other countries, where the period of labour is unrestricted.  
 A. 38.—From 60° to 70°.  
 A. 39.—From 80° to 90°.  
 A. 40.—Five or six.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 53.—Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour.  
 A. 54.—All are at liberty to do so, except the engineer.

A. 55.



- A. 55.—If any remain in the mill during meal-times it is for their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—Not material.  
 A. 57.—We discharge them.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—Never.  
 A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are more effective.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 72.—In Manchester they generally have conformed to the provisions of the Act.  
 A. 77.—I should think so.  
 A. 78.—By restricting the moving power to the number of hours specified by law.  
 A. 79.—I consider all night-work injurious, and ought not to be permitted. That any alteration which may be made in the hours of labour should be general, and apply to all persons of all ages employed in all mills. That the joint exertions of all are necessary to make that labour effective, and that it should commence and terminate at the same period.

SUTCLIFFE &amp; OXLY.

Lancashire.

Sutcliffe & Oxly.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. TAYLOR, SHATWELL, and Co., Manchester.

No. 200.

Taylor, Shatwell,  
& Co.

- A. 1.—In the township of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—For spinning and doubling cotton yarns.  
 A. 3.—One part was erected in the year 1803, and the other in 1820; and, since the erection, they have been employed for cotton-spinning.  
 A. 4.—Steam, of fifty-four-horse power.  
 A. 5.—Windows.  
 A. 6.—On opening of windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—Yes.  
 A. 9.—The workpeople are allowed to change their clothes, and to wash themselves, in the mill; and they have always had that privilege in our employ.  
 A. 10.—We employ children of nine years of age; we don't think that any of them have previously been employed at any other trade.  
 A. 11.—Yes.  
 A. 12.—Less.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours.  
 A. 25.—We did not exceed the usual hours.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 38.—80° and 60°.  
 A. 39.—The spinning department requires 80° of heat, and the carding 60°.  
 A. 40.—Eighty hands, at 80° of heat.  
 A. 41.—None.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—With oil.  
 A. 51.—Same as the day.  
 A. 53.—All our hands are allowed half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; during which time the engine stops.  
 A. 54.—All are at liberty to do.  
 A. 55.—It is for the workpeople's own convenience if they do not leave the mill during meal hours.  
 A. 57.—Those children who do not obey their overlookers are discharged.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 63.—Instructions have been given to our overlookers and foremen not to punish children.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Some part of our workpeople live in our cottages; but we have no control over them.  
 A. 66.—Persons who have been employed in the works from their infancy, certainly have better knowledge of their business than those who have been taken into the mills at a later date.  
 A. 67.—We do not perceive any difference in the health of our workpeople.  
 A. 68 & 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 77.



Lancashire.

Taylor, Shatwell,  
& Co.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—We should like all mills to be put on one footing, and the restriction to be on the moving power.

TAYLOR, SHATWELL, &amp; Co.

No. 201.

Frederick Phillips.

ANSWERS of FREDERICK PHILLIPS, for Messrs. N. and F. Phillips and Co., Manchester.

A. 1.—Nathaniel and Frederick Phillips and Co.'s mill, Water Street, Manchester, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Worsted bindings, lines, and laces, and cotton tapes, termed worsted and cotton small wares. By steam power.

A. 3.—Erected in 1825-26; and employed as at present, so soon as finished, being built for the purpose.

A. 4.—Steam power, regular as can be, sixteen-horse engine.

A. 5.—A small casement in each window. Windows opposite each other, thereby affording a free circulation of air, if the small casements are opened.

A. 6.—Of course it depends upon opening the small casements, which the people employed are at liberty to do when they think proper.

A. 7.—There is no regulation respecting it, because no extra heat is required. The persons employed open the small casements at their own pleasure.

A. 8.—They are.

A. 9.—There are not any such arrangements, because the nature of the business carried on therein does not require it; and, if it did, the hands have access to a dye-house adjoining the mill, where there is plenty of water, both warm and cold.

A. 10.—No children employed by us: a child of about twelve or fourteen may sometimes be assisting its father at the loom.

A. 11.—The hands we employ are all above twenty years, except as above. Children under twelve could not do the work.

A. 12.—No; for, though the looms are now turned by power instead of by hand, they yet require an able-bodied man or woman to take charge of them.

A. 13.—No apprentices.

A. 17.—Twelve to twelve hours and a half. But some industrious persons may work longer (say during dinner hour, &amp;c.), as there is not any restraint, though it is not required of them: in fact, the engine does not work during dinner hour; but they can employ themselves in removing work, &amp;c. from the looms, &amp;c.

A. 18.—Same as above, when there are any: but, as before stated, we have not any persons in our employ under twenty-one years; except such as may occasionally assist their parents, which is not necessary, or required by us.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half for five days in the week; nine hours on a Saturday, in each week; but only average seventy hours per week.

A. 20.—Three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy hours.

A. 22.—None.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and two-thirds per day.

A. 25.—We are not aware that they ever were exceeded, except to fetch up a little lost time.

A. 26.—If we consider that lost time should be fetched up, then it is unavoidable, not else. But the query scarcely applies to our case, as the persons employed by us are not subjected to such severe regulations as to time as those employed in spinning factories.

A. 29.—Having a greater quantity of work done; and, of course, a greater quantity of goods produced, and sooner brought into the market for sale; and at the same charge for rent and taxes, and interest on capital sunk in building and machinery.

A. 30.—There would, doubtless, be an increase in the cost; but cannot say to what extent, or in what proportion to the diminution of the hours, it would apply.

A. 37.—Lessen the production of goods, and increase some little the cost of such goods.

A. 38, 39, &amp; 40.—This does not apply to us, because we have no artificial heat required for our manufactory. In winter, we heat the mill by steam, merely that the hands may be comfortably warm; and the hands themselves decide what heat they will have.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 46.—None whatever.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Do not know, as it has not come under our observation.

A. 53.—One hour for dinner; half an hour for breakfast, and for tea in the afternoon.

A. 54.—They all leave at dinner, but very few for breakfast or tea.

A. 55.—It is for the convenience of the workpeople, and their own wish.

A. 56.—We do not conceive the effect would be any thing different, either for better or worse, for the persons we employ.

A. 64.—Never; for the same reasons as before stated.

A. 65.



A. 65.—They live in various parts of the towns of Manchester and Salford, and no one as tenant to their employers; and, of course, no arrangements are deemed necessary to enforce domestic cleanliness.

A. 66.—We cannot speak to this, as most of those we employ have been so employed from their infancy; with this difference, the looms are now turned by power.

A. 67.—We have not noticed any change in the health of the people we employ; and, therefore, can give no other answer to this query.

A. 68.—Never, because there is no necessity.

A. 69.—We do not think it is, because we employ no one but adults; say twenty-one years and upwards.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—Never; because we know of no law or penalty, as far as regards the hours, &c. we work, and the hands we employ.

FREDERICK PHILLIPS.

Lancashire.

*Frederick Phillips.*

ANSWERS of T. D. CREWDSON, for the Dacca Twist Company, Manchester.

No. 202.

*T. D. Crewdson.*

A. 1.—Manchester, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving of cotton.

A. 3.—Spinning department, an old building; time unknown. Weaving department was erected in 1821.

A. 4.—Steam only.

A. 5 & 6.—Ventilation dependent upon the windows.

A. 7.—Regulated by the overlooker.

A. 8.—Dangerous parts are fenced off.

A. 9.—In these respects the workpeople are at liberty to do as they please. We have a plentiful supply of water, to which they can at all times have access; and vessels provided in the rooms for the purpose of keeping water in.

A. 10.—No children under nine years of age. The younger children have not been employed at any other trade.

A. 11.—It does not necessarily require the employment of such children.

A. 12.—They have not.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Thirteen hours for five days, and nine hours and a half on Saturday.

A. 18.—From eighteen years and upwards, persons in our employ work full time; under that age, the hours are abridged.

A. 19.—To make up lost time, we have, a few times, worked thirteen hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days.

A. 21.—As near as we can ascertain, three thousand seven hundred and forty-seven hours.

A. 22.—All carried on together.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and five minutes.

A. 24.—Under eighteen years of age, eleven hours and a half.

A. 25.—We appear to have worked up three hours in six days, in consequence of repairs in the engine. This is the only instance we recollect.

A. 26.—Lost time, we conceive, need not, under most circumstances, be worked up; but, we apprehend, the workpeople generally prefer working up lost time to the consequent reduction of their wages.

A. 27.—We have not.

A. 29.—To lessen the cost of production.

A. 30.—There is, no doubt, an increase of cost; but to what extent we cannot say.

A. 31.—We apprehend a sufficient number of workpeople under twenty-one years of age could not be procured; and a person near twenty-one could not be supported on the wages earned by six hours and a half or seven hours working.

A. 32.—It has not been tried by us, not having worked young children more than eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 33.—Have never worked in the night; and are of opinion that such work ought to be entirely abolished.

A. 36.—We conceive the effect would be advantageous.

A. 37.—We are of opinion that such reduction would be disadvantageous, as it would have the effect of reducing the wages of labour; and would prevent the manufacturers of this country from competing with those of other countries on the same terms as at present.

A. 38.—From 60° to 68° is the usual temperature.

A. 39.—84°.

A. 40.—Twelve men.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 53.—Workpeople under eighteen years of age have half an hour allowed for breakfast, and an hour for dinner; those above that age have an hour for dinner, other meals being taken whilst the engine is working.

A. 54.—All who desire it; except the overlookers, and a few persons to assist them.

A. 55.—Except those mentioned above, who are employed in cleaning, &c. Those who remain, stay for their own convenience.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 L

A. 56.



Lancashire.

T. D. Crewdson.

A. 56.—Workpeople can now take their dinner out of the manufactory. To take breakfast and tea out, would be equivalent to losing an hour per day; as, under our present regulation, they have ample time to get these meals while the engine is working.

A. 57.—Occasional fines.

A. 58.—Not with our sanction.

A. 63.—Our foreman and overlookers have orders not to strike any of the workpeople; but for neglect of work or bad behaviour to fine or discharge them.

A. 64.—We are not aware of any cases of this kind having occurred.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—We are not aware of much difference.

A. 67.—With regard to health we are not aware of any difference. Wages now are higher, as compared with the price of clothing and provisions, than they were ten years ago, consequently the people are better off in these respects.

A. 68.—We do not.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—We have not.

A. 73.—We are not aware how the mills in our neighbourhood are working.

A. 78.—There are some suggestions on this point in a pamphlet entitled "Letters to the Right Hon. Lord Ashley on the Cotton Factory Question and the Ten Hours Factory Bill, by a Lancashire cotton spinner," page 31, to which we would respectfully call the attention of the commissioners, as they appear to us worthy of consideration. We do not think that the many penalties proposed in the bill now under the notice of government, at all likely to effect the object for which it is intended in a safe way. One consequence of its passing into a law will be, that a great number of young persons who are now earning a comfortable subsistence will be thrown out of employment, and, in all probability, reduced to great distress.

T. D. CREWDSON.

No. 203.  
John Young.

## ANSWERS of JOHN YOUNG, Manchester.

A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Carding and spinning of wool into cotton-yarn.

A. 3.—Part in the year 1793, and part in the year 1825.

A. 4.—Fourteen-horse power steam.

A. 5.—Most of the windows have sashes to let down.

A. 6.—It depends on opening of windows.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the operative spinner, and overlooker.

A. 8.—All that is necessary is fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople always do put off so much of their clothes before they begin to work as they think proper, and put them on when they leave off work; they have free access of water at any time to wash in.

A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest.

A. 11.—Should think it does, because they are more capable of doing the work assigned them, than children of a more advanced age.

A. 13.—Not any.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—Sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 19.—Three days last year worked twelve hours and a half.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eight hours and a half.

A. 22.—All one time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 24.—Only three days, twelve hours and a half last year.

A. 25.—Lost time for Easter fair.

A. 26.—They may be avoided.

A. 27.—Not since the present Act was in force.

A. 28.—If the time is reduced, the quantity of work will be reduced also.

A. 29.—It has never been practised in our mill, therefore we cannot tell.

A. 30.—As the hours are reduced, so will wages.

A. 31.—By always working regular time, we have no need of change of hands.

A. 33.—No night-work.

A. 37.—It will be equally injurious to the employer and to the employed; it will reduce the property of the master and the wages of the workman.

A. 38.—76° the standard.

A. 39.—78° highest.

A. 40.—Two hundred and seventy.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Mould candles and oil lamps.

A. 51.—Opening of the windows.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast at eight in the morning, and one hour at twelve for dinner.

A. 54.—All have the liberty of so doing.

A. 55.



A. 55.—If they stop, it is for their own convenience; none are required to stop for the convenience of the works.

A. 56.—We think the meals of the persons employed are well ordered, if they have the above privilege.

A. 57.—Nothing more than discharging them, if they do not attend to their work.

A. 58.—None whatever.

A. 62.—It has been forbidden, and if any have come to the knowledge of the master, the person so offending is told if it is repeated he would be discharged.

A. 64.—Not one, since we began to work the mill, which is more than twenty-two years.

A. 65.—Not any.

A. 66.—Nearly the whole of the operatives of this mill have been employed in the business since they were children.

A. 67.—Cannot say whether it is better or worse.

A. 68.—Not at all.

A. 69.—Entirely so.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 77.—I should think they were.

JOHN YOUNG.

Lancashire.

John Young.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. WELCH and SELLS, Manchester.

No. 204.  
Welch & Sells.

A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving.

A. 3.—Built about forty-two years ago for spinning; weaving, in addition to the spinning, about four years.

A. 4.—Steam; twenty-horse power.

A. 5.—A casement in nearly every window.

A. 6.—Can be opened or closed at pleasure by the workpeople.

A. 7.—The person who works nearest any window opens the casement at pleasure.

A. 8.—All are fenced off.

A. 9.—They have access to water for washing, and have always had.

A. 10.—Nine years. Only two; one having been a farmer, and the other an Irish flax-spinner.

A. 11.—We think not.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve each day, excepting Saturday, eight and a half in winter and nine in summer.

A. 18.—They are all employed the same length of time, excepting three scavengers, who only work about six hours per day, but they are generally in the mill.

A. 19.—When making up lost time, twelve hours and three quarters.

A. 20.—We worked on parts of 312 days; equal, in days of twelve hours each, to  $286\frac{1}{2}$  days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-two hours.

A. 22.—All the works at the same time.

A. 23.— $66\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and three quarters when making up lost time.

A. 25.—In consequence of accidents at the engine; and, in two cases, on account of the canal being drawn off.

A. 26.—Unavoidable, but rarely happens.

A. 27.—We formerly worked seventy-two hours per week; viz., twelve hours and a half per day, except Saturday, when we worked nine hours and a half.

A. 28.—Certainly it is.

A. 29.—Because more work is got off, without any increase of the fixed expences.

A. 30.—We do in every branch: all extra work being relieved of about one third the expence.

A. 31.—We find, under any circumstances, a change of hands is attended with loss.

A. 32.—We have not tried it; but where it has been, it has been borne as a choice of evils.

A. 33.—We have never had night-work.

A. 37.—The effect would be an increase of cost; from which we should anticipate increased difficulty in disposing of our produce.

A. 38, 39, & 40.—The usual temperature is  $60^{\circ}$ , excepting in the dressing-room, where it is from  $80^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$ ; only six persons work in that room. In both cases this is what is necessary.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour; tea, twenty minutes.

A. 54.—The engine stops each meal-time, and most go home, but not all.

A. 55.—All who stop do so for their own convenience.

A. 56.—No consequence at all.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—Not allowed under any circumstances.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 64.



Lancashire.

Welch & Sells.

A. 64.—Never at any time.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—Persons who have been in it all their lives work to the best advantage, both to themselves and their employers.

A. 67.—We are of opinion that the health has rather improved in consequence of less intemperance. Ten years ago we were frequently compelled to inflict fines for being off drinking, but now such cases are very rare.

A. 68.—We do not.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 77.—No.

A. 78.—We conceive the present law might be made effective, if proper persons were employed and paid to look over it.

WELCH &amp; SELLS.

No. 205.  
Lewis Williams.

## ANSWERS of LEWIS WILLIAMS, Manchester.

A. 1.—In the parish of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Carding, spinning and weaving.

A. 3.—About 1800, and another portion about 1804; always used as a cotton factory.

A. 4.—Steam power only.

A. 5.—In each window one square is placed on hinges and opened at the pleasure of the hands, and such sashes as will open are so opened at the will of the hands.

A. 6.—Simply upon opening windows and doors, and the circulation caused by the evolutions of the machinery.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all or any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All that we deem dangerous.

A. 9.—We have no specific arrangements, but the hands in each room appropriate fixed places for this purpose, and supply themselves with soap, &amp;c. for the same, and to which no objection is ever made, but rather encouraged.

A. 10.—Nine years old; not any to our knowledge; we believe not.

A. 11.—Most decidedly not; nor are they ever employed to our advantage at an earlier age than twelve, but solely for the benefit of the parents, who adopt every stratagem to get them into the mills.

A. 12.—Our impression is, rather a less proportion.

A. 13.—No, never did.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—All ages in our mills work the same as above, that is, sixty-nine hours a week.

A. 19.—In no case more than thirteen hours, and only that when time had been previously lost.

A. 20.—We believe three hundred and six days.

A. 21.—We believe three thousand five hundred and nineteen hours.

A. 22.—We usually work all or stop all at the same time, unless some accident befall any particular part of the machinery, and which only causes a small section of the works to stop; in such cases, no account is taken of it, nor is it ever worked up again.

A. 23.—The average of the whole year is eleven hours and fourteen minutes a day; the average for the days worked is eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Thirteen, and only that when working up lost time.

A. 25.—Under no circumstances except those provided for by Act of Parliament; that is, loss of time occasioned by break-downs, which for ten following days may be fetched up at one hour each day, which accounts for thirteen hours as the greatest number worked in any one day.

A. 26.—Break-downs are unavoidable, but I would not on any account provide for working up lost time; it will perplex the bill, and evade convictions, and be used as a pretext by those who wish to violate all laws.

A. 27.—Prior to the introduction of Sir Robert Peel's Bill, we worked thirteen hours a day; since then, up to Hobhouse's Bill, twelve hours and a half; but now, and from the enactment of the present bill, only twelve hours.

A. 28.—Most certainly we can't do as much in sixty-nine hours as in seventy-two, nor as much in seventy-two as in seventy-five.

A. 29.—Avarice and ambition; and secondly, the great proportion which his sunk capital bears to the cost of his goods. There are spinning concerns which do not turn over their sunk capital once in sixteen months.

A. 30.—We do, doubtless, in all, and upon the same principle, that the less yarn you turn off the more it costs you; the exact proportion we can't positively speak to.

A. 31.—We know of no objection except the probable difficulty of getting plenty of young hands to do so with; we should fear it would lead to longer hours than the present, and on that ground would fear its sanction.

A. 32.—The hours we have worked have never required it; but it has been adopted in country places, where very long hours are worked, and successfully, and would doubtless be generally adopted if fewer hours were fixed upon for hands under twenty-one.

A. 33.



A. 33.—Never worked in the night; never will.

A. 37.—Principally to enhance the cost, though I would prefer for my own comfort and that of the workpeople's a little less time; say for five days eleven hours and a half, and twelve months hence eleven hours, though I fear the present state of society is not fitted for it to moral advantage.

A. 38.—About 70°, as near 70° as may be.

A. 39.—Say 70° to 74°; all our premises are about an equal temperature, except the weavers, who have no heat at all.

A. 40.—The whole mill.

A. 46.—No, not any.

A. 50.—During the winter months, when obliged to use lights, gas only.

A. 51.—The same as by day.

A. 52.—Cannot tell, should think very bad indeed.

A. 53.—To all the same, namely, eight to half past for breakfast, twelve to one for dinner, and for tea from four to half past, though the steam-engine does not stop for tea, except occasionally.

A. 54.—All may go, most do.

A. 55.—Any who do not go, remain for their own accommodation solely.

A. 56.—We don't know of any ill effects it would produce, unless an inconvenience to those hands who, in some cases, live at a great distance from the mill.

A. 57.—None, except that which would be consequent upon repeated negligence, namely, discharge.

A. 58.—None whatever.

A. 60.—We have on all occasions decidedly opposed the infliction of any punishments whatever, and have instructed all overlookers never to beat any hands, but to discharge them upon pain of being discharged themselves.

A. 64.—Never at any time.

A. 65.—We have no cottages, one excepted, in the factory yard, which our overlooker lives in.

A. 66.—We rarely have a hand that has not been brought up to it from his childhood, others are not very desirable for some time.

A. 67.—We are not aware of any material change any way, therefore can't give any evidence; our opinion is, generally speaking, improved, and believe there is less sickness among factory hands than any other class in this great community.

A. 68.—No change otherwise than as hands grow up and become fit for higher situations; we always give the oldest hands the preference.

A. 69.—It is, and has been from the hour of its application.

A. 70, 71 & 72.—We have once—not convicted; and under the following circumstances:—We had a break-down, and were for ten following days working up one hour each day, as provided for in the Act, when a common informer lodged three separate informations on three succeeding days against us, which the magistrates quashed upon the evidence of the person in whose name the summons was obtained.

A. 77.—In many local districts I can easily apprehend considerable difficulty to exist in obtaining evidence, but certainly not the case in Manchester.

A. 78.—I am of opinion that no legislative enactment that is framed on a classification of ages will do, and that the only means effectually to avoid an evasion of the law is to affix all upon the moving power, which will simplify all informations, and easily lead to detection.

A. 79.—With your permission I append a few observations consonant with this question.

LEWIS WILLIAMS.

Lancashire.

Lewis Williams.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS WORTHINGTON, Manchester.

No. 206.

T. Worthington.

A. 1.—Manchester, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Weaving small wares and gingham.

A. 3.—In the years 1824 and 1825.

A. 4.—Steam; twenty-six horse power.

A. 5.—Casements and sky-lights to open.

A. 6.—Opening the windows.

A. 7.—By any or all the persons in the room.

A. 8.—All.

A. 9.—Suitable convenience for washing themselves and changing their clothes to suit their own convenience.

A. 10.—None under nine; have only eighteen under twelve years of age; they have not been previously employed.

A. 11.—Children under twelve years of age are generally employed as assistants to their parents.

A. 12.—Not in my manufactory.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I do not lodge or maintain any.

A. 17, 18 & 19.—Twelve.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 M

A. 20.



Lancashire.

T. Worthington.

- A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and ninety-four.  
 A. 22.—They have not.  
 A. 23.—Ten hours fifty and half minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve.  
 A. 25.—None.  
 A. 27.—No.  
 A. 28.—Not having worked a greater number of hours than I do at present, I cannot answer this question.  
 A. 29.—I do not know, as I am not interested at all in this question, it not being applicable to my manufactory.  
 A. 30.—The increased cost of production in each branch would be very considerable, in proportion to the reduction of the work produced.  
 A. 32 & 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—If hours of working are reduced, wages will be reduced in the same proportion.  
 A. 38.—Warmth is introduced by steam, for the convenience of the hands in winter only.  
 A. 39.—Heat only required in the dressing-room.  
 A. 40.—Two.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—Part by gas and part by candles, morning and evening during winter.  
 A. 51.—By opening windows.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Part of them.  
 A. 55.—For the workpeople's own convenience.  
 A. 56.—None.  
 A. 57.—Discharge such as are disobedient.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 64.—None.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—I consider those that have worked at the trade from their youth, superior to those who have only done so since they arrived at years of maturity.  
 A. 67.—I have observed no difference.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70. 77, 78 & 79.—No.

THOMAS WORTHINGTON.

## ANSWERS of GEORGE WOOLLEY, Manchester.

No. 207.  
George Woolley.

- A. 1.—Manchester, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Weaving by power-looms.  
 A. 3.—This question I cannot answer; I have occupied it two years.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine of twenty-horse power.  
 A. 5.—By movable sashes in the windows, which open and shut at pleasure; they are about twenty inches square.  
 A. 7.—It is regulated at the discretion of any or all the persons employed.  
 A. 8.—The main shaft is fenced off; there are no other dangerous parts in power-loom mills.  
 A. 9.—None, further than pegs in the walls to hang clothes on, and convenience for washing.  
 A. 10.—Twelve years, but rarely under sixteen or eighteen years.  
 A. 11.—Weaving does not.  
 A. 13.—I do not.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours five days a week, and nine hours on Saturday.  
 A. 19.—We have never exceeded twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Not exceeding three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—I have no exact account, but the average time has not exceeded sixty-seven hours weekly.  
 A. 22.—All have been carried on together.  
 A. 23.—A little more than eleven hours, including Saturday.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—Owing to two or three stoppages for repairs in the past year, some portion of the lost time was made up by half an hour's extra time for a week together.  
 A. 26.—Certainly not, without considerable loss to both masters and workpeople; any great excess is provided against by the present Bill.  
 A. 27.—No, having only been a manufacturer since the present Act was in force.  
 A. 30.—The cost of production is increased in proportion to the limitation of hours, or nearly so.  
 A. 31.—If the duration of working hours is so decreased as to render two sets of persons under twenty-one years of age generally necessary, I think a stop would be put to manufactories, from the impossibility of procuring the necessary hands.

A. 32.



A. 32.—I should think rarely, or never for day work only in cotton mills; it has not been necessary, nor would it generally have been practicable, for the reasons in 31.

A. 33.—I have never worked at night.

A. 37.—I have not sufficient experience to answer this question satisfactorily; I have a strong feeling the effects would be highly injurious.

A. 38.—Weaving rooms are about 60°, and dressing 76° or 80°; I consider weaving requires no higher temperature than 60°: dressing requires considerable heat.

A. 39.—76° or 80°.

A. 40.—About one fifteenth of the whole.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—We do not work after seven or half past in the evening.

A. 52.—I cannot say; I think the effects injurious.

A. 53.—Half an hour breakfast, one hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for tea.

A. 54.—They generally leave, except at tea time, when the time is too short to enable them to do so.

A. 55.—If any remain, it is for their own convenience only.

A. 57.—A threat of dismissal; if unavailing, they are discharged.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 62.—No, it is so well known to all not to be permitted, that any order is unnecessary; I never knew of any instance of corporal punishment.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed from twelve years of age, or little more, are generally more skilful than those who commence at eighteen or twenty years or upwards.

A. 67.—I have no experience to answer this.

A. 68.—In weaving only there can be no change; dressers are generally men exceeding twenty-one years of age, but they do not change.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—I believe they do; I have heard of few exceptions.

A. 77.—I do not think it; they are little in fear of masters in this district.

A. 78.—I believe the present Bill sufficient, if rendered more efficient in the details.

GEORGE WOOLLEY.

Lancashire.

George Woolley.

#### ANSWERS of BENJAMIN WALMSLEY, Oswaldtwisle.

No. 208.

B. Walmsley.

A. 1.—Township of Oswaldtwisle, and county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning of cotton, and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The mill was built in 1824, and used for spinning cotton yarn in 1825; the shop for weaving by power, was built in 1828.

A. 4.—Steam-power.

A. 5.—There are twenty windows in each room, and every third window will open for the purpose of ventilation of air; the fifth room or attics the ventilation opens through the slate, and one window at each end which opens for air.

A. 6.—By opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the overlooker, or any of the hands employed may open them.

A. 8.—They are all fenced off.

A. 9.—We have in the rooms of the workpeople hooks for the purpose of hanging up their clothes, and a cistern in the yard for them to wash.

A. 10.—We have no children under eleven years old in our employ, many are employed as tear-boys to calico printers previous to coming to our employ.

A. 11.—It does not require children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—A less number.

A. 13.—We employ no apprentices.

A. 15.—No children we employ are orphans, and the children we employ return to their homes twice or thrice a day.

A. 16.—None.

A. 17, 18 & 19.—Twelve hours.

A. 20 & 21.—We cannot ascertain, as we had new gearing to replace, and had to stand a many times during the year.

A. 22.—All our mill and weaving works one time.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Twelve hours per day, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 25.—None.

A. 26.—There is sometimes lost time through repairs of steam-engine and gearing, which cannot be avoided.

A. 27.—We have not.

A. 28.—We have not tried the experiment.

A. 29.—We believe there is no inducement.

A. 30.—We believe there would be.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 31.



Lancashire.

B. Walmsley.

- A. 31.—We have never tried the experiment.  
 A. 32.—Not here.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—It will reduce the wages of those employed on weekly wages, neither will those employed by the piece get the same wages.  
 A. 38.—Our spinning rooms are about 60° of heat, and in the attic, which is used for power-loom dressing, the heat is about 70°.  
 A. 39.—70° of heat for power-loom dressing,  
 A. 40.—We employ ten hands.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—By gas, during the short days in winter time.  
 A. 51.—By opening the windows and other ventilators, which open through the slate at top of the roof.  
 A. 53.—All classes at one time; eight o'clock in the morning for breakfast, and twelve at noon for dinner.  
 A. 54.—They may all leave if they please.  
 A. 55.—For convenience of workpeople.  
 A. 56.—No difference; it is optional to the workpeople now.  
 A. 57.—We have no means, but if they neglect their duty we discharge them.  
 A. 58.—They are not.  
 A. 64.—There has not.  
 A. 65.—Some of our workpeople live in houses which belong to us, and those are enforced to whitewash with quick lime six times in each year, and lime is given them for that purpose, and examined by one of the masters to see if they are done, and in a clean state.  
 A. 66.—The skill of those employed from infancy in the management of labour is greater, and more advantage to their employers.  
 A. 67.—We have not been ten years in the trade of spinning.  
 A. 68.—We do not.  
 A. 69.—Yes, it is.  
 A. 70.—We have not.  
 A. 73.—They do.  
 A. 77.—We think they would be.  
 A. 78.—We cannot.  
 A. 79.—None.

BENJAMIN WALMSLEY.

No. 209.  
Peter Ditchfield.

## ANSWERS of PETER DITCHFIELD, Pilkington.

- A. 1.—Township of Pilkington, parish of Prestwich, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.  
 A. 3.—Commenced building in 1825, began to spin in 1826, additional buildings made annually since that period.  
 A. 4.—Both steam and water; the water irregular, for several reasons, in consequence of so many establishments upon the river; the water is impounded by parties in different trades, who send the water down according to their own convenience, which very frequently is more than can be used here, and at other times very inadequate to the quantity required. When the water is at its proper and best height, the power is equal to one hundred horses, but the average power available very much below that.  
 A. 5, 6 & 7.—The height of the rooms allows ventilation (with the admission of air through the casements), the bottom room being twelve feet high, the second eleven feet six inches, and all the others ten feet, which is regulated at the discretion of any of the people employed.  
 A. 8.—All are fenced off, or so arranged as to make it almost impossible for any one to become entangled.  
 A. 9.—There is a cistern in the yard for the use of the persons employed, through which a regular supply of pure water runs; there is also a cistern supplied regularly with warm water and soap, for the convenience of the hands to wash themselves, and the instructions given to compel all those who do not appear clean to have recourse to; introduced soon after the mill got into work.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; if any have been employed at other trades, the number must be very small indeed.  
 A. 12.—We prefer them above that age.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 15.—We do not lodge or maintain any.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours, and nine on Saturday, except some from ten to sixteen, which are employed only eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 22.—In cases of drought, or back flood, or stoppages of the steam-engine, which very frequently occur, it is customary to take off or put on such machinery as is most convenient to the hands generally; for instance, if rovings are scarce, to keep the card-room at work; if otherwise, to stop the card-room, and let the spinning go on.

A. 23.



A. 23.—About twenty-one hours and a half, day and night.

A. 25 & 26.—We have two sets of hands, consequently the regular hours of work cannot be exceeded.

A. 27 & 28.—No.

A. 29.—We have no knowledge of any concern being carried on upon such a principle, and cannot credit that any are, for whatever view we take of it, there appears no beneficial inducement.

A. 30.—Undoubtedly, the cost of production must be almost the entire value of the water-fall, where such irregularity in the flowing exists; as in the present instance, upon which many thousand pounds have been expended, and a large annual rent is paid.

A. 31 & 32.—None that we are aware of; it is invariably practised in this establishment.

A. 33.—Yes, the hands employed in the day come to work at six o'clock in the morning, and the adults that work in the night come at half past six o'clock in the evening, and stay until six o'clock in the morning.

A. 34.—The principal reason for two sets of hands or night-work with this establishment, is, the power of water, which would be running uselessly past invariably during the night; being so low situated upon the stream, that the water from the other works would not be made available without being worked in the night.

A. 35.—As the hands employed in the night are all above twenty-one years, the hands which are employed in the day under that age cannot be employed in the night; though frequently some of the adult day hands work periodically in the night.

A. 36.—It would render the water-fall of no avail or benefit, which has cost the proprietors many thousand pounds, and for which they pay a large annual rental.

A. 37.—A very considerable reduction in the wages of the operatives, as it will be utterly impossible for the proprietors of these works, without that, to contend against foreign competition.

A. 38.—From 60° to 65°.

A. 39.—65°.

A. 40.—All the hands.

A. 41.—Altogether.

A. 42.—No children have been employed at night-work.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—With gas.

A. 51.—At the discretion of the operatives, with casements in the windows.

A. 52.—The proprietors are not aware of any difference in the general habits of the day and night hands.

A. 53.—Those hands with the machinery which only works in the day, have half an hour at eight o'clock, one hour at twelve o'clock, and half an hour at four o'clock; another portion of the hands have an hour at noon; another portion who work in the night have half an hour allowed them.

A. 54.—About three fourths of them.

A. 55.—For the mutual convenience of both.

A. 56.—In this establishment it would be very serious, owing to the irregularity of the water.

A. 57.—Remonstrance.

A. 58 & 59.—No.

A. 63.—Positive instructions verbally given to every person in authority not to inflict corporal punishment, and if the hands are refractory and disobedient, to discharge, rather than chastise in such a manner.

A. 64.—No complaints have been made, or proceedings taken.

A. 65.—About three fourths live in the houses of the proprietors, whose houses are regularly whitewashed annually, and any other convenience the medical man, who is constantly in attendance, may suggest for domestic cleanliness and comfort, is immediately put into execution.

A. 66.—Persons, generally speaking, are more active in the business who have begun early in life, say from ten to fourteen years of age.

A. 76.—Not having the works so long established, are not competent to speak upon it; but have many instances where young women have left situations as menial servants, and from other establishments of a different nature, to cotton-spinning, to be in a warmer and easier employment, with the hope of re-establishing their health, which has had the desired effect; and no instances (after having acquired a tolerable acquaintance with the work) of any preferring domestic servitude.

A. 68.—Very frequently, at their own request, or at the suggestion of the overlooker.

A. 69.—Yes, we consider very particularly so.

A. 70.—Yes, once, but no conviction.

A. 73.—We believe so.

A. 74.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 77.—We believe they are not.

A. 78.—We have reason to suppose our hands generally are satisfied with the present laws and regulations of cotton mills, that they do not wish for any further legislation upon the subject, and that further penalties will not by any means secure obedience to the laws, but only cause further dissensions between the masters and servants, which it is advisable at all times to obviate.

(APP.—D.1.)

3 N

A. 79.

Lancashire.

Peter Ditchfield.



Lancashire.

Peter Ditchfield.

A. 79.—We are decidedly of opinion that it would be beneficial to children under twelve years of age not to be employed in cotton mills at all; but beyond that age we feel convinced any further legislative interference would not be attended with any beneficial results, and in this we are borne out by the sentiments of a large majority of persons employed in these works who have voluntarily petitioned against it. We still further recommend that no child shall be employed who cannot read its Bible.

PETER DITCHFIELD.

No. 210.  
Robert Knott.

ANSWERS of ROBERT KNOTT, Manager to Messrs. Douglas and Co., Pendleton.

- A. 1.—Township of Pendleton, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton-spinning, doubling, and warping.  
 A. 3.—The water mill has been erected above forty years; the steam mill above thirty years.  
 A. 4.—Steam mill fifteen-horse power; water mill sixty to one hundred horse power, according as the season is for drought, or an ample supply of water. We have no reservoir to detain the water which flows in the night, as most of the mills have in situations higher up the river, who stop the water in the night, and work a double quantity by day. In dry seasons, the water impounded in the reservoirs above does not reach our mill below (which is situate in a flat part of the country, near the town of Manchester) till late in the forenoon, and later still, according to the intensity of the drought; so that our mill is necessitated to work at such hours of forenoons or afternoons, as the water reaches it; and the hands are summoned for attendance accordingly. A small part of the machinery (throstle-spinning only) is worked by water-power in the night by forty-one adult men and women, being about one eleventh part of the whole number, which is four hundred and thirty-nine.  
 A. 5.—The overlookers open the windows when they please, and so do other hands.  
 A. 8.—They are all fenced off as far as practicable.  
 A. 9.—We have no place for this purpose, as all the hands live in the immediate neighbourhood of the mill.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; one was a chimney-sweeper, and two rope-makers, before coming into our service.  
 A. 11.—Do not require them.  
 A. 12 & 13.—None.  
 A. 17.—The day adult persons are employed twelve hours, five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturdays, which makes sixty-nine hours per week; and the night adult persons are employed sixty-six hours.  
 A. 18.—The same as above for the adults by day.  
 A. 19.—Sixty-nine hours per week in the steam mill, and the same in the water mill, in regular seasons of water-power; but when that has been irregular, by scarcity in droughts, and excess in floods, as much lost time as the Cotton-mill Act would allow has been regained by working.  
 A. 20.—Water mill three hundred days and a half; steam mill three hundred and one days and a half.  
 A. 21.—Answered above.  
 A. 22.—In droughts, such part of the machinery only can go, as there is water-power to turn and the same during the rising and falling of the water in floods, the times of which will necessarily vary according to circumstances.  
 A. 23.—Water mill eleven hours per day; steam mill eleven hours one eighth.  
 A. 24.—The greatest time the children have been employed is twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays, according to the Act.  
 A. 25.—There has been no excess.  
 A. 26.—We have committed no excess, and have suffered much loss, in many instances, by not doing so. In changes of orders from fine work to coarse, it would have been very desirable to work the card or preparation rooms six or eight hours per week over-time occasionally, which the law prevented our doing.  
 A. 27.—Before the last Act, we worked the mill seventy-two hours per week.  
 A. 28.—It is in proportion to the lessened time.  
 A. 29.—There is no inducement, except in such case as is mentioned in No. 26, and we know of no instance of any work by night without a complete change, or relay of hands.  
 A. 30.—We find an increase in the cost of production from limitation of the hours of work, by not having reduced the wages of all persons, when the hours were changed from seventy-two to sixty-nine; but also in the same amount of interest of capital, fixed charges, taxes, and other incidentals bearing heavier upon a reduced production, than on a full one.  
 A. 31.—There is no objection whatever; we have relays of adults for night-work.  
 A. 32.—It has, in the linen trade at Leeds, and one of the greatest manufacturers there has expressed his intention of extending it.  
 A. 33.—We have, as already described and explained.  
 A. 34.—Explained, by reason of the water-power.  
 A. 35.—The same set of hands work at night regularly.  
 A. 36.—The total ruin of the mill worked by water-power, for the reasons already stated.  
 A. 37.



Lancashire.

Robert Knott.

A. 37.—The first effect would be a proportional diminution of the wages of all persons employed. Second, attempts to dispense with the services of all persons under the age limited by law, and to perform the work by adults only. Third, the demoralization of the young and the distress occasioned to their families, as well as increase of poor rates from their want of employment. Fourth, the excessively increased cost of production, whereby the cotton trade must be transferred to foreigners, whose hours of labour are unlimited, and who have similar mills and machinery with our own; who have cheaper labour, arising from cheaper food, and who are free from taxes on raw materials, and are protected by bounties on the importation of cotton goods.

A. 38.—The steam mill is this day seventy; the water mill sixty-three. The former mill does not require more than sixty-five, and the latter sixty; but both will rise higher, according to the heat of the weather in summer.

A. 39 & 40.—We have no one process requiring heat more than another.

A. 41.—Two rooms in the water mill employing about forty adult persons, are worked at night.

A. 42.—None.

A. 50.—By oil lamps.

A. 51.—The same as described by day; viz., the opening of windows, at the discretion of the overlookers or other hands generally.

A. 52.—They are the most healthy set of hands in our employ.

A. 53.—According to the Cotton-mill Act.

A. 54.—All persons leave the mills to eat their meals at home, except about a dozen adults, who are paid for cleaning the machinery during its stoppage.

A. 56.—Not aware of any effect.

A. 57.—If refractory, to discharge them.

A. 58.—None.

A. 59.—By no overlookers or foreman; if by any one, it is their parents.

A. 60.—None.

A. 61.—I know of none whatever.

A. 65.—Some live in our own houses and some in the houses of other landlords: there is no control or superintendence exercised over them when out of the mills: they are respectable, and left to arrange their families and their habits of life in the same manner as all other classes who do not work in factories.

A. 66.—The earlier children are initiated into business, the more skilful they become; and it is a disadvantage to them, as well as their families, that they should be prevented from obtaining employment until they are twelve years old; particularly in a moral point of view as regards themselves.

A. 67.—There has been no perceptible variation: about two years ago slight typhus fever was prevalent among our workpeople, as well as throughout the township of Pendleton and other adjoining districts; one died of cholera, and at the present time ten of our workpeople are suffering from influenza; for a long series of years the health of our workpeople, in general, has been remarkably good.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—Once.

A. 71.—Yes; paid a penalty of 10*l*.

A. 72.—The parents of a boy signed a certificate in the register-book, stating their son to be sixteen years of age. Doherty, the common Irish informer, who was employed and paid by the committee of operatives, came to our mills to seek out cases of offending against the Act; he selected this boy, and was left at full liberty to make his own enquiries about the boy's age, and laid an information: on the hearing before the magistrates the boy and his parents were produced, and when cross-examined, they acknowledged to have given a false certificate, for the purpose of obtaining their son employment; and the magistrates being of opinion that the boy's appearance did not indicate him to be of the age certified, convicted us in the penalty of 10*l*., although no collusion between the manager of our mills and the parents of the boy was even hinted at. The magistrates said the manager ought to be more careful in observing the apparent age of children.

A. 73.—I believe they do.

A. 74.—None in our neighbourhood.

A. 76.—In our case there was no difficulty in obtaining evidence.

A. 77.—I believe not; in our case none of the workpeople suffered by giving evidence against us.

A. 78.—I cannot; I consider the present law very sufficient, and its penal enactments, with the attendant costs, very severe. In our simple case, as described in No. 72, the 10*l*. fine was increased by costs into 20*l*. 5*s*.

ROBERT KNOTT.



Lancashire.

No. 211.

S. Weston &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SAMUEL WESTON and Co. Pendleton.

- A. 1.—Parish of Eccles, township of Pendleton, county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Carding and spinning of cotton.
- A. 3.—The old mill, comprising about half the premises, erected 1797. New mill, erected 1802, comprising the other half; both have been employed from the commencement in spinning cotton.
- A. 4.—Steam-power; two engines of twenty-horse each; unconnected.
- A. 5.—New mill all sash windows, the top shuts open downwards. Old mill partially sash windows, the top shut opening downwards; and the remainder have 15 inches by 10 inches of an aperture in an iron frame.
- A. 7.—By the overlooker of the room, subject to the control of the manager; and at night by the person appointed to go through the rooms with the watchman the last thing, who is expected to speak to the safety of the premises on the watchman commencing his rounds.
- A. 8.—All that are considered dangerous, particularly the mill gear of upright shafts.
- A. 9.—None, excepting free access to water in the yard; and some of the hands, particularly young women, generally wash in the rooms at their pleasure, but no apartment set off for this purpose.
- A. 10.—Nine years of age. None taken without the parents' signature. If orphans, the next of kin that can be obtained; if from the workhouse, the governor's belief is taken, and his signature.
- A. 11.—The operatives who pay their own piecers and scavengers will take them under twelve years of age, being enabled to get them at lower wages, and for several weeks gratis on commencing; do not think it the interest of the employers to take them younger than ten years.
- A. 12.—Not aware that it has; certainly not with us; under twenty-one it certainly has.
- A. 13.—None.
- A. 17.—All eighteen and above commence at six o'clock in the morning. Hours; a full hour to dinner, from twelve to one o'clock, and leave off at half past seven o'clock: say, twelve hours and a half work for five days, and nine hours and a half on a Saturday, making seventy-two hours per week.
- A. 18.—All under eighteen go out to breakfast half an hour; one half the number from eight to half past eight o'clock, the other half from half past eight to nine o'clock; making twelve hours work for five days, and nine hours for Saturday; say, sixty-nine hours per week.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours and a half above eighteen years, and thirteen hours under eighteen years.
- A. 20.—New mill, three hundred and seven days and a half; old mill, three hundred and seven days and a half.
- A. 21.—New mill, under eighteen years,  $3526\frac{3}{4}$  hours; above eighteen years, 3681 hours. Old mill, under eighteen years,  $3515\frac{1}{4}$  hours; above eighteen years,  $3668\frac{3}{4}$  hours.
- A. 22.—All work together that are connected with the engines.
- A. 23.—New mill, under eighteen years, 11·469 hours; above eighteen years, 11·971 hours. Old mill, under eighteen years, 11·432 hours; above eighteen years, 11·930 hours, including Saturdays.
- A. 24.—Above eighteen years, thirteen hours and a half; under eighteen years, thirteen hours, never going beyond an hour in a day for lost time. No time worked up on a Saturday.
- A. 25.—New mill, January 30th, broke two shafts, lost fifteen hours and a half; worked the extra hour February 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10; deducted the remaining lost time from wages. Old mill, broke a shaft July 9, lost seventeen hours and three quarters; worked the extra hour July 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 18; deducted the remaining lost time from the wages.
- A. 26.—Not avoidable, if allowed to work up time for ten consecutive days, agreeable to the present Act of Parliament.
- A. 27.—Always regulated our hours to the Acts of Parliament; cannot ascertain prior to the first Act being obtained.
- A. 28.—Certainly.
- A. 29.—To relieve high rents, taxes, and capital sunk; to bring in the yarns cheaper by the immense quantity, when either steam or water power is employed.
- A. 30.—With us wages are two thirds of the total cost. Coals, insurance, rents, taxes, cards, oil, machinery, and other sundries in yearly accounts will be one third. Thus, if an article costs 6*d.*, wages will be 4*d.*; rents, capital sunk (interest), coals, insurance, &c. 2*d.* The latter will remain stationary, and no doubt a strike will take place on reducing wages to shorter hours.
- A. 31.—In many situations relays of children cannot be had; in towns and populous places where mills are abundant. Children would be employed one part of the day at one mill, the remainder of the day at another; of course their wages would be reduced one half at each mill, and to the prejudice of those who could only be employed one part of the day.

A. 32.



Lancashire.

S. Weston & Co.

A. 32.—None to our knowledge; if applied, would increase the hours of adults to a certainty.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—No doubt the cost of production will be increased by working fewer hours, if wages are reduced in proportion to the time worked. See answer to Question 30.

A. 38.—In winter, with steam heat, from 65° to 75°; in summer and hot weather, without steam heat. It is better with the sun excluded by paper over the windows. There is no inconvenience at 65°.

A. 39.—Not more than 70° at the highest.

A. 40.—In all about two hundred.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—Lamps and oil.

A. 51.—Same as day.

A. 53.—All adults working with the engines, an hour at noon; breakfast and tea taken in the mill. Under eighteen years, half an hour to breakfast, an hour to dinner, tea in the mill.

A. 54.—Those not connected with the engines go to all their meals.

A. 56.—Would stop the mills, decrease the hours, increase the cost of production, and be much more liable to personal accidents from stopping and starting the machinery, and breakage to mill gear, engines, and all heavy motions.

A. 57.—Fines, generally, to bring the neglect home to the parents.

A. 58.—Not to our knowledge; certainly nothing deserving the name of corporal punishment: all the hands have access to make their complaints in the office to the principals generally daily, and if any were substantiated, the offender would be heavily fined or discharged, and the sufferer removed from under him.

A. 62.—Corporal punishment is not allowed; the overlookers are all family men, and their families generally working in the mills, and the overlookers living on the ground among the hands.

A. 63.—No written instructions necessary, it being understood that offenders are to be fined, which is noted in the time-book, and deducted from the wages in the counting-house.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Generally in our cottages. No schools at the expence of the concern. Several Sunday schools and night school in the neighbourhood, which all the children attend more or less. Scavenging and outside painting attended to by the company, and all repairs, with access at all times to lime, whitewash, brushes, &c.

A. 66.—From infancy generally the best.

A. 67.—Since all under eighteen years have gone out to breakfast, an improvement has taken place in the appearance of the children. Cannot point out any other.

A. 68.—None, but for more advantageous wages.

A. 69.—Certainly.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 74.—From the annual poor account, Messrs. Douglas were fined for employing one under age: a moiety was paid to the overseers of the poor.

A. 76.—Heard of no complaint.

A. 77.—If workpeople are satisfied with their masters, and it is their interest to retain their situation, they would not voluntarily give evidence. Discharged servants will; and more or less are constantly being discharged.

A. 78.—The present law is sufficient, if an authority would from time to time call for the time-book, and examine the manager, engineer, book-keeper, or any person he may choose, on oath as to its correctness; say, the magistrates in petty sessions or quarterly sessions. The same applies to the register-book for all under eighteen and above eighteen years.

A. 79.—It would be no inconvenience to the masters to increase the age of children first entering the mills, being a matter entirely between the overseers of the poor and the parents, but certainly to the prejudice of large families. All under eighteen to go out to breakfast half an hour between eight and nine o'clock, half at a time, without stopping the engine; the same for tea, for all under eighteen, half an hour, between four and five o'clock, half at a time, without stopping the engine: this would be a relief to the children, without interfering with adult labour materially. Dinner hour from twelve to one o'clock, full hour, the engine to stop; as noticed in article 56, it is not desirable to stop the engine oftener than dinner hour. Accidents and breakages occur more at stopping and starting, in consequence of throwing off machinery and starting, than any other time.

SAMUEL WESTON & Co.



Lancashire.

No. 212.  
 Horrockses, Miller,  
 & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. HORROCKSES, MILLER, and Co., Preston.

A. 1, 2, & 3.—The manufacturing concerns of Horrockses, Miller, and Co., cotton spinners and manufacturers, are carried on at four different establishments, all in Preston, in the county of Lancaster: viz., first, the Church Street or Yard Works, consisting of four buildings for spinning and weaving cotton, erected in 1793, 1796, 1801, and 1825 respectively, with several other buildings for the previous and subsequent operations in the manufacture of cotton; secondly, the Frenchwood Factory, erected in 1795 and 1811; third, Spittals Moss Works, consisting of two buildings for spinning, erected in 1794 and 1797, with several others for the necessary previous operations, also millwrights' shops, foundries, and machine-making shops, all employed for their own use only; fourth, the Canal Street Factory, erected in 1798, with other buildings for preparing and spinning cotton at the same establishment.

A. 4.—All the above are worked by steam-power.

A. 5, 6, & 7.—The ventilation of the largest of those buildings above mentioned, and the last erected, is produced generally by letting in atmospheric air by means of a number of valves, which can be opened at pleasure, and are placed near the floors of each story. The impure air is taken away through orifices into perpendicular tubes in the wall at the ends of the rooms near the ceiling; some of the rooms in this building, used for weaving, are ventilated only by sash windows sliding down. The ventilation of all the other buildings is produced by the admission of air through the doors, and a number of sliding sashes and openings in the windows, which are attended to by the overlookers, and are under the control of the workpeople themselves, who are employed near such openings, should they require more or less ventilation.

A. 8.—All the upright shafts employed to convey power from room to room are guarded and covered; so also are all the wheels of the heavy gearing situate near where any one is employed. The smaller wheels of the machinery, though less dangerous, are likewise covered in all exposed situations. Any injury, therefore, to the limbs or fingers of those employed very seldom happens in our works, and never but through gross carelessness and neglect.

A. 9.—In the newly erected and largest buildings arrangements have been made for the people changing and depositing their clothes on entering their respective rooms, and there is a washing room, with an abundant supply of water and other conveniences for personal cleanliness. In the less modern buildings there are not, however, the same conveniences, but proper arrangements are there made for changing clothes, and washing vessels are placed in many of the rooms, with a constant supply of drinking water.

A. 10.—We have always strictly adhered to the provisions of the different Acts of Parliament, and now employ no children under nine years of age; and when they are employed so young, their labour (if it may be so called) is very light, and by no means constant.

A. 11.—We prefer having the children at some descriptions of employment in our factories younger than twelve years of age, but we do not like to take them under ten; and we never do so, although allowed by the existing law to take them at nine years old, unless at the earnest request of their own parents, under whose superintendence they have to work. When introduced about ten they have, in fact, as before stated, little labour to perform, but become more expert at the subsequent and more constant operations than if taken in later. To show the anxiety there is on the part of the parents to get their children introduced into cotton factories where proper order and discipline are observed, we can produce several instances of children above ten years of age, having worked six, seven, and even nine months, without any wages, to insure the first vacant situation. This is in a neighbourhood where there is an abundance of cotton and flax mills, and generally no want of employment.

A. 12.—We are not aware that any recent alterations in the machinery require a greater or less proportion of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—We employ no apprentices in any branch of the cotton manufacture.

A. 17 & 18.—Our time of working for all ages in the cotton manufactory is sixty-nine hours per week, *i. e.* twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on the Saturday. The mechanics work only sixty hours per week.

A. 19.—The greatest number of hours per day has been twelve in the cotton branches.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days in the year.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and sixty-four hours in the year.

A. 22.—Different parts of the works have not been carried on at different times.

A. 23.—Average under eleven hours and a half for each working day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours the longest time per day.

A. 25.—Answered by the preceding.

A. 26.—Shown to be avoidable by the previous answers; we having conformed.

A. 27.—Before the passing of Sir R. Peel's Act in 1819, we worked seventy-two hours per week; since that time we have strictly conformed to the time fixed by the legislature, *i. e.* sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 28.—The cost of production of a given quantity with us has certainly been increased by a reduction of the time of working, and in a much greater ratio than the time reduced, because the wages of labour form only one item in the total cost of production. The rest arises from the interest on the capital employed in buildings, steam-engines, machinery, and other expensive property, which is constant in its operation, whether worked or not. In addition



addition to this, there are several other fixed charges, arising from the salaries of a number of servants, which cannot be much (if any) reduced; such as clerks, superintendents, warehousemen, watchmen, and also rates and taxes. A reduction of near one sixth in the time of working, for instance, or from sixty-nine hours per week to fifty-eight, would make a reduction upon the wages of labour, if it were to fall upon that part of the cost alone, of full 25 per cent.

A. 29.—We have no practical knowledge of the effects of working long hours; but enough has been said in the last answer to show the inducement that manufacturers employing elaborate and costly machinery have in working the maximum time they can be allowed, without detriment to the health of the people engaged to superintend that machinery, and as long as the people themselves choose, who, it must be remembered, are free labourers, and interested in the extended time of working by their increased earnings. All restrictions in the time of working may and will be evaded, unless checked by strong laws and a moral feeling in the employers; and the more unreasonable those restrictions are, the greater the temptation there will be to produce a contravention of the law.

A. 30.—Answered by 28. Increased cost of production must necessarily follow by a reduction of the time of working, where expensive implements and machinery are required.

A. 31.—Relays of workpeople might answer where night-working is practised, but as we do not employ people in that manner, we are ignorant of what might be its practical operation.

A. 37.—Our opinion is, that a further reduction in the hours of labour would very much injure the workpeople, by reducing their comforts and their means of support. The trade being now in such a state, chiefly arising from foreign competition, where there are no restrictions whatever, as to allow no further deductions from the profit or capital, the loss will therefore eventually fall chiefly upon the wages of labour, or cause a reduction in the trade of the country. It has been shown by answer to Question 28, that wages would not be affected merely in proportion to the time reduced, but in a greater ratio.

A. 38.—Our general heat for spinning and carding is  $60^{\circ}$ , and we never require a higher temperature in any part of our manufacture than  $64^{\circ}$  of Fahrenheit, except in the dressing of the yarn, in which only twenty-two men are employed, and  $74^{\circ}$  or  $76^{\circ}$  are sometimes required. When it becomes higher than those points in summer, we reduce it by every possible means. Some time back we caused an account to be taken every day at twelve o'clock at the Canal Street Factory, where we have the finest spinning, and of course require the highest temperature, and, as shown underneath, the average was for the whole year  $66\frac{1}{8}^{\circ}$ .

|                        |                         |                                |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| February, average heat | $65\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ | } No artificial heat employed. |
| March, ditto           | $65\frac{3}{8}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| April, ditto           | $66^{\circ}$            |                                |
| May, ditto             | $66\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| June, ditto            | $71\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| July, ditto            | $68\frac{5}{8}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| August, ditto          | $67\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| September, ditto       | $69^{\circ}$            |                                |
| October, ditto         | $66^{\circ}$            |                                |
| November, ditto        | $64\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| December, ditto        | $63\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ |                                |
| 1818. January, ditto   | $64\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ |                                |

Average of those months when artificial heat was employed,  $65\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . Average of the whole year, including the summer months,  $66\frac{1}{8}^{\circ}$ .

A. 39.—Stated in reply to Question 38;  $64^{\circ}$  of Fahrenheit, except in the dressing, where  $74^{\circ}$  or  $76^{\circ}$  are sometimes required.

A. 40.—We use no artificial heat whatever in the weaving-rooms, and as we employ altogether upwards of 1700 people in the different buildings, and nearly 400 of whom work in the weaving rooms, 1300 are employed in a temperature which we never wish to exceed  $64^{\circ}$ , and 400 generally six or eight degrees lower than that point, except, as stated before, in the dressing-room, where only twenty-two men are employed.

A. 41.—We have never worked in the night during the last twenty years, when we worked two mills during the night for a few weeks, in consequence of a stoppage of another part of the manufactory.

A. 53, 54, 55, & 56.—Our people have the time for meals allowed by the Act of Parliament, *i. e.* half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner, both of which they take out of the works.

A. 57, 58, 59, 60, & 61.—We have never, during the forty years that we have been in business, given any orders to any of our overlookers respecting the infliction of any sort of corporal punishment. We, however, do permit it in a trifling degree for small offences with the younger children; our instructions to the overlookers are at once to discharge those who will not perform their duties without corporal punishment being repeated. This system we find with us to operate as a much greater punishment than any sort of bodily coercion. There have been several instances of parents who have had children thus discharged praying to have them reinstated, and saying, "Do what you think proper with them in the way of coercion, but do not put them from their employment." We have always, however, declined reinstating them.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 62.

Lancashire.

Horrockses, Miller,  
& Co.



Lancashire.

*Horrockses, Miller,  
& Co.*

A. 62.—We have discharged overlookers for being too intemperate in their bodily coercion of children under their charge, and we have also discharged parents for the improper chastisement of their own children, who have both been employed in our own works.

A. 63.—No instructions have ever been given to our own foremen or overlookers with relation to the punishment of children in our employ.

A. 64.—No complaints have been made to any magistrate either against us or any of our servants respecting the punishment of children in our own works for the last three years.

A. 65.—We have a great number of cottage houses for the workmen, but they are left entirely at liberty to occupy them or not. Although no particular steps are taken to enforce moral improvement, cleanliness and order are always attended to, and as much enforced as possible by those who superintend the cottages; and these dwellings are always whitewashed when required, free of expence.

A. 66.—We have always found those hands who have been introduced young, to be the most skilful workmen. Indeed, in some branches, it is quite necessary that they should commence as early as ten or eleven years of age.

A. 67.—We believe that the health of the people employed in cotton factories has much improved within the last ten years, chiefly on account of the improvements in the ventilation and cleanliness of the buildings. Great improvements have also been made in the machinery, particularly in that for cleaning and preparing the cotton, and in the carding departments, which have caused those processes to be less dusty, and of course less injurious to health. These improvements in the preparatory operations have also tended to produce a beneficial effect upon the health of the people employed in the subsequent operations, from the cotton in the first instance being more effectually freed from the dust, and its having less to part with afterwards.

A. 68.—The degree of salubriousness being so nearly similar in all the departments of our manufactory, we have no need to change the people, to prevent or diminish the injurious effects of any particular process.

A. 69.—Our mills are subject to the provisions of the present Act of Parliament.

A. 70.—We have never had any information laid against us for infringing the law.

A. 73.—We have no reason to suspect there is any infringement of the law in any of the mills in this neighbourhood that are under the operation of the present Act.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that the workpeople are afraid of giving evidence on account of displeasing their masters. Our people have always been and are now quite at liberty to state the truth.

A. 78.—We can suggest no additional penalties, or any other means to secure obedience to the law as it now stands; but we are convinced, that if the present law be extended to all trades employing children, and that if its provisions respecting the time of labour were strictly enforced, sufficient protection would be afforded to the health and morals of the workpeople, both adults and children; and we are equally certain, that if the hours were restricted to fifty-eight per week, no moral power on earth could prevent in many instances a contravention of such restriction. Thus, then, it would follow, that the part of the trade which conformed to the law would be ruined, because those that did not conform would be enabled to undersell the conforming party in the market: and it is clear that the most respectable and best managed concerns would be found among those adhering to the law, which in fact is just the reverse to what is wanted, for it has been repeatedly admitted by the medical men and others, that children might more safely be employed twelve hours per day in some cotton mills than in others ten. The Bill will, therefore, produce the same effect as offering a bonus for long working, which will be readily accepted by the lowest grade of cotton-mill owners, such as have already been the most complained of for excess in time.

HORROCKSES, MILLER, & Co.

No. 213.  
*William Sharrock.*

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM SHARROCK, Samlesbury, Preston.

A. 1.—Roach mill, Samlesbury, near Preston, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Mule spinners of cotton.

A. 3.—The works erected at same time.

A. 4.—Water-power, only twenty to twenty-five horses; is irregular, and depends on wet or dry seasons.

A. 5.—There are ventilators in some of the windows in each room.

A. 6.—The ventilation depends upon opening the windows and the ventilators.

A. 7.—The overlooker has the management of the ventilation.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—No; the workpeople all live from fifty to one hundred yards of the mill.

A. 10.—No children employed under nine years of age; none of them employed at any other trades.

A. 11.—A child of twelve years of age would of course be able to do the same work as one aged nine years only, but the wages would be more.

A. 12.—The alterations in machinery recently made have made very little difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.



A. 15.—I do not lodge and maintain any of the children in my employ; they lodge with their parents or their friends, who have the superintendence of them.

A. 17.—Twelve, except on Saturday, when they work nine only. When we have lost time from any accident to our water-wheels, it is fetched up by working an extra hour per day; and when we have lost time through a deficiency of water, it is fetched up by an additional half hour per day.

A. 18.—All ages work the same number of hours.

A. 19.—The longest thirteen hours; few of those.

A. 20.—From 1st of January 1832, to 1st of January 1833, three hundred and ten days seven hours.

A. 21.—The works carried on during the above period were three thousand five hundred and twenty-three hours.

A. 22.—The works are all carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—The average of hours for each day eleven, and forty minutes.

A. 24.—The greatest number of hours in any one day thirteen hours, but that only when fetching up lost time.

A. 25.—When an accident has happened to the water-wheel, or to make up lost time by a deficiency of water.

A. 26.—Not avoidable without incurring great loss to myself in respect of capital rendered unproductive, and to the workpeople in a deduction of their wages by reason of their having performed less work.

A. 27.—No.

A. 30.—An increase of cost in reduction of hours by loss in quantity.

A. 31.—No fresh sets of hands required for the hours we now work, we consider; and two sets of hands would cost more wages.

A. 32.—No; not deeming such trial necessary.

A. 33.—No.

A. 38.—The usual temperature  $60^{\circ}$  to  $65^{\circ}$ , the lowest is  $50^{\circ}$  to  $55^{\circ}$ .

A. 39.—The highest degree required is  $50^{\circ}$  to  $55^{\circ}$ ; in summer the temperature is higher, but is not required to be so.

A. 40.—All the hands.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 53.—Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, one hour.

A. 54.—The whole leave at meal-times.

A. 57.—Reprimands; if not effectual, they are then discharged.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—The workpeople live in the houses of their employer; and if not cleanly, discharged.

A. 66.—No very old hands, owing to a turn-out some time ago.

A. 67.—Very healthy; I know of no difference; only two persons have died in my employ within the last ten years, and one of them died of consumption, having only been in my employ nine months.

A. 68.—No particular process.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70. 77, 78 & 79.—No.

W. SHARROCK.

Lancashire.

W. Sharrock.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM DRINKWATER, Salford, Manchester.

No. 214.

W. Drinkwater.

A. 1.—Parish of Manchester, township of Salford, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Manufacture of woollen cords exclusively.

A. 3.—First erected about 1783 for a cotton mill, and so continued until about 1812, when the present manufacture was commenced.

A. 4.—The only power is a steam-engine of about sixteen horse-power.

A. 5.—There is no such provision.

A. 6.—The opening of the windows is all.

A. 7.—The workpeople open the windows and shut them as they like.

A. 8.—The parts which I consider dangerous are all boxed off.

A. 9.—I have no arrangements different from what they have in other mills; the people can make what change of clothes they like, or can wash themselves. They usually take off their coats when at work, but seldom wash themselves at the mill.

A. 10.—I have employed them at the age of seven years and a half, but have none now under nine. I don't know that any of them have been previously employed.

A. 11.—It does; the reason is as follows:—After the wool has been carded, it is thrown out by the machine in slips of about one yard in length, called cardings; these are taken up by the children as fast as they are thrown out, and pieced to the other cardings which the jenny is drawing out into thread. This work, called piecing, requires the sort of labour for which children are best adapted.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 P

A. 12.



Lancashire.  
 —  
 W. Drinkwater.

A. 12.—There have been few recent alterations in my mill, if any; I should suppose that recent alterations generally render necessary a greater proportion of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours.

A. 18.—Twelve hours; all ages work alike in the mill.

A. 19.—Thirteen.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eight.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred and ninety-six.

A. 22.—No parts of my works are carried on at different times during the same day.

A. 23.—Twelve.

A. 24.—Thirteen.

A. 25.—When we had been short of weft.

A. 26.—Perhaps it might be avoided.

A. 29.—I suppose it to be as follows:—That from a certain portion of building and machinery, for which capital has been sunk or rent is paid, the manufacturer may obtain as great a quantity of work as possible.

A. 30.—My hours of work never having been limited, I cannot state.

A. 31.—I don't know of any objection.

A. 32.—I have not tried it, because it has not been necessary.

A. 33.—I have not employed a night set.

A. 37.—I think it would lessen my workpeople's wages, with which they would be very much dissatisfied. Of course I could not pay them the same wages for less work.

A. 38.—The usual temperature is about 70°; but where the goods are dried, about 150°, which I think necessary at my manufactory when at work.

A. 39.—150°.

A. 40.—Four; but when they go into the room to work, they open the windows, and lower the temperature to about 80°.

A. 46.—None are indispensably continuous during the twenty-four hours.

A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, and half an hour at what is termed baggin.

A. 54.—All of them, except about a dozen, who come from a distance.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the workpeople.

A. 56.—I am not aware of any.

A. 57.—Corporal punishment.

A. 58.—Yes.

A. 59.—By myself.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—They are best when they begin young. I don't know that I can adduce an instance by reference to the list.

A. 67.—I do not perceive that the people's health has differed during the last ten years.

A. 68 & 69.—No.

A. 73.—I presume not, because I have heard of the proprietors being summoned.

A. 76.—I cannot state.

A. 77, 78 & 79.—No.

WILLIAM DRINKWATER.

No. 215.  
 Nathan Gough.

#### ANSWERS of NATHAN GOUGH, Salford.

A. 1.—Salford, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning.

A. 3.—Erected in the year 1823.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, fifty horse power.

A. 5.—The windows are made to open.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows.

A. 7.—By the overlookers.

A. 8.—All fenced off.

A. 9.—The workpeople change their clothes in coming in and leaving the manufactory.

A. 10.—Nine years. Some at the silk trade.

A. 11.—About twelve years old are preferred.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, one of which was for time lost previous, by breaking down of engine.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days ten hours.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-eight hours and a half.

A. 22.—They have not.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.



A. 24.—Thirteen hours, one of which was for time lost previously, by breaking down of the engine.

A. 25.—By stoppage of engine: In 1832, January, one hour and a half; February, nine hours; May, six hours; June, two hours; October, nine hours and a half; November, nine hours; December, three hours.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Yes.

A. 28.—I do.

A. 29.—Because certain expences are incurred whether the machinery is or is not producing.

A. 30.—Yes.

A. 31.—It does not require any change.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.—I believe that a further reduction upon sixty-nine hours per week would be detrimental to trade, and instead of shortening the hours, I would recommend an efficient Bill that would lay the restrictions on the moving power, so as to dispense with night-work, considering it injurious to the health and morals of the people, as well as causing an over production.

A. 38.—Usual temperature 65°, lowest ditto 63°.

A. 39.—Highest ditto 70°.

A. 40.—The whole.

A. 46.—Manufacturing of gas.

A. 47.—During the winter season.

A. 48.—Our watchman.

A. 49.—The retorts for manufacturing gas are required to be kept a regular heat.

A. 50.—With gas until seven o'clock at night.

A. 53.—Eight to half past for breakfast, half an hour; twelve to one for dinner, one hour; to all persons employed at the works.

A. 54.—All of them may, except the engineer, mechanic, and overlookers.

A. 55.—For the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 56.—The machinery would be retarded by oiling during working hours, and might be injured by those hands who request to stay in the rooms during meal-times, their homes being too far off.

A. 57.—Discharge them.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—Not any.

A. 65.—No.

A. 66.—Those employed from infancy are preferable: none particular to refer to.

A. 67.—Improved; less labour is required, machinery improved, less hours employed, better ventilation.

A. 68.—No necessity.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70 & 77.—No.

A. 78.—I would recommend that a society be formed and supported by the master spinners, (each owner of a mill to pay 1s. per horse power per annum,) for the purpose of discovering and bringing to justice such as are found evading the law. That a book be kept, in which shall be entered the number of hours the moving power had worked each day. The entries therein to be sworn to by the master of such works every three months, and lodged with the committee of the master spinners for their inspection. I further propose, that a fine of 1*l.* sterling is levied on the owner for every hour that the moving power is kept at work more than what is specified by the Act of Parliament; and for every second offence, 2*l.* sterling per hour. The parties to be heard before the committee of the society, and if found guilty of the offence by them, that the sitting magistrates shall be bound to convict in the penalty. All fines to go to the funds of the society.

A. 79.—I shall be glad to give you every information which is in my power. I commenced working at the cotton business at ten years of age, and have been employed in all its different branches to the present time. I commenced business in the year 1815, at the age of twenty-five years.

NATHAN GOUGH.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM HIGGINS, Salford.

A. 1.—Salford.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Erected and first used in 1824, some additions made in 1828 and 1832.

A. 4.—Steam-engine of thirty-six horse power.

A. 5.—By windows on each side of the room.

A. 7.—The persons employed are at liberty to open them as they please, but the overlookers are required to see that they are opened.

A. 8.—The upright shafts are fenced off.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 9.

Lancashire.

Nathan Gough.

No. 216.

William Higgins.



Lancashire.

William Higgins.

- A. 9.—No particular arrangements, but the hands are at liberty to do so if they please.
- A. 10.—Ten years is the lowest: at which age I employ five children; four of which have not worked before, the other did work at calico printing.
- A. 11.—A few employed in cleaning, may do at nine or ten years; but it is not requisite to have them under twelve.
- A. 12.—I am not aware of any material difference in that respect.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.
- A. 19.—When an accident has occurred to the machinery, have sometimes worked up the lost time at one hour per day for not exceeding ten days, in which case have worked thirteen hours per day.
- A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.
- A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-three hours.
- A. 22.—All the same time.
- A. 23.—Average time eleven hours and a half.
- A. 24.—Thirteen hours, as before stated, in case of accident to machinery.
- A. 25.—By accidents to machinery.
- A. 26.—Could not be avoided without loss to masters and persons employed.
- A. 27.—Yes; for thirteen and thirteen hours and a half before the passing of the present Act.
- A. 28.—Certainly; the cost of producing is enhanced by the reduction of hours of working.
- A. 29.—To produce greater quantity at less proportionate cost.
- A. 30.—There is an increase of cost in every branch, and in greater proportion than the diminution of hours, in consequence of the same amount of capital being required for a reduced quantity.
- A. 31.—I consider it very objectionable, having tried it, and found the quality of work worse and machinery much abused, from not being able to trace which set of hands committed the fault.
- A. 33.—I did employ a set of night hands about three years ago, but not since.
- A. 34.—I did not find it my interest to work at night.
- A. 35.—When I worked at night the same set of hands were uniformly employed at night, and did not change.
- A. 36.—I conceive no injury would be sustained by a prohibition of night work.
- A. 37.—I am of opinion that it would injure both masters and workpeople; the latter from a reduction of wages, and the former from being obliged to employ the same capital for a reduced quantity.
- A. 38.—In no part of the manufactory is a greater heat required or used than from 55° to 60° Fahrenheit, except by summer heat.
- A. 40.—Two hundred and one are the number employed, all at the same degree of heat.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—Have no night work.
- A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and one hour at noon, at which time the engine stops; tea is allowed to be taken in the afternoon while the engine is going.
- A. 54.—All are at liberty to do so.
- A. 55.—If they do stop, it is entirely for their own convenience.
- A. 56.—They are taken out.
- A. 57.—By discharging them.
- A. 58.—No.
- A. 63.—There have been, but no time have I heard of a single complaint.
- A. 64.—Never at any time.
- A. 65.—No.
- A. 66.—Cannot say.
- A. 67.—I am not aware of any difference.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Strictly so.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 77.—No.
- A. 78.—I think it very important that effectual means should be taken to secure obedience to the present law, and to prohibit night-work.

WILLIAM HIGGINS.

No. 217.  
Islington Twist  
 Company.

## ANSWERS of the ISLINGTON TWIST COMPANY, Salford.

- A. 1.—Salford, in the county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—The spinning of water twist only.
- A. 3.—Erected in the year 1823.
- A. 4.—Steam-engine; fifty horse power.
- A. 5.—Ventilation caused by the opening of windows.
- A. 7.—By the overlookers.
- A. 8.—All that is practicable is fenced off.

A. 9.



A. 9.—There is no separate place for the workpeople to change their dresses; they take them off and put them on, on their commencing and leaving off work.

A. 10.—After they have passed the ninth year. Cannot say whether any of them have been employed at other trades, but should imagine there are some that have worked at silk mills.

A. 11.—No.

A. 12.—No difference.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours the first five days, and nine hours on Saturday.

A. 18.—The same.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-nine days and a quarter.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and forty-one hours.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—In case of any accident or break-down with the steam-engine.

A. 27, 28, & 29.—Yes.

A. 33.—No.

A. 38.—Usual temperature 65°, lowest 63°.

A. 39.—65°.

A. 40.—The whole of the hands work in the same temperature.

A. 41.—No; not once.

A. 42.—None.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—In the winter season with gas, until seven o'clock.

A. 51.—Windows are closed at night.

A. 53.—Half an hour at eight o'clock for breakfast, and one hour at twelve o'clock for dinner.

A. 54.—All are at liberty to leave, with the exception of a lad in each room, who remains part of the dinner hour to oil the machinery.

A. 55.—Unless the machinery were oiled, the speed of the machinery would be considerably retarded.

A. 57.—The threat of a discharge.

A. 58, 64, & 65.—No.

A. 68.—Not required.

A. 69.—Yes, it is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 77.—We do not think they are.

The ISLINGTON TWIST COMPANY.

Lancashire.

Islington Twist  
Company.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. LAMBERT, HOOLE, and JACKSON, Salford.

A. 1.—Salford, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning.

A. 3.—At three different periods; the two largest parts in 1791 and 1800.

A. 4.—Steam power alone; extent two hundred-horse power.

A. 5 & 6.—There are six hundred and fifty-six windows, all of which can be opened, except about twenty.

A. 7.—The overlooker in each room regulates the opening of the windows, or the workpeople would keep them closed.

A. 8.—The shafting is fenced off.

A. 9.—The arrangements are not specific or compulsory. The people do change their clothes on entering the mill; and there is a supply of water in each room, which they regularly use to wash themselves: this has been the case from the commencement.

A. 10.—We employ none under ten years of age: we frequently admit boys who have been previously employed in rope-walks or in calico printing.

A. 11.—We have twenty-four children under twelve years of age; (amongst 753 workpeople,) but we could easily dispense with all under twelve years.

A. 12.—In our case fewer.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Twelve hours during five days of the week, and nine hours on Saturday; exclusive of meals.

A. 18.—Precisely as above, and no difference for any age.

A. 19.—Twelve hours, with this rare exception, that if a particular department has lost time by accidental breakage, we have worked up the time in that department with persons above eighteen years of age, but not more than one hour per diem, and not beyond the week in which the accident occurred.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five days.

A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and ninety-eight hours.

A. 22.—All alike.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 Q

A. 23.

No. 218.

Lambert, Hoole,  
& Jackson.



Lancashire.

Lambert, Hoole,  
& Jackson.

- A. 23.—Rather under eleven hours and a half per day, excluding holidays.
- A. 24.—Twelve hours.
- A. 25.—Never but in case of accidental breakage, as above explained.
- A. 26.—There is no occasion for any excess.
- A. 27.—In 1803 our mill worked seventy-eight hours per week; in 1813, seventy-five hours; in 1818, seventy-seven hours; in 1823, seventy-four hours; and in 1828, seventy-two hours.
- A. 28.—Of course the cost of production is increased by a diminution of the hours of working, *cæteris paribus*.
- A. 29.—All extra working in our trade is with a view to lessen the cost of production, and to obtain the profit upon an additional quantity.
- A. 30.—The cost of production is increased by the limitation of hours, as above stated, and, in our case, it would be nearly in exact proportion to the diminution of hours as far as the charge of rent and other fixed charges are concerned; the wages being reduced according to the hours worked.
- A. 31 & 32.—We have never had occasion to try this plan.
- A. 33.—Never.
- A. 37.—Our partner, Mr. Holland Hoole, has stated his and our opinions in a pamphlet, of which a copy is sent herewith.
- A. 38.—The great bulk of our work requires no artificial temperature whatever: we find the heat of the rooms to-day varies from 63°, the lowest, to 71°, the highest: our work, for the most part, would be quite as well done at 55°.
- A. 39.—We have some fine mule-spinning, for which not more than 70° is required.
- A. 46, 47, & 48.—None.
- A. 53.—One half hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; tea in the afternoon is taken without stopping the machinery: alike for all.
- A. 54.—All are at liberty to do so except the overlookers and a few persons employed in cleaning the machinery, who are above eighteen years of age, and are paid for extra time.
- A. 57.—There is an overlooker in each room, who keeps them attentive, or discharges them.
- A. 58, 59, 60, & 61.—None.
- A. 63.—The instructions are to keep from striking the children, but to turn them away if inattentive.
- A. 64.—None.
- A. 65.—We have only five cottages, which are occupied by engineers and some of the oldest workmen.
- A. 66.—We prefer those who have been brought up to the trade; but we conceive it to be unnecessary to commence before twelve years of age, in order to acquire the requisite degree of skill.
- A. 67.—We believe that the general health and condition of our workpeople has improved during the last ten years, owing to the greater cheapness of food and clothing, as compared with their wages; but within the last twelvemonth (since the appearance of the cholera), the state of health has not been so settled or satisfactory as previously. We are not at this moment prepared with evidence on this subject in detail, and should wish to know the description of evidence which is required.
- A. 68.—Occasionally, in particular cases.
- A. 69.—It is.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 73.—We believe our neighbours observe the Act; but we have never joined any association for enforcing it.
- A. 78 & 79.—No.

LAMBERT, HOOLE, &amp; JACKSON.

No. 219.

John Rawson.

ANSWERS of Messrs. SMITH and RAWSON, Salford.

- A. 1.—Salford.
- A. 2.—Throstle-spinning.
- A. 3.—Built in 1823 and 1824; Commenced spinning in June 1824.
- A. 4.—Steam.
- A. 5.—None; only by casements on each side of the building.
- A. 6.—Yes.
- A. 7.—The operators open them as they please, but the overlookers are required to see that they are opened when necessary.
- A. 8.—The upright shafts are fenced off; no other part dangerous.
- A. 9.—No particular arrangement, but the hands have liberty to wash and change clothes if they think proper.
- A. 10.—Ten years; only two of this age.
- A. 11.—Yes; some work can be as well or better done by children from nine to twelve years, and, of course, at less wages than if older.

A. 12



- A. 12.—We are not aware of any difference in our kind of spinning.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours for one day—Saturday.  
 A. 19.—Have worked twelve hours and a half per day, when an accident has occurred to the machinery, to fetch up the lost time.  
 A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-one days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and ninety-two hours.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, as stated in No. 19.  
 A. 25.—Owing to an accident or accidents in the machinery or engine.  
 A. 26.—Could not be avoided without loss to the masters and persons employed.  
 A. 27.—Yes; from thirteen to fourteen hours, before the passing of the present Act.  
 A. 28.—Certainly; and considerably so.  
 A. 29.—In order to reduce the cost of the article produced, and to gain an advantage over others that have not recourse to this expedient.  
 A. 30.—Certainly; on the capital employed in the buildings, engine, &c. &c., insurance, taxes, &c.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 37.—The effects will be to increase the cost of production. See answer to No. 30.  
 A. 38.—In no part if our manufactory is a greater heat required than 55° to 60° of Fahrenheit.  
 A. 39.—60°, as stated above.  
 A. 40.—All.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 50.—When necessary to light up, by gas.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, at which time the engine is stopped. Tea allowed to go into the mill in the afternoon.  
 A. 54.—The young hands go out; the adults please themselves.  
 A. 55.—As regards the adults, for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—By discharging them if necessary.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Have had no instance stated to us, or have heard of any, nor do we allow it.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Have no houses for such purposes.  
 A. 67.—Are not aware of any difference as regards our own mill, which is very healthy.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 77.—No.  
 A. 78.—Cannot suggest any, except limiting the moving power to a certain number of hours in the twenty-four.

JOHN RAWSON.

Lancashire.

John Rawson.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM JENKINSON and Co., Salford.

No. 220.  
W. Jenkinson & Co.

- A. 1.—Township of Salford, in the parish of Manchester, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—The spinning of cotton, and the yarn made into calicos by power-looms.  
 A. 3.—Built in 1825, and been employed since that time for its present purpose.  
 A. 4.—One steam-engine twenty-horse power, one steam ditto, six ditto.  
 A. 5.—By windows on every side of the mill.  
 A. 6.—Windows, and some of the rooms have ventilators.  
 A. 7.—Discretion of the hands.  
 A. 8.—All dangerous parts fenced off.  
 A. 9.—Enjoin all the hands to have clean linen twice a week; convenience for washing them in each room; been in force twelve months.  
 A. 10.—Children above nine years of age, and under ten, only twelve employed; being one to twenty-two above that age.  
 A. 11.—Not absolutely.  
 A. 12 & 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, twelve hours each day, Saturday, nine hours.  
 A. 18.—All persons in the mill work the same hours, viz. sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half, and that for only about twenty days.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand four hundred and fifty hours.  
 A. 22.—All work alike.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—Breakage of mill, gearing, &c. twice.  
 A. 26 & 27.—No.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 30.



Lancashire.

W. Jenkinson & Co.

A. 30.—Limitation in the hours of work would doubtless increase the cost in all the branches.

A. 31 & 32.—We never found it at all necessary to have any change for the hours we have always worked; the children stand their work very well.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 37.—It would cause a decline in wages; it would increase the cost of the goods made, and consequently make us less able to compete with a foreign market.

A. 38.—From 40° to 80°.

A. 39.—80°, this only in one room — dressing.

A. 40.—Ten.

A. 46.—None.

A. 53.—All the same, half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner.

A. 54.—All, or nearly so.

A. 55.—If any remain, for their own convenience.

A. 56.—No difference.

A. 57.—Discharged from work.

A. 58.—No.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—None live in our houses.

A. 66.—Those brought up from infancy are more skilful.

A. 67.—Have only worked seven years; in that time have never found any particular alteration in their health.

A. 68.—None.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—The cotton mills do.

A. 77.—Not at all.

A. 78.—If the restriction were put on the moving power, it would be the best method of preventing every infringement of the present law.

A. 79.—The present law over cotton factories, if duly enforced (or altered as above), we conceive would be all that is required, if made applicable to other mills—say silk, worsted, woollen, flax, &c.

W. JENKINSON & Co.

No. 221.

Abel Harrison.

ANSWERS of ABEL HARRISON, for THOMAS HARRISON and SON, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-lyne.

A. 1.—Stalybridge, in the parish of Ashton-under-lyne.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving by power.

A. 3.—The first building was erected thirty-five years ago, and has been increased in the years 1812, 1823, and 1824.

A. 4.—Both steam and water; the water is irregular, but we have steam power for any deficiency. In steam-engines, we have two hundred and twenty horse power.

A. 5.—Windows with slides; in blowing rooms fans.

A. 7.—At the discretion of all, or of any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—All dangerous parts, as far as they possibly can, are fenced off.

A. 9.—No.

A. 10.—Nine years; cannot answer if previously employed, but should suppose not.

A. 11.—Can do either with or without under twelve years of age, but think many families would suffer if not employed under twelve years.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—In carding and weaving, thirteen hours for five days; nine on Saturday. In spinning, twelve hours for five days; nine on Saturday.

A. 18.—In carding and weaving all above eighteen years of age, thirteen hours; all under twelve hours. Spinning all ages, twelve hours per day.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and four days.

A. 21.—Three thousand two hundred and nineteen hours.

A. 22.—All parts of our works are carried on at the same time.

A. 23.—Carding and weaving twelve hours and a half; spinning eleven hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours above eighteen years of age, and twelve hours under.

A. 26 & 27.—No.

A. 29.—For our case, the reason we work the carders and weavers longer is, we are much short of carding from the nature of our trade, making coarser clothes; so we are compelled to card thirteen hours to find employment for the spinners twelve hours.

A. 31.—It would not be possible here, to obtain two sets of hands under twenty-one years of age.

A. 33.—No.

A. 37.



A. 37.—Our opinion is, any reduction of the working hours would injure the employed, as we do not think any advance of wages could be maintained.

A. 38.—From 65° to 72°; we think 65° sufficient, but in summer it is impossible to get it so low.

A. 39.—Dressing requires 80° to 85°.

A. 40.—Thirty-nine, all men.

A. 46.—No.

A. 53.—Full half hour for breakfast, full hour for dinner.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Dismissal.

A. 58.—No.

A. 62.—Yes; and threatened dismissal to any person inflicting any.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—Partly in the houses of their employers; all living in their houses have lime and brushes provided at their expence, and compel the tenants to whitewash regularly.

A. 66.—Those commencing young are generally more expert.

A. 67.—Improved we judge, from a sick fund established in our works.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70, 78, & 79.—No.

ABEL HARRISON.

Lancashire.

Abel Harrison.

#### ANSWERS of JEREMIAH and JOHN LEES, Staly Bridge.

No. 222.  
J. & J. Lees.

A. 1.—Staly Bridge, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning cotton into yarn, and weaving it into cloth.

A. 3.—Four mills: No. 1, erected about the year 1806; No. 2, about the year 1816; No. 3, erected about the year 1820; and No. 4, erected about the year 1821.

A. 4.—Steam power, one hundred and ten horse power.

A. 5.—None.

A. 6.—On the opening of windows, doors, &c.

A. 7.—By overlookers, and the workpeople.

A. 8.—Fenced off.

A. 9.—We have no arrangements, except pegs to hang their clothes on, and water at their own convenience.

A. 10.—Lowest age employed, nine years; they have seldom been employed in any other trades.

A. 11.—No; because we consider from the nature of their employment being of so confined a nature, it is injurious to their health.

A. 12.—Less.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Persons of eighteen years of age and upwards work for five days thirteen hours, and on Saturday ten hours.

A. 18.—Persons under eighteen years of age work for five days twelve hours, and on Saturday nine hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Carried on three hundred and seven days.

A. 21.—The total number of hours three thousand eight hundred and six.

A. 22.—Our works are not carried on at different times on the same day.

A. 24.—Twelve hours.

A. 25.—We have not exceeded the usual or regular hours.

A. 26.—Avoidable.

A. 27.—No.

A. 28.—We conceive this question answered, because we have not worked a greater number of hours daily than we do at present.

A. 29.—Because he is enabled to get more profit by producing a greater quantity of yarn or cloth from the same fixed capital.

A. 30.—We conceive this question answered, because we have not worked a greater number of hours daily than we do at present.

A. 31.—From the circumstance of not having tried or worked two sets of children, we are not capable of giving an answer to this question.

A. 32.—We have never tried the system of a change of hands.

A. 33.—We have never employed night hands.

A. 37.—It would enhance the cost of the material produced, which enhancement of the cost would give a premium to the foreigner, who is not limited to his number of working hours, and who is not so heavily taxed.

A. 38.—Average temperature of card rooms, 80°; of spinning rooms, 80°; of weaving rooms, 70°; of dressing rooms, 88°.

A. 39.—88°.

A. 40.—Thirty-three adults, men.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 R

A. 41.



Lancashire.

J. & J. Lees.

A. 41.—None, after eight o'clock.

A. 42.—None, after eight o'clock.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas, to eight o'clock at night.

A. 51.—By opening windows and doors, &amp;c.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—We request and order all hands to leave the works at meal-times.

A. 55.—If any hands do stop, it is for their own convenience.

A. 56.—We cannot tell.

A. 57.—By discharging them from their employ.

A. 58.—We are not aware of any corporal punishments inflicted.

A. 63.—We have given verbal instructions to all overlookers and workpeople in our employ, that they must not beat or ill use children; if they did, we should discharge them from our employ.

A. 64.—We have caused only one person, who was an operative spinner, to be summoned before the magistrates, for beating a little boy, and he was condemned to one month's imprisonment.

A. 65.—In part the workpeople live in our houses. We do not interfere in their domestic affairs.

A. 66.—We are not aware of much difference.

A. 67.—We are not aware that their health is either improved or deteriorated.

A. 68.—We are not aware of any injurious effects of particular processes.

A. 69.—If this question means Mr. Hobhouse's Act, we are working to that Act.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 74.—Some proprietors have been taken before a magistrate.

A. 75.—The proprietors to whom we allude were not fined.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that they are afraid.

A. 78.—We consider that it is impossible to make an effectual Time Bill, without stopping the moving power.

JEREMIAH &amp; JOHN LEES.

No. 223.

H. & E. Ashworth.

ANSWERS of HENRY and EDMUND ASHWORTH, Turton, near Bolton.

A. 1.—Turton, near Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The New Eagley mill, which is the oldest portion of this establishment, was erected and employed for its present purpose in 1803. We undertook it in 1817, when it was furnishing employment for about sixty persons; during that, and the two following years, the extent of the mill was doubled; and in 1824, it was again enlarged, and became capable of employing two hundred and sixty workpeople. Our Egerton mill was erected in 1829 and 1830, and furnishes employment for two hundred and seventy-two workpeople. These mills and premises comprise the works described herein.

A. 4.—The power employed is chiefly water-power, about the extent of one hundred and twenty horses: it is frequently irregular and insufficient by reason of droughts, and because the water, which ought always to flow, is sometimes retained in or discharged irregularly, or during the night, from the reservoirs of other works, which are free from any legislative restriction; hence, in the course of the year, some weeks may be lost; and latterly, steam-power has been applied in order to prevent this loss of time.

A. 5.—One half of the number of windows in the mills are provided with swing sashes or casements, which the workpeople are at liberty to open, whenever they choose to do so, for the ventilation of the factories; in some of the rooms there are also openings through the walls for this purpose; and in all the rooms, where dust prevails, there are large ventilators or fans rapidly revolving by power, to withdraw the dusty atmosphere, which in our opinion are quite effectual.

A. 6.—The provision for ventilation depends on the opening of doors, windows, &amp;c. in most of the rooms; in the others, it depends on those means, and on the continuous use of the large revolving ventilators, commonly called fans.

A. 7.—The ventilation is regulated at the discretion of the workpeople, any of whom are at liberty to open the sashes of those windows adjacent to their work; although, it may be remarked, that they do not make extensive use of these salutary provisions.

A. 8.—We believe that every portion of machinery or mill-gearing, from which danger might be apprehended, is fenced off.

A. 9.—In every part of the mills, arrangements are made suited to the health or convenience of the workpeople; they are provided with places for the clothing they may choose to cast off or put on; and they have arrangements provided for washing, which those workpeople are at liberty to use, who may not have attended to their personal cleanliness before leaving home. We do not recollect that the mills were ever unprovided with these accommodations.

A. 10.—The lowest age at which children are employed by us is nine years; few, if any of them, have previously worked at other trades, and those who have, have mostly been engaged in work connected with hand-loom weaving.

A. 11.



Lancashire.

*H. & E. Ashworth.*

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age. Children being legally admissible into mills when nine years of age, if we refused then to admit them, those of our workpeople who had such children would leave our service, and obtain work where they would be allowed to employ their children. Children become more expert, when introduced into mills below twelve years of age. There are many families, particularly those of widows, would suffer, if the children were not permitted to work before twelve years of age; we think that all children might be allowed to work in mills for six hours a day, from nine to twelve years of age, without any injurious effect.

A. 12.—We are not aware that any alterations in machinery have rendered necessary the employment of a greater proportion of children under twelve years of age.

A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.

A. 15.—We do not employ any orphans or other children who are lodged or maintained by us.

A. 17.—All persons employed in our mills work upon an average twelve hours a day, five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturdays, or a total average of sixty-nine hours per week. When we have had stoppages for want of water, we have extended the time of working, agreeably to the provisions of the Act of Sir J. C. Hobhouse.

A. 18.—No difference is made in the hours of working betwixt those who are under or above twenty-one years of age.

A. 19.—The greatest number of hours that our works have been kept on in any one day during the last year are thirteen.

A. 20.—Our manufacture was carried on during the last year three hundred and nine days.

A. 21.—Our works were carried on three thousand five hundred and forty-three hours during last year.

A. 22.—The different parts of our works have been carried on continuously during every day of working; except when a partial or limited supply of water has caused us to throw off some portion of our machinery.

A. 23.—The average of the hours of work of each day of the week during the last year are eleven hours and a half, or twelve hours a day for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 24.—The greatest number of hours that the same set of children in our employment have been kept at work in any one day of the last year is thirteen.

A. 25.—Under circumstances of scarcity or irregularity in the supply of water, and from breakages of the main gearing, we were frequently obliged to exceed the usual hours of working.

A. 26.—We do not consider that an excess beyond the usual hours of working is avoidable, where water-power is used, by reason of occasional interruptions and loss of time from droughts and heavy floods. There are many mills in the country where the water-power is insufficient in dry seasons, and the owners or renters of them are not in a condition to expend large sums of money to provide steam-power. There are other places where the expence of fuel is a serious obstacle to the using of a steam-engine. Such mills would be rendered almost worthless, if the workpeople were prevented by law from working up any portion of the time they may have lost.

A. 27.—We have never at any former time usually worked our manufactory for a greater number of hours daily than we do at present.

A. 28.—As we have not reduced the hours of working our mills, the cost of producing has not been enhanced thereby.

A. 29.—We believe that the inducement to the manufacturer to have his work continued to extra hours, or through the night, is mostly an extraordinary desire of increased profit.

A. 30.—An increase in the cost of production in every branch of the manufacture is sure to follow any limitation in the hours of work. The question of proportion or extent, we cannot estimate with satisfactory correctness: probably it would be about from 5 to 7 per cent. for a diminution of two hours per day.

A. 31.—The objections to the employment of relays of hands may vary in different branches of the trade; in our own, there would be a difficulty in preventing, and afterwards in detecting the culpable parties, in cases where valuable work had been spoiled or damaged, which must frequently occur, if one person had to finish the work which another had begun.

A. 32.—We have never tried a system of relays or changes of hands, for the reason assigned in the last answer. It is our opinion that a vigorous exertion of twelve hours is sufficient time for a day's labour, and in our business is preferable to the employment of relays of hands.

A. 33.—We have never employed any hands in night-working.

A. 36.—The effects produced upon our manufacture by a prohibition of night-working, providing that a suitable allowance of time for day labour was permitted, would be an increase of profit for the manufacturer, who is accustomed to carry on his work only during the day, by putting an end to this unequal competition. Such a prohibition would remove a foul stigma which at present overhangs the whole of the trade, owing to the practices of a few individuals in it; prevent an unnatural, unwholesome, and demoralizing practice; and would probably lead to an extension of mills, and thereby provide day labour for those unfortunate workpeople, who have heretofore been compelled to seek a disreputable occupation in night-working.

A. 37.



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A. 37.—It is our opinion that the probable effects of a still further reduction of the working hours would be a considerably diminished rate of profit to the manufacturer, a material increase in the cost of the article produced; and should an increase in its selling price be obtainable, which might be the case for a time, it would add to the profits of the foreign manufacturer, but not to those of our own; it would lead to the extension of rival manufactories abroad, and entirely prevent that necessary extension of our own mills, which at no distant period must be sought, for the employment of our rapidly increasing population. It would also cause an extension of night-working, and would stimulate the introduction of machinery to supersede human labour; and the unavoidable consequence would be, diminished wages and want of employment.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of our works whilst at work is from 65° to 70°; we consider this a sufficient heat for the different processes of our spinning, which vary from fifty to one hundred hanks in the pound. The temperature will occasionally rise much higher in summer, and in the evenings when the mills are lighted.

A. 39.—There is not any portion of our manufacture requires a higher temperature than 70°.

A. 40.—The whole of the hands employed by us require an equal degree of heat.

A. 41.—Our works have never been worked in the night.

A. 46.—No process of our manufacture is indispensably continuous during the twenty-four hours.

A. 47.—There is not any maximum of the time during which it is indispensable for any process of our manufacture to be continued.

A. 48.—We do not require any descriptions of persons to be employed in any such processes.

A. 49.—We have no process or description of work indispensably continuous.

A. 50.—By lamps enclosed in glass, and by candles.

A. 51.—The provisions of swing sashes, doors, openings in the walls, and revolving ventilators, as described in the 5th answer.

A. 52.—Not being accustomed to night-working, we only know what we have casually seen or heard of the practice, that it is unwholesome and demoralizing.

A. 53.—All persons employed in our works are allowed half an hour for taking breakfast, and one hour for dinner, during which the mills are stopped, and no work is permitted to be done in them; in the afternoons, they sit down to take refreshment or tea, and the work is allowed to proceed, attended by others who assist them.

A. 54.—All persons employed at our works leave them to take breakfast and dinner, but not to take tea or refreshment in the afternoon.

A. 55.—They do not leave the works in the afternoon to take tea or refreshment, because it is more convenient to the workpeople to have this refreshment in the mill, that they may retire from their work at an earlier hour in the evening.

A. 56.—The effect of any alteration, by which the meals of persons employed could be taken out of the mills, would be, their detention till a later hour in the evenings.

A. 57.—The means recommended by us to enforce obedience on the part of the children employed in our works are admonition, dismissal from work, or threatening their discharge in cases of disobedience. It is deserving of remark, that those children who have attended infant schools or other improved schools have been taught obedience, and seldom or never require correction.

A. 58.—Corporal punishments are forbidden, but we cannot assert that they are not inflicted upon persons employed in our works.

A. 59.—If corporal punishments are inflicted, we have reason to believe that they are seldom or never inflicted by overlookers or foremen, but by parents or by those of our workmen who undertake piece-work and engage and employ children to assist them.

A. 60 & 61.—Corporal punishments have been inflicted, but not with our fore-knowledge, nor with our prior or subsequent sanction.

A. 62.—We have forbidden corporal punishments, and when informed of their infliction have reprov'd, fined, or discharged those of our servants, who have acted unguardedly in this respect.

A. 63.—We have never employed any foreman or overlooker to whom we considered it was necessary to give any written instructions forbidding the punishment of children. They have verbal instructions from us not to continue to employ any one, on whom it is necessary to inflict any punishment.

A. 64.—No complaints have ever been made before any magistrate against us, nor against any overlooker, foreman, or other workman in our service.

A. 65.—Most of the workpeople in our employ reside in houses belonging to us. We exercise a control or superintendence over them, for their moral and social improvement. Arrangements are made; and at frequent and irregular periods visits are paid to the dwelling of every workman who resides on our premises. The state and cleanliness of their rooms, their bedding and furniture are very minutely examined, and the condition of their children, their income and habits of life, are carefully enquired into, and remarks thereon are entered in books which are kept for the purpose.

A. 66.—The difference in the skill and general character of those who have been employed at our mills from infancy over those who have been previously employed in other occupations is very obvious. The former are more skilful, more active, and more intelligent; the latter are their inferiors in these respects.

A. 67.



A. 67.—During the last ten years, we have not observed any general or material change in the health of the workpeople employed in our factories. There is no unfavourable indication, but the change, if any, is an improvement.

A. 68.—We make no change of employment, or selection of persons for any department of our manufacture, but allow the workpeople to change their occupations in the mills, and adopt any others which may be more agreeable to themselves.

A. 69.—Our mills are subject to the provisions of the present Act.

A. 70, 71, & 72.—We have never been informed against, convicted, or paid any penalty for infringing upon the provisions of the present or any other Act.

A. 73.—There are no mills so near to our own, as to enable us to observe whether they are worked in conformity with the provisions of the present Act.

A. 77.—We have no reason to believe that our workpeople are afraid of displeasing us by giving evidence.

A. 78.—We consider the present law a very judicious one in its provisions, but we think another course should be adopted to secure its observance, instead of that which is provided, and has been tried with such ill success. The practice of enforcing penalties for every breach of the law upon the complaints of common informers, who are an idle race of men, and ill esteemed in the eyes of the world, is not, in our opinion, an eligible way to secure a strict or a cheerful obedience to any humane law, or to befriend an overworked child. These men do not always seek to punish the most aggravated cases of guilt, but take up for the sake of gain any case, however slight, if it only promises an easy means of conviction; and they do not unfrequently resort to trickery. We would therefore recommend that the present law should be properly enforced by officers of respectable character, whose duty it should be to prevent any continued breach of the law, and not secretly to wait for opportunities to fine or punish any accidental aggressor.

A. 79.—In reference to the subject of the present enquiry, we have to observe, that there is an urgent necessity for the speedy and judicious settlement of this important question. The pretended friends of the working classes, not inaptly called the agitators, have for several years kept up a continual strife betwixt our workpeople (who support them) and ourselves; causing serious interruptions to our business; sometimes by disagreements on the subject of wages, at other times by their intermeddling with our authority, or the regulations of our trading concerns, and latterly by their concocting of time bills. We therefore hope that the result of the present investigation may lead to the enactment or the adoption of proper legislative measures, and tend to remove from the minds of the public that undeserved imputation of cruelty and avarice which, with singular ingenuity and audacity, these designing people have endeavoured to fasten upon us.

HENRY & EDMUND ASHWORTH.

Lancashire.

H. & E. Ashworth.

#### ANSWERS of ALEXANDER BULLOCK, agent, Wigan.

No. 224.  
Alexander Bullock.

A. 1.—Parish of Wigan, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning and warping.

A. 3.—Built at one time, and set to work in 1815.

A. 4.—A steam-engine of twenty-five horse power, and regular.

A. 5.—Large casements in each window.

A. 6.—Depends on the opening of the windows.

A. 7.—By the spinning or carding master, and often at the will of the children employed in that room.

A. 8.—Yes; they are fenced off by covers and boxes.

A. 9.—Yes; there is a terrace cistern full of soft water near the mill door, from which the hands fetch water at their own discretion, and they use soap.

A. 10.—I employ no children under eighteen years of age, except about eight who are upwards of twelve. I prefer those of eighteen at an advance of wages.

A. 11.—Not upon any account whatever.

A. 12.—No; I have been a spinner thirty years, and the nature of the machinery does not require children under twelve years.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—I do not lodge any children: their parents visit them often; every day, if they please.

A. 16.—Yes; their parents and guardians, and they may visit them as often as they please.

A. 17.—I sometimes employ adults thirteen hours a day, or six days and a half in the week, but leave it to the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 18.—Children under eighteen years of age, twelve hours only.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen days, and no more.

A. 21.—Worked three thousand nine hundred and six hours.

A. 22.—Never a part, but always the whole of the machinery.

A. 23.—Twelve hours and a half each day.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

(APP.—D. 1.)

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A. 25.



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Alexander Bullock.

- A. 25.—Between the hours of six and eight in the evening, in a regular manner.
- A. 26.—Because contracts having been made for the delivery of a certain quantity of twist in a given time, it behoves me to work more time.
- A. 27.—Yes; in the year 1826, but never since.
- A. 28.—Yes; some little more cost besides the loss of interest on a great capital, and a loss on a heavy rent being paid.
- A. 29.—Too great a love of the world, and the things of it.
- A. 30.—My opinion is, we lose an advantage by giving it to other states and powers, who will make goods cheaper than we can, and so ruin our trade.
- A. 31.—I see no objection.
- A. 32.—I have never been under the necessity of making a trial, therefore cannot answer otherwise.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 36.—Good effects: night being the proper time for rest and repose, would tend to the good health and morals of the children.
- A. 37.—First, I read in the New Testament, that there are twelve hours in the day in which men ought to work; secondly, by making fewer hours, it would tend to demoralize the people; being loose, they would assemble and commit various depredations; besides, our manufactories would cost more than in other states, and we should not be able to meet them in the market.
- A. 38.—Generally about 60°, but never exceed 80°; could not do with less heat.
- A. 39.—80°.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 49.—Does not apply to my manufactory.
- A. 50.—By gas, made from coals.
- A. 51.—From casements in the windows.
- A. 52.—Bad effects.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner.
- A. 54.—A part of them leave, the rest stay; some of the children prefer stopping in the mill, and their parents bring their meals.
- A. 55.—I leave it to the workpeople's choice.
- A. 56.—The effect would be better.
- A. 57.—Dismission from the works.
- A. 58.—No.
- A. 62.—I ordered the manager never to strike with weapons.
- A. 64.—No; nothing of this kind.
- A. 65.—I do not let any houses to any of my workpeople except one, who is a sort of watchman.
- A. 66.—Very little difference. I only know two, who were more ingenious than the rest; they were in my employment when about twelve years of age, now they are become clever men; viz., William Johnson and Thomas Beardman.
- A. 67.—I can perceive no difference as to the health of the children in my employ. For the last seven years only one man has died, who worked at my mill.
- A. 68.—No.
- A. 69.—Yes.
- A. 70.—Yes; once.
- A. 71.—Yes; twenty pounds.
- A. 72.—It was for deducting a part of a woman's wages, by her own consent, it being a debt due to me.
- A. 73.—I believe all respectable spinners conform to the provisions of the Act. I do not know of any steps having been taken.
- A. 78.—No; I think twelve hours a proper day, compared with all other branches of trade.

ALEXANDER BULLOCK.

No. 225.  
John Cartwright.

## ANSWERS of JOHN CARTWRIGHT, Jun. Wigan.

- A. 1.—Parish of Wigan, county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Spinning of water twist solely.
- A. 3.—At one time.
- A. 4.—Steam only; thirty horse.
- A. 5.—There is.
- A. 6.—Windows and doors.
- A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of all.
- A. 8.—Yes.
- A. 9.—No arrangements for washing and changing clothes in the mill, not deeming any necessary for health; we have, besides a careful ventilation, a spring water pump from which water is fetched by all at will.
- A. 10.—From nine to ten years.
- A. 11.—Not absolutely require them.

A. 12.



- A. 12.—Greater.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17.—Nine hours on Saturdays, and twelve other days.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours, except when fetching up lost time.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and seven.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and twenty-two.  
 A. 22.—All at the same time.  
 A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty-eight minutes.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—At sundry times; viz., races, fairs, club-days, &c., and in cases of accidents to steam-engine or mill-gearing.  
 A. 26.—Not avoidable, except by passing over lost time, which in most cases, we think, would be prejudicial both to ourselves and workpeople.  
 A. 27.—Yes.  
 A. 30.—We have found an increase in the cost of production, from the limitation of the hours of work; but the extent or proportion, we are unable to state.  
 A. 31.—No extra hours being required with us, except under circumstances mentioned in No. 25, we cannot speak as to there being any objection or not.  
 A. 37.—A serious reduction in wages; an increased difficulty; perhaps an inability to compete with the foreign market, being now in many instances already unable to compete with it.  
 A. 38.—65° to 70°; usual temperature 65°.  
 A. 39.—70°.  
 A. 40.—The majority.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—At evenings during the winter, by gas.  
 A. 51.—Windows and doors.  
 A. 52.—Cannot say from observation.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour at breakfast, and an hour at dinner to all.  
 A. 54 & 55.—All, except a few, who do not leave for their own convenience.  
 A. 57.—A series of petty fines, where the disobedience consists in neglect of work, waste, or wilful injury done to machinery; and if unavailing, and also for other offences, a discharge.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Yes; but without our prior or subsequent sanction.  
 A. 63.—No instructions beyond verbal intimation that it was disliked.  
 A. 64.—In one instance against an overlooker, but proved to be without foundation.  
 A. 65.—No.  
 A. 66.—In favour of those early employed; Thomas Vase, James Mason, and Edward Marsden.  
 A. 67.—Has not deteriorated; our own observation leads us to think so.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—It is.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—Cannot affirm that they do not; think that they do.  
 A. 77.—No; think they are not.  
 A. 78 & 79.—No.

JOHN CARTWRIGHT.

Lancashire.  
 —  
 John Cartwright.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM ECCLES, Jun. Wigan.

No. 226.  
 William Eccles.

- A. 1.—Two mills in the borough of Wigan, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning and preparing cotton.  
 A. 3.—One mill was built about the year 1823, the other had been built before: they have always been used for their present purpose.  
 A. 4.—Steam power entirely. To one is attached a sixty, to the other a ten horse power engine.  
 A. 5.—There are swivels and slides in the windows, and where it is required and practicable, dust pipes at the top.  
 A. 6.—On the opening of windows and the dust pipes.  
 A. 7.—By the persons employed under the superintendence of the overlookers.  
 A. 8.—The dangerous parts are fenced off, wherever they can be, without prejudice to the working of the machinery.  
 A. 9.—There are no particular arrangements; they are expected to look after themselves.  
 A. 10.—Nine years of age. They have not usually been employed in other trades.  
 A. 11.—The nature of the work does not require that children under twelve should be employed.  
 A. 12.—Recent alterations have not rendered any change in this respect necessary.  
 A. 13.—No.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 19.



Lancashire.  
 —  
 William Eccles.

- A. 19.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and twelve days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighty-eight hours.  
 A. 22.—The different parts of the works are carried on together.  
 A. 23.—Twelve hours on each working day except Saturday, when the hours of labour are nine.  
 A. 24.—Thirteen hours.  
 A. 25.—When time has been lost by accident, or if the workpeople have wished to have a short holiday without a loss of wages; but I have not allowed this lately.  
 A. 26.—If workpeople are employed during a less time, their wages are reduced, the production of the mill is less: it is therefore the interest of both masters and workpeople that irregularity in the hours of working should be avoided.  
 A. 27.—Before the passing of the Act for shortening the hours, the factories were kept at work longer.  
 A. 28.—The cost of production is increased; for, though wages are reduced, there is still the same charge, or nearly the same, on the yarn, for rent, wear and tear, poor-rates, insurance, &c.  
 A. 29.—The inducement to the master is to have a larger return for the outlay of capital.  
 A. 31.—The difficulty of getting fresh sets of workpeople, and the injury which machinery might possibly sustain from a change of workpeople.  
 A. 32.—Such a system has not been tried, for the reasons given in the last answer.  
 A. 33.—No.  
 A. 36.—It would be beneficial, as the persons working now in the night would then have no advantage on account of greater production.  
 A. 37.—A further reduction of the hours of labour would cause a reduction of wages.  
 A. 38.—No higher a temperature is required than is necessary for the comfort of the workpeople. In winter, this end is attempted by the use of artificial heat; in summer, no artificial heat is used.  
 A. 39.—No particular heat is required in any process.  
 A. 46.—No.  
 A. 48.—In case of accident, full-grown men are employed in the night, and not otherwise.  
 A. 50.—By gas lights.  
 A. 51.—The same as in the day.  
 A. 53.—Forty minutes for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—All leave the works who wish to do so.  
 A. 55.—Generally the people suit their own convenience.  
 A. 56.—They are now at liberty to take their meals out of the mill, and they do not take them in it unless they wish.  
 A. 57.—The overlookers are left, usually, to manage their workpeople.  
 A. 58.—Not by my direction.  
 A. 59.—If corporal punishments are used at all, by the overlookers.  
 A. 60 & 61.—Corporal punishments may have been inflicted, but not with my sanction.  
 A. 62.—If I have heard of any severe corporal punishment, I have reprimanded the overlooker inflicting it, and tried to prevent its recurrence.  
 A. 63.—No instructions have been given, except orders to turn them away if unmanageable.  
 A. 64.—I believe such a case has occurred: the overlooker was fined by the magistrates, and dismissed from my employment.  
 A. 65.—They find their own houses, and are at liberty to direct their own motions.  
 A. 66.—In this, as in every other trade, long practice gives superior skill.  
 A. 67.—I am not able to answer this question. Where young persons are employed, ten years make a great change in the workpeople.  
 A. 68.—No.  
 A. 69.—Yes.  
 A. 70.—No.  
 A. 73.—I attend to my own mill particularly, and no other.  
 A. 77.—I do not know.  
 A. 78.—The present penalties I should think sufficient, if the law were enforced.  
 A. 79.—I am not aware that I could make any useful observation.

WILLIAM ECCLES Jun.

No. 227.  
 Richard Fegan.

#### ANSWERS of RICHARD FEGAN, Wigan.

- A. 1.—Wigan, in the county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Spinning throstle, mule and jenny yarns.  
 A. 3.—Can only answer this by saying that the building is an old one, not ours, belongs to two separate persons, erected at different times and for different purposes.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine of sixteen horse power.

A. 5.



Lancashire.

*Richard Fegan.*

A. 5 & 6.—It is well ventilated, having some large and some small slides, and also tin ventilators, which are all opened or shut at the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 7.—Generally at the discretion of the workpeople; but if they neglect, the overlookers do it for them, or order them to do it.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts are so fenced that if any accident happens of their being hurt, which is very seldom, it is generally through gross neglect or acting contrary to orders.

A. 9.—There are many of the workpeople who change part of their dress on starting and leaving off work, and most of the females have cloaks to put on when the weather is cold.

A. 10.—Upwards of nine years of age: a few of them have been previously employed at hand-loom weaving.

A. 11.—We have but very few under twelve years of age, and those are for work which more than 2s. 6d. or 3s. cannot be afforded.

A. 12.—Have had no very recent alteration.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, twelve hours and on Saturdays nine hours, or sixty-nine hours in each week.

A. 18.—The same as No. 17; no difference of time between young and old.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours, and that only four days, in consequence of break-downs.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days and one quarter.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighty-seven hours.

A. 22.—Start all at once, work all alike, and stop all at once with the exception as in Answer 53.

A. 23.—Eleven hours thirty-one minutes and a quarter.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—On March 16th 1832, worked thirteen hours; on May 23rd, 24th, and 25th, worked thirteen hours for time lost by accidents happening to the steam-engine; on December 20th and 21st, worked twelve hours and forty-five minutes; on November 6th, twelve hours and forty minutes; and twelve times in the last year, we have worked twelve hours and thirty minutes for time that had been unavoidably lost by accidents.

A. 26.—On the days we have worked over, it has been unavoidable from accidents in steam-engine, mill-gearing, &c.

A. 27.—Previous to the first day of November in the year 1831, we worked seventy-two hours per week, instead of which we now work sixty-nine hours.

A. 28.—The same wages being given for sixty-nine hours that were given for seventy-two, must of course enhance the expence of working upwards of 4 per cent.

A. 29.—Different men may have different motives; but, generally speaking, it appears to be, that they may go into the market enabled to undersell their neighbours.

A. 30.—Undoubtedly there would be an increase in the cost, for most people run their machinery as fast as it will stand running; therefore, the advance in the cost of production must be in proportion to the diminution of labour, where the workpeople are paid weekly wages.

A. 31.—We have never tried the experiment.

A. 32.—Change of hands have not been tried by us; we think there is no benefit in changing during the hours of labour, and we do not wish to evade the law by so doing.

A. 33.—We have never had any night-work.

A. 37.—We think it must bring with it a reduction of 16 per cent. on hands who are paid weekly wages: the profits are so small, without any probability of improvement, that masters would be compelled to reduce wages.

A. 38.—The first or ground floor, 75°; the second story, 80°; the third story, 80° Fahrenheit. We could do with 7° or 8° less heat.

A. 40.—Eighty.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—In winter, by oil lamps and tallow candles.

A. 52.—To work all night would be injurious both to health and morals.

A. 53.—We allow half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and we allow mule spinners and their piecers half an hour for tea and cleaning in the afternoon.

A. 54.—They all leave, if they please.

A. 55.—If they stop on the premises, it is not for the convenience of the manufactory, but for their own convenience entirely.

A. 56.—They are all at perfect liberty to go home to their meals; the effect is good.

A. 57.—Sometimes by fining them a trifle, sometimes by hitting them a slap with open hand, sometimes with a strap eighteen inches long and half an inch broad.

A. 59.—By overlookers and foremen, as mentioned in Answer 57., and frequently at the request of the children's parents.

A. 60.—A little correction hath.

A. 61.—We have frequently given orders against any thing more than a gentle correction of children.

A. 62.—Our orders are according to Answer 61., and we have had no information of children being abused.

A. 63.—We have given instructions verbally, that children who will not do their work without much beating must be discharged.

A. 64.—Not one, to the best of our recollection, has made any complaints; there have been no proceedings before magistrates.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 T

A. 65.



Lancashire.

Richard Fegan.

A. 65.—We pay them their wages for their labour every week's end, that is all we have to do with them.

A. 66.—Their difference in skill and character differ almost as much as their features; and, generally speaking, those who have been employed in factories from nine years of age are brighter and have more ingenuity in them than those who have come at later periods.

A. 67.—During the last ten years, the health of factory people has improved; ten years since there were many of the children in factories whose constitutions had been emaciated by being overworked previous to the passing of the Act of the fifty-ninth of George the Third: the greatest number of those have left the factories.

A. 68.—We see no occasion, neither would it suit.

A. 69.—We do all in our power to keep within the meaning of the present Act. We think it a very salutary Act, but would be better if the restriction was laid on the propelling power.

A. 70.—No, we have never given occasion.

A. 73.—We know nothing of other people's affairs; they must be responsible for their own conduct.

A. 77.—Do not know.

A. 78.—Lay the restrictions on the propelling power; and let the excise officers look after them, with powers to summon foremen, overlookers, engineers, or masters.

RICHARD FEGAN.

No. 228.

Thomas Hardman.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HARDMAN, Wigan, Lancashire.

A. 1.—In the town of Wigan, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Carding, roving, and throstle reeling, and the packing of twist.

A. 3.—The buildings we occupy were erected some time near the year 1819, and have from that time been employed for manufactory.

A. 4.—The power we employ is steam; and the extent of the power, about fifty-five horse.

A. 5.—There is not.

A. 6.—What ventilation there is, depends upon the opening of windows, of which there are many.

A. 7.—At the discretion of the employed.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are fenced off.

A. 9.—We have arrangements to this extent:—That they are at liberty, on their entrance into the mill, to change their clothes, which most of them do; and have likewise the liberty of washing on their cessation from labour; and have, for that purpose, a reservoir of water, whereunto they have access. And these arrangements have been extant from the commencement of our manufactory.

A. 10.—The lowest age at which we employ children is ten years. Some of them may probably have been employed at other trades (say weaving), but the number is very limited.

A. 11.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age.

A. 12.—As to the recent alterations in machinery, we cannot express ourselves, having not required any, and consequently cannot answer this query definitely; but should presume that those alterations do not.

A. 13.—We do not.

A. 15.—The few orphans employed by us are visited by their natural or legal guardians, and are principally succoured under their roof.

A. 17.—Twelve hours per day, exclusive of Saturday, on which they are employed only nine hours.

A. 18.—We make no difference.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours is the very extent.

A. 20.—Three hundred and twelve days.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and eighty-eight hours.

A. 22.—The branches of our manufactory are strictly dependent upon each other, and consequently are not carried on at different times.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a half, at an average.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours is the very extent.

A. 25.—The circumstances that occasioned our exceeding the usual hours were breakdowns in some part or other of the machinery; in which cases the time lost by such accidents was compensated in strict unison with the instructions of the last Act.

A. 26.—Certainly it is avoidable; but it is for the benefit of the labourer that we work it up.

A. 27.—A few years ago, we were in the habit occasionally of so doing.

A. 28.—Very much so.

A. 29.—I believe it to be owing to the badness of the trade.

A. 30.—I do, in proportion to the shortening of the time.

A. 31.—I am no advocate for extra hours, but a friend to the present twelve hours bill, and I think it would be impossible to get extra sets of hands.

A. 32.—Not by me.

A. 33.



- A. 33.—We never employed any.
- A. 37.—The effects would be ruinous to the employer, and would cause a reduction in the wages of the employed.
- A. 38.—Carding-rooms, 76°; spinning-rooms, 85°. This we consider as the lowest temperature possible.
- A. 39.—The higher degree of heat the better, as the machinery works much sweeter.
- A. 40.—About two hundred.
- A. 46.—Merely the continuation of the steam passing through the mill, to keep the machinery in order.
- A. 47.—About six hours.
- A. 48.—We employ only two for the process above mentioned, and they are above forty years old each.
- A. 49.—Were it otherwise, the machinery would not work to any advantage whatever.
- A. 50.—What little we do light, which is, at the very extent, in the depth of winter, from four till half past seven in the evening, and from six to half past seven in the morning, is by gas.
- A. 51.—The same as that in the day.
- A. 53.—The times allowed for meals are, from half past eight to nine for breakfast; and from one to two for dinner.
- A. 54.—There are very few exceptions.
- A. 55.—If any remain, it is for their own convenience, and not for that of the manufactory.
- A. 56.—Little or no difference.
- A. 57.—The means are not arbitrary or corporal; but the expulsion of the delinquent if, after warning, still refractory.
- A. 58.—To the best of our knowledge, they are of very rare occurrence.
- A. 59.—If at all, by overlookers.
- A. 60.—Yes; but that knowledge has been subsequent.
- A. 61.—Neither; for we prohibit corporal punishments altogether.
- A. 62.—It has our decided aversion; and we have forbidden all corporal punishment whatever.
- A. 63.—All the instructions we have given is, that if they do not perform their work eligibly, to cause them to leave our employ.
- A. 64.—None whatever.
- A. 65.—We have none whatever.
- A. 66.—Where there is any difference in skill and attention, we very soon perceive it, and raise those hands to better employ and better wages. We see no difference; the work is so easy and soon learned.
- A. 67.—To the best of my knowledge, the health of the factory people has improved very much within the last ten years.
- A. 68.—We make no selection.
- A. 69.—It is.
- A. 70.—Never.
- A. 77.—I cannot see why they should.
- A. 78.—I think the present Act of Parliament sufficiently strict and binding, if properly looked to.

THOMAS HARDMAN.

Lancashire.

Thomas Hardman.

ANSWERS of JOHN HOGG TAYLOR, Parish of Wigan, Lancaster.

No. 229.  
J. H. Taylor.

- A. 1.—Cotton mill in the parish of Wigan, in the county of Lancaster.
- A. 2.—Throstle spinning only.
- A. 3.—The mill was built at one time, say thirty years ago.
- A. 4.—Steam-engine.
- A. 5 & 6.—The windows are so constructed as to allow a space of four squares to be opened at pleasure on each side the rooms, to allow the air to circulate through; and in the heat of summer, the framing of part of the windows and all the glass therein is taken out if required.
- A. 7.—The workpeople have the entire management and regulation of the quantity of windows, &c. they have opened, and they arrange this among themselves.
- A. 8.—All parts of the machinery are fenced off, which can be supposed to be dangerous.
- A. 9.—The workpeople generally change their outside garments on entering the mill, but we have no arrangement to this effect; they do it for their own comfort and at their own discretion.
- A. 10.—We do not employ any children under the age of nine years: generally speaking, the young hands have had no other employment; the older hands occasionally have been weavers, &c., when unable to get employment in the factories.
- A. 11.—It is not absolutely necessary to employ children under twelve years; yet there are easy employments which might be performed with ease by children a few years younger.
- A. 12.—I am not aware of any alterations in this respect, but do not consider myself competent to answer this question.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 13.



Lancashire.

J. H. Taylor.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Twelve hours each day, excepting Saturday; on Saturday, nine hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-eight days.

A. 21.—Three thousand three hundred and twenty hours.

A. 22.—The works have always been carried on altogether.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and a quarter; short rather of this.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—We have not exceeded the regular hours for the last two years, except in a very few instances, as we have generally preferred, in the case of a break-down of the engine or mill gearing, not to work up the time lost, but rather to deduct the time from the wages; this we do to prevent any jealousy amongst the spinners in the neighbourhood that we were making too long time, and also to prevent any mistakes and unpleasantness respecting fines.

A. 26.—The times when we have worked up lost time have been when we had orders on hand contracted to deliver at a certain time, and we have found it impossible to complete our contracts without this arrangement.

A. 27.—Before the passing of Hobhouse's Bill, we worked considerably longer time than at present, as the former Bill could not touch us, our magistrates for the borough being spinners; and as such expressly prohibited from sitting by said Bill in factory cases, and no other than the borough magistrates having jurisdiction in the borough.

A. 28.—The cost of producing twist is certainly increased in a greater proportion than the difference of the price; the interest of money, rent, insurance, &c., being the same for the short time as the long.

A. 29.—It would be impracticable to procure good hands to divide the present time and wages between two sets, on a few hours' longer time; the wages when divided would be too small: therefore, if a spinner is determined to work an hour or two extra time, it must be done with the same set of hands, of course old enough to escape penalties. I consider the loss in each department exceeding the difference in the time deducted.

A. 31.—The wages, as stated above, would be too small to divide between two sets of hands, unless the time worked was very considerably longer than the usual time.

A. 32.—Where you have relays of hands, it is extremely difficult to escape fining, from the children staying in the mills when they ought to be out; for the rest, I refer to my former answers.

A. 33.—We never worked in the night.

A. 36.—I should consider it advantageous to the trade at large completely and entirely to abolish night-work.

A. 37.—From what opportunities I have had of collecting information, I should judge that a further diminution of time, though it might for a short period cause an improvement in demand and prices, would ultimately act as a bonus to the foreign spinners, who are exempt from short time bills and corn laws, and who pay consequently less wages for their work; they are now making considerable progress, and are treading fast on our heels in all manner of improvements in machinery, &c. And a farther diminution of time might turn the scale so as to counterbalance what other advantages we have in our own favour.

A. 39 & 40.—No artificial heat is required for the purposes of the manufacture, nor is any used except at the request of the hands.

A. 41.—Not once.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—The same as in the day.

A. 52.—I should consider it highly prejudicial to both the health and morals of the hands to work at night.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—They are all expected to leave at meal-times.

A. 55.—In the winter months, the hands prefer starting half an hour later, and breakfasting either before they come, or in the mill, to coming earlier and stopping for breakfast.

A. 56.—With us, they generally are taken out.

A. 57 & 58.—No compulsion of any description is used. In cases of neglect, they are threatened to be dismissed; and if incorrigibly negligent, they are paid their wages for the whole week and turned away, although this perhaps takes place on Monday or Tuesday.

A. 59, 60, 61 & 62.—The overlookers are strictly prohibited from punishing the hands in any way, except as above, on pain of themselves being dismissed.

A. 63.—Instructions are invariably given to all the overlookers on their first employment, that they are not on any consideration to strike the hands; not in writing.

A. 64.—I am not aware of a single instance.

A. 65.—They live at their own houses.

A. 66.—The hands who have been trained to the different descriptions of work when young, are invariably found to be the best workers, and can do their work better and with much greater ease than children of the same age, who have not commenced early, and of course can obtain better wages.

A. 67.—I do not perceive any alteration in the appearance of the people, nor am I aware of any difference in their general health, although we are working two hours per day less than we did some years ago; but at the same time, I must observe, most of the hands now employed were not then with us, as they are constantly moving from one mill to another.

A. 68.



A. 68.—No; we have no provisions of this description, nor do we consider any thing of the sort necessary.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—To the best of my knowledge the mills all act very fairly in this neighbourhood, as the fines are heavy, and each spinner is jealous of his neighbour.

A. 77.—I should naturally suppose they would be timid in giving evidence, but I am satisfied with us, either one or another would be found who would give evidence if occasion required.

A. 78.—In my immediate neighbourhood I think there is no act of parliament more strictly adhered to than the present Factory Bill; and if the other districts where spinning is introduced acted in the same manner, I should consider farther legislation not only unnecessary, but mischievous; but while (as I am informed, though I do not know it of my own knowledge) the present act is infringed upon, night-work is carried on. I should say any act which would prevent this would not only benefit the hands, but would be of service to the fair spinner. And I can suggest nothing which would more effectually tend to secure these advantages than the passing of an act similar to the present one, as regards the time of working in the day, but entirely to prohibit night-work under any circumstances, and to limit the time of working to the moving power, whether steam-engine or otherwise.

JOHN HOGG TAYLOR.

Lancashire.

J. H. Taylor.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN SPEAR HERON, Wigan.

No. 230.  
J. S. Heron.

A. 1.—Wigan, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning.

A. 3.—The mill is our erection only; has been built about five years, and used for the above purpose only.

A. 4.—Steam.

A. 5.—Yes; there are forty-nine windows in each room, and in each windows a small sash of eighteen by fifteen inches, turning upon swivels.

A. 6.—On the opening of the above sashes.

A. 7.—It is regulated by the hands in each room.

A. 8.—Yes, all.

A. 9.—They take off their extra clothing on coming to work, and put it on before leaving, in the mill. Those hands who please may wash themselves.

A. 10.—None under nine years of age.

A. 11.—Not absolutely.

A. 12.—I am not aware they have, though my own experience is but short.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—During five days, twelve hours; on the sixth, nine hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half: the usual time twelve hours; but the half hour to work up lost time for a holiday.

A. 20.—Three hundred and thirteen.

A. 21.—Three thousand six hundred.

A. 22.—They have not.

A. 23.—Eleven hours, thirty minutes, and five seconds.

A. 24 & 25.—Twelve hours, except in one instance, as stated before, and that was to fetch up for a holiday.

A. 26.—Scarcely avoidable if the time lost by stopping to repair a trifling accident is to be redeemed; the alternative would be a deduction from the day's wages of the hands.

A. 29.—A greater return at a reduced cost of production.

A. 30.—Was not a master cotton spinner until after the present bill came into operation.

A. 31.—I work no extra hours.

A. 32.—I have no experience in this matter.

A. 33.—I have never worked the engine during the night, nor any of the hands in my employ.

A. 36.—Whatever the effects might be, the prohibition of night-work would, I believe, meet with all but general satisfaction, not only from the public, but also from the trade.

A. 37.—An advantage to those with whom we have already difficulty enough to compete; and this opinion is founded on information from foreigners who make the assertion.

A. 38.—Card-room about 75°, throstle room 80° (the hottest room in the mill); mule room.

A. 39.—No specific temperature necessary in any portion of the manufacture.

A. 52.—I conceive such employment to be most prejudicial both to health and morals.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, to all employed.

A. 54.—Distance induces some to have their morning meal sent to them; generally speaking all leave the mill for dinner.

A. 55.—In both instances the practice obtains for the convenience of the hands only.

A. 56.—I conceive the effect would be inconvenience to the hands, especially during the winter: it could be none to the masters.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 U

A. 57.



Lancashire.

J. S. Heron.

A. 57.—Verbal reprimand only; if that fail, dismissal.

A. 58.—No; strictly interdicted.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—Those who have been employed on the premises from childhood are decidedly the best hands in the mill; all the overlookers are instances, having raised themselves by degrees to their present situations.

A. 67.—I have not resided here more than eighteen months.

A. 68.—No such change is necessary.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—My acquaintance with the conduct of my neighbours does not enable me to answer this query positively.

A. 77.—I have no reason to believe it; and, therefore, do not wish to speculate: mine have no reason to fear so long as their testimony accords with truth.

A. 78.—I think the penalties should be increased, and strictly enforced, as I am convinced the present are insufficient to secure the desired end.

A. 79.—Up to this time the cotton manufacture alone is subject to the acts lately passed affecting the hours of labour. From this circumstance a strong case has been made out, almost entirely by statements drawn from the woollen and silk branches. If those bills are made to include all branches of manufacture, to prohibit all night-work, and inflict heavy penalties for infraction of its provisions; then, I conceive, a fair trial of the Twelve Hours Bill, will render a shorter time bill unnecessary.

JOHN SPEAR HERON.

No. 231.  
John Runington.

## ANSWERS of JOHN RUNINGTON, Hindley, Wigan.

A. 1.—Parish of Wigan, township of Hindley, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Spinning and weaving, and dressing cotton goods.

A. 3.—About thirty years first erection, say 1803; second mill 1822, say ten years.

A. 4.—Steam power only.

A. 5.—Sash-windows, regularly hanging by weights to every third window; first and second mill, swing sashes to every other window.

A. 6.—Opening of large sash-windows.

A. 7.—It is entirely governed by the hands employed.

A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are all fenced off.

A. 9.—None except staves or nails to hang their clothes on during the time they are at work.

A. 10.—Accept children having attained the age of nine years in some few instances.

A. 11.—Yes, for putting rovings into the creels.

A. 12.—Much the same number.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, except Saturday, nine hours.

A. 18.—Twelve hours; no difference, except Saturday, nine hours.

A. 19.—Twelve hours; sometimes the hands may wish to attend a neighbouring fair or races; in that case they make up the time lost by half an hour each day.

A. 20 & 21.—Six days per week generally; cannot tell the exact number of hours worked during last year.

A. 22 & 23.—My mills are carried on regularly together each day, unless some stoppage takes place by breakage.

A. 24.—Only work one set of children, which is answered above.

A. 25.—As before explained; when the hands agree to attend races or fairs, and when any stoppage takes place by breakage.

A. 26.—The hands working piece-work and the master jointly have an interest to make up any lost time.

A. 27.—Yes; about twenty years since, worked my mill thirteen and thirteen hours and a half per day.

A. 28.—Yes, certainly.

A. 29.—No doubt to bring in a greater quantity of work, and thereby gain a larger profit.

A. 30.—Yes; in the preparation of cotton for the spinning and finishing frames, according to the diminution of hours on dormant capital, overlookers, managers, and engineers.

A. 31.—None, if agreeable to the people employed.

A. 32.—Not in my works, having strictly attended to Mr. Hobhouse's late bill.

A. 37.—Firmly believe it would be the greatest bonus that could possibly be given to the foreign manufacturer, cutting off one sixth of the time, of course one sixth of the product.

A. 38.—About 60° in every room, except the dressing of cotton warps for power-looms, which requires 80°; this is always performed by adults solely.

A. 40.—Twenty-five men.

A. 46.



- A. 46.—None.  
 A. 50.—Gas, during winter.  
 A. 51.—Tin ventilators.  
 A. 53.—One hour at dinner; half an hour for breakfast.  
 A. 54.—All at one time.  
 A. 56.—They suit best to leave at one time, as the moving power stops.  
 A. 57 & 58.—Slight correction; do not encourage or wish any of my overlookers to strike children of any age.  
 A. 59.—By overlookers, foremen, parents, and master workmen, who engage children on piece work.  
 A. 61.—Never sanction corporal punishments unless for very base behaviour.  
 A. 63.—They have instructions not to punish young children.  
 A. 64.—Never was called before a magistrate, or complaint made to one of my managers in the whole thirty years; the hands, you will observe, have served me a long number of years.  
 A. 65.—The workpeople live partly in houses of my own, and other houses in the village a great many of the children attend the different Sunday schools established in the village.  
 A. 66.—Very little difference as to the skill of my hands; prefer those that have been brought up with me, which are many, which you will perceive by referring to the Schedule.  
 A. 67.—Do not perceive much change in the general health of my establishment for the last ten years.  
 A. 68.—We make no change.  
 A. 69.—It is, and shall be to any future act.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 73.—There are only two mills in this township, and believe they have conformed to the act.  
 A. 77.—None of my workpeople are afraid of giving evidence, since we work together on good terms.  
 A. 78.—Stop the moving power according to Mr. Hobhouse's bill, and believe it will give most satisfaction to both master and workmen finally.

JOHN RUNINGTON.

Lancashire.

John Runington.

## ANSWERS of REECE BEVAN, Wigan, Lancashire.

No. 232.  
Reece Bevan.

- A. 1.—Wigan, county of Lancashire.  
 A. 2.—Throstle spinning.  
 A. 3.—Erected at twice, about the year 1790, and 1806.  
 A. 4.—Steam-power.  
 A. 5.—Where it is possible, dust-pipes are put.  
 A. 6.—The ventilation depends on the opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—Controlled by any of the workpeople.  
 A. 8.—All the dangerous parts are boxed off.  
 A. 9.—I have not any particular rule in my mill for the hands to wash or change clothes after coming or going from work; but I compel them to have clean pinafores once in a week, and most of them have two on during a week.  
 A. 10.—Nine years; and many have been previously employed either in weaving or in winding for weavers.  
 A. 11.—My spinning does require children under twelve years of age, because the machinery is low, and I cannot give higher wages for the same work, which must follow if older hands be employed.  
 A. 12.—A greater.  
 A. 13.—I do not.  
 A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours on every day but Saturday, and on that day nine hours.  
 A. 19.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 20.—Three hundred and twelve days.  
 A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and seventy-nine hours.  
 A. 22.—They have all been carried on at once.  
 A. 23.—The average of hours is eleven hours and a quarter per day, and seven or eight minutes.  
 A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half.  
 A. 25.—At the request of the workpeople, I have allowed them to have holidays at the fairs, &c., and they have worked the time up, as they did not want to be abated in their wages; I only allowed them to work up half an hour per day over the regular number.  
 A. 26.—I think it will be very hard upon the workpeople to have their wages abated for a few hours lost, and not be allowed to work them up; the profits of the trade are so low at present, that masters cannot afford to give the least time.  
 A. 27.—I have.  
 A. 28.—I do.  
 (APP.—D. 1.)

A. 29.



Lancashire.

Reece Bevan.

A. 29.—That he may be enabled to sell his goods at a less price than his neighbours, his rent and capital being the same.

A. 30.—I do find it cost me more by  $\frac{3}{8}$  per lb. on the yarn, by one hour per day; and if two hours, the increased expence or cost will be  $\frac{5}{8}$  per lb.

A. 31.—I think it would not be possible to get two sets of children, or persons to work only six or seven hours each per day; for their wages would be so little as not to allow them the necessaries of life, and consequently they would have to apply to the overseer of the parish for relief.

A. 33.—I have not.

A. 37.—I think a further reduction of the working hours would be very bad for the work-people as well as the masters; for wages would have to be reduced, and the profits would be so little, that it would be the means of stopping capital being employed in the spinning trade, and would give the Continental spinners a very great advantage over the trade here.

A. 38.—70°; lowest 65°.

A. 39.—70°.

A. 40.—All of them.

A. 46.—No.

A. 52.—I consider night-work to be very injurious, both as regards the health and habits of the persons employed, and ought to be stopped.

A. 53.—The time allowed for meals, is half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 54.—They all leave at one time.

A. 57.—They are discharged or sent home.

A. 58.—No.

A. 63.—My instructions are, to send the children home if they will not do their work without punishment.

A. 64.—They have not.

A. 65.—They do not.

A. 66.—I find, from twenty-five years' experience, that those who are brought into the factory when young are more skilful, have better characters, and make better servants than those who are brought in at a later period of life.

A. 67.—I think that the health of the people of the factory has improved latterly, for there is certainly less sickness in my mill than formerly.

A. 68.—I have no need of making any changes in my mill.

A. 69.—It is.

A. 70.—I have not.

A. 73.—I am sorry to say that some of the mills do not adhere so strictly to the present Factory Bill as they ought; and no steps are taken to enforce it.

A. 77.—I am certain the workpeople do not like to give evidence against their masters; and, in fact, they are always glad to work extra time on account of getting more wages.

A. 78.—I do think that, if the restriction was laid on the moving power and the scale of penalties three times the amount, the present law would be obeyed.

A. 79.—It would be a great improvement if the master spinners were not allowed to employ children under ten years of age, and to limit the moving power; and then Sir J. C. Hobhouse's Bill would do.

REECE BEVAN.

No. 233.

Josh. Rylands.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH RYLANDS, Jun., Wigan.

A. 1.—Parish of Wigan, in the county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Preparing and spinning of cotton; preparing and spinning of flax and tow; bleaching, dying, and manufacturing.

A. 3.—Bleach works, &c., erected prior to 1800; old mill for linen spinning, in 1825; new mill for cotton and linen, in 1830. All have been used for their original purpose.

A. 4.—Steam power, about seventy-horse.

A. 5.—A fan in the roof; a ventilator in the draught of the chimney; several doors, opening outside, in the higher rooms; and casements in the windows.

A. 6.—Partly on windows, doors, and ventilators.

A. 7.—By the overlookers, or any of the hands that think it needful.

A. 8.—Heavy or swift motions are fenced off.

A. 9.—Clothes-rails for hanging up their spare clothes, and a dry-house to dry them if wet.

A. 10.—Nine or ten years; most of them have been employed in winding for weavers, and weaving at their homes many years previous.

A. 11.—Yes; to be waiting for to assist the spinners in doffing their bobbins when full.

A. 12.—Less proportion.

A. 13.—No.

A. 15.—None employed, and lodged and maintained.

A. 17 & 18.—From eight to twelve hours.

A. 19.



- A. 19.—About thirteen, when working up lost time from accidents.  
 A. 20.—About three hundred.  
 A. 21.—I think about three thousand five hundred.  
 A. 22.—All parts pretty regular with each other.  
 A. 23.—About ten to twelve hours.  
 A. 24.—From twelve to thirteen.  
 A. 25.—In case of accidents or holidays.  
 A. 26.—It is generally avoidable, only when accidents happen to some particular part of the works, where the extra labour of a few would save great loss of time to a large number.  
 A. 27.—Formerly from twelve to fourteen hours.  
 A. 28.—Yes; by loss of interest upon the capital, and no use for the gas apparatus fixed up at a great cost.  
 A. 29.—Necessity from smallness of profits.  
 A. 30.—Yes; in spinning, or where a large sum is invested in machinery or apparatus.  
 A. 31.—None; it is desirable, if the necessities of the hands do not compel them to seek some other employment to enable them to live.  
 A. 32.—Change of hands has not been tried, as we have found it to be their wish to work over-time and earn something additional to their regular wages.  
 A. 33.—None employed in the night.  
 A. 37.—It would ruin the needy, and drive the wealthy or independent out of business, likewise starve many of the hands, as reduced time would cause a reduction in wages generally, both in piece and day work.  
 A. 38.—About 60° to 70° of Fahrenheit, and most parts would do well at 50°.  
 A. 39.—Not more than 70°.  
 A. 40.—About three hundred to four hundred.  
 A. 46.—None.  
 A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast; one hour for dinner.  
 A. 54.—Most of them leave.  
 A. 55.—Some few remain for their own convenience, as they may be a mile or more from their homes.  
 A. 56.—None with us, as they are left to their own choice.  
 A. 57.—Threats or small fines.  
 A. 58.—No.  
 A. 62.—Yes; unless desired by the parents in preference to sending them home or fining them.  
 A. 64.—No.  
 A. 65.—Some do; we have erected a school for them.  
 A. 66.—Those who have been longest with us, we find, are the most skilful, steady, and regular.  
 A. 67.—Improved; families increase, and the hands improve in appearance, in habit and clothing. We discourage all idleness, or loss of regular time, by fines.  
 A. 68.—Not unless the hands require it.  
 A. 69.—The cotton mill is.  
 A. 70.—Never.  
 A. 77.—No; the combinations make them independent, insolent, and unreasonable.  
 A. 78.—Restrict the moving power to twelve hours per day, and ten hours on the Saturday.  
 A. 79.—The secret and powerful combinations amongst the workmen are injurious to the trade, the employers, and the employed. We have now a number of men called "flax dressers," who have been off work five or six weeks, walking about without any visible means of support, but what they receive from their combination; and to enforce their own demands have seduced all the youths (who are under indenture of agreement) to leave our employ, have them at this time secreted, and bid defiance to our power, the laws of this land, and all other authority, unless sanctioned by their Union.

JOSHUA RYLANDS, Jun.

Lancashire.

Josh. Rylands, Jun.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM WOODS, Wigan.

No. 234.  
William Woods.

- A. 1.—Borough of Wigan, county of Lancaster.  
 A. 2.—Cotton spinning and weaving by power.  
 A. 3.—Schole's factory, Mrs. Penson's property, built in 1818; Ranson's factory, legatees of Henry Ranson's property, built about 1793; Chapel Street factory, my own, built in 1803; Trencherfield factory, my own, built in 1823.  
 A. 4.—Schole's factory, steam, twenty-four horse power; Ranson's factory, steam, ten horse power; Chapel Street factory, hand; Trencherfield factory, steam, seventy horse power. Regular, except at times of accidents and repairs.  
 A. 6.—On opening of the windows.  
 A. 7.—At the discretion of the employed.  
 A. 8.—Yes.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 X

A. 9.



Lancashire.

William Woods.

A. 9.—Many of the females have cloaks, which they throw off on entering the factories, and have coarse linen aprons to put on at work; there is ready access to water to wash themselves, and there are private necessities.

A. 10.—Nine years; many were previously hand-loom weavers.

A. 11.—Yes, and for these reasons; not more than 2s. 6d. or 3s. per week can be afforded for the work they are qualified for, and in some branches they are more active than older persons.

A. 12 & 13.—No.

A. 15.—Have none that I lodge or maintain.

A. 17.—Twelve hours, except Saturday, which is nine.

A. 18.—Adults and all ages alike.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

A. 20.—Every day, Sundays and New Year's Day excepted.

A. 21.—Cannot say, because there are occasional interruptions from the engines and machinery being out of order.

A. 22.—All alike.

A. 23.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine hours on Saturdays.

A. 24.—Children and adults the same hours. See 19.

A. 25.—After accidents occurring to the steam-engine or machinery.

A. 26.—Might be avoided, but would occasion a deduction from wages.

A. 27 & 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—Interest; for the longer the machinery is worked, the work is done at less expence.

A. 30.—Yes, in all branches.

A. 31.—Have no relays.

A. 32.—The experiment was made ten years ago, but not answering was discontinued.

A. 33.—Never employed any hands during the night.

A. 37.—A successful competition of foreigners; for when twist is extremely low (as in the year 1832) they cease to spin, but when high they recommence working, as I am informed by a highly respectable foreign house in Manchester.

A. 38.—68° usual; 60° lowest.

A. 39.—90°, and that only in the dressing department.

A. 40.—Fourteen.

A. 50.—By gas, in the short days of winter.

A. 53.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, afternoon meal in the factories. Children and adults alike.

A. 54.—Some, for their own convenience, remain in the factories.

A. 57.—By small fines.

A. 58.—Sometimes, I believe, but contrary to my directions.

A. 59.—By overlookers, and sometimes at the request of parents.

A. 62.—Yes, by fining the parties who have inflicted such punishments.

A. 63.—Yes, verbally, that no corporal punishments be inflicted.

A. 64.—Yes, once only, against an overlooker, but no conviction; but I believe no complaint would have been made, had not he discharged the boy.

A. 65.—I do not let houses to my workmen, and none of them live in my house.

A. 66.—Generally those who have commenced working at an early age are more expert than others, and are in no way inferior in morals. I instance these persons in my employment, who have worked in factories from their childhood; viz. James Navin, Nathaniel Walsh, James Woodward, Richard Dickinson, William Rowe, Peter Walsh, Matthew Swift, and John Shaw.

A. 67.—Their health has improved; ten years ago the carding engine and the blowing machine were not covered in, as at present, and the dust thrown off in these parts of the process was inhaled by the workpeople. The whitewashing with lime, the improved ventilation, and the general cleanliness of the factories, must have had a great effect in producing the improvement of their health. I believe not one case of distortion has occurred in any of my factories during the last ten years; which must be attributed to improvements in the machinery.

A. 68.—Occasionally in the dressers' department, because some persons cannot stand the heat required in the process.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Once, thirteen years ago.

A. 78.—No.

A. 79.—No; except that I think the existing laws are sufficient.

WILLIAM WOODS.



Cheshire.

No. 235.  
Critchley,  
Brinsley, & Co.

## ADDENDA.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. CRITCHLEY, BRINSLEY, and Co., Macclesfield,

- A. 1.—Township of Macclesfield, in the county of Chester.
- A. 2.—Silk throwing, and silk manufacturing.
- A. 3.—Two factories; one built about 1812, and the other, a smaller one, in 1825.
- A. 4.—Steam power.
- A. 5.—The only provisions for ventilations are small casements in some of the windows, and movable wood panes in others.
- A. 6.—It, of course, depends on the opening of the windows.
- A. 7.—Generally by the overlooker. If the hands complain of heat (which is very rarely the case), they apply to him.
- A. 8.—Yes, partially; and we are preparing to do it more effectually. No serious accident has taken place in our factories.
- A. 9.—We have no provision for enabling them to change their clothes, nor for washing; the occupation is a very clean one, and does not require it. The male part of the hands wear great coats, and the female part cloaks (when they can afford to buy them), which they put off when they enter the factories, and resume on leaving them.
- A. 10.—Six years of age is the lowest, and very few of that age. They have not been employed at any other trades before.
- A. 11.—The labour in silk mills is so light, that a considerable proportion of the hands are generally under twelve; this applies to one process, winding; the other processes require the hands to be older.
- A. 12.—No alteration in machinery has been made to supersede, in any degree, the labour of children.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 15.—It is impossible to ascertain this amongst so many. We do not lodge or maintain any.
- A. 17.—This depends upon the state of the trade, which has undergone so many fluctuations of late years, that it would be difficult to arrive at an average. Persons of twenty-one years and upwards are, at this time, employed thirteen hours daily, subject to twenty minutes rest for breakfast, and twenty minutes for tea in the afternoon, which are included in the thirteen hours. Six months ago, from circumstances, they were only employed eight hours a day. By short time is meant eleven hours a day; or, say from six in the morning until twelve, with the twenty minutes rest for breakfast, and from one in the afternoon until six. By over hours is meant the addition of two hours to the afternoon portion of the day, or from one till eight, including the twenty minutes rest for tea.
- A. 19.—Thirteen hours; as more particularly specified in the Answer to the 17th and 18th Questions.
- A. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25.—It is almost impossible to answer these questions satisfactorily. The hours of working have been, in that time, eight hours, eleven hours, and thirteen hours daily, depending upon circumstances; in no case more than thirteen hours, except when the works have been suspended by accidents to the machinery; and then the lost time has been worked up by working half an hour more daily, never more. We may divide the children and young persons into three classes: the first class work from eight till twelve, and from one till six; the second from six till twelve, and from one till six; the third class from six till twelve, and from one till eight. It is optional with the parents of the children and young persons to which of these classes they belong. A quarter of an hour is allowed to the hands in coming to their work at six and one o'clock. The actual hours of working (after deducting the time for refreshment and at coming in) of the three classes are as follows: first class, eight hours and thirty minutes; second class, ten hours and ten minutes; third class, eleven hours and fifty minutes. The over hours only apply to five days in the week; on Saturday, no portion of the hands work more than eleven hours.
- A. 26.—Accidents which occasion suspension of the works are unavoidable. If the lost time is not considerable, it is worked up as above described; if considerable, the hands lose their wages, and the master suffers the loss necessarily resulting from his works standing.
- A. 27.—No.
- A. 28.—It is obvious that any reduction in the hours of working must enhance cost, because the fixed capital and expences, rates, taxes, &c. will be the same, and the quantity of work done less.
- A. 29.—To lessen the cost is the only inducement. The silk trade has not been the subject of parliamentary regulation.
- A. 31.—When the trade is at all active, there would not be found enough of children for such a purpose. Under such a system, the earnings of each child would, of course, only be one half; if more, it would tend, in addition, to increase cost.

(APP.—D. 1.)

A. 32.



Cheshire.

Critchley,  
Brinsley, & Co.

A. 32.—No.

A. 33.—Night working is not usual in the silk trade of this district. We have never employed a night set of hands.

A. 37.—If a reduction of wages is made commensurate with the reduction in time, the working classes will suffer to an alarming extent; if no such reduction of wages take place, an enhanced cost must result, a larger importation of foreign thrown silk will follow, and, ultimately, loss of employment to the working classes; the hands employed in silk mills have at different times, particularly in 1826, 1829, 1831, and 1832, suffered great distress.

A. 38.—The result of a thermometrical table of observations kept by an overlooker in one of the rooms of our factory heated by steam, for fourteen days in April, and nine days in May last, gave 56° at seven o'clock in the morning, 58° at eleven, and 60° at six o'clock in the evening.

A. 39.—No particular heat is required; the heat is adjusted to the feelings and wishes of the hands; if they complain of cold, more steam is admitted into the pipes, if of heat, the steam is altogether taken out of them.

A. 41.—Never.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—No other provision than the casements, and movable wood panes, mentioned in Answer 5.

A. 53.—Twenty minutes for breakfast, one hour and a quarter for dinner, and for those that work over hours, twenty minutes for tea.

A. 54.—They all leave for dinner; the other meals are taken in the factories.

A. 56.—There would not be time for the persons employed to go to and from their own houses for their breakfast and tea; the dinner is taken out of the manufactory.

A. 57 &amp; 58.—If the children neglect, they are reprov'd, occasionally slightly punished, with a small strap, or light cane, or birch rod, and if incorrigible, discharged; sometimes a badge of idleness is suspended to them. On the whole we should say that the means of enforcing obedience are the same as are resorted to in schools for children. Corporal punishment is rarely had recourse to.

A. 59.—By overlookers.

A. 63.—We have given no particular instructions on this head, except to use moderation in any punishment which may be found necessary; we think this matter safely left to the overlookers, who are generally fathers of families working in factories.

A. 64.—We do not believe that during the last ten years there have been more than three complaints made to us against the overlookers by the parents or guardians of children; only one within the last three years. No complaint has ever been made before the magistrates against our firm.

A. 65.—They live in their own houses; the provision for education by means of Sunday schools is very ample in this town, and accessible to all.

A. 66.—Generally speaking, those employed from infancy are more expert than those who have begun to work at a later period.

A. 67.—We believe that the health of the people of the factory has improved within the time specified; certainly it has not deteriorated.

A. 68.—We are not aware of any injurious effects attending any particular processes.

A. 78.—We do not apprehend the employment of children and young persons in our factories has led to any practical grievance; the labour is light, and the duration of it adapted to the age and strength of the persons employed, and the temperature regulated by their wishes. There are no offensive smells, nor is there any thing in the nature of the employment to render it injurious to health. Believing that considerations of humanity do not require any alteration, we cannot avoid adding, that any measure which would increase the cost of production in a trade so peculiarly circumstanced as our own, must produce effects very injurious both to master and workmen. See Answer to No. 37.

CRITCHLEY, BRINSLEY &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH WATERS, Macclesfield.

No. 236.

Joseph Waters.

A. 1.—Borough of Macclesfield, in the county of Chester.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning, and power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The works consist of two separate buildings; one was erected about the year 1807, for cotton spinning, and the other in 1823, for power-loom weaving.

A. 4.—Steam power only.

A. 5 &amp; 6.—In our blowing and card room, we have a fan or ventilator, worked by the engine; this has a great tendency to draw the dust from every part of the room, and force it through a flue into the open air. In the same room we have another contrivance to clean it from dust; this consists of a wood box or trunk, fourteen inches square, and placed upright, the lower end being even with the ceiling of the card-room, and the other end passing upwards through two other rooms into the attics; through this trunk there is constantly a brisk current of air passing upwards into the attics; we find a great benefit from this.

A. 7.—The ventilation by opening of windows is regulated by the workpeople generally.

A. 8.



Cheshire.

*Joseph Walters.*

A. 8.—All that we consider dangerous are fenced off.

A. 9.—No particular arrangements are made for these purposes except a supply of clean water in the yard, to which all have access.

A. 10.—Nine years is the lowest age at which we employ children; some of them have been employed at the silk previously.

A. 11.—We have a few situations that are best suited for children, because of the smallness and suppleness of their fingers.

A. 12.—I think we can do with as few children under twelve years now as we could nineteen years since.

A. 13.—No.

A. 14 & 15.—None.

A. 16.—No children of this description.

A. 17.—Twelve hours and a half for those weavers that are upwards of eighteen years of age.

A. 18.—All young persons under eighteen years of age are employed twelve hours, and nine hours on the Saturday.

A. 19.—A part of the works have been kept on fourteen hours for a few days.

A. 20.—Three hundred and eleven days.

A. 21.—Three thousand seven hundred and six hours.

A. 22.—No difference.

A. 23.—Monday to Friday twelve hours and a half each day, Saturday nine hours.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—On the 29th August we were flooded and lost nine hours, and we worked it up the following days at an hour each day.

A. 26.—It is avoidable if the workpeople are agreeable to lose their time.

A. 27.—Not since the Act for regulating Cotton Factories came into operation.

A. 28.—Not tried.

A. 29.—I know of no factories conducted on this system.

A. 30.—Not tried.

A. 31.—Know of no manufactory of this description.

A. 33.—Employ no night-hands.

A. 36.—No night-work.

A. 37.—With regard to our manufactory, the case would stand thus; whether we work twelve or ten hours per day, we must pay the same rent; then there is church, poor, police, and highway rates, together 10s. in the pound; these likewise must be paid; when these, together with wages and other unavoidable expences, have been paid, we have had nothing left for the interest of our capital for several years.

A. 38.—Nearly the whole of our manufactory requires no more heat than is necessary for the comfort of the workpeople.

A. 39.—I believe 80° to 90° is sufficiently high; the men have the entire regulation of the heat.

A. 40.—Five men.

A. 46.—No.

A. 47.—No work of this description.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner is allowed.

A. 54.—All are at liberty to leave.

A. 55.—We work the steam-engine the breakfast half hour five days in the week, chiefly for the convenience of the dressers and those weavers that are upwards of eighteen years of age.

A. 56.—In summer the inconvenience to the manufactory would be none, and in winter the only loss would be the day-light lost by any additional stoppages.

A. 57.—Chiefly fines for misconduct, and premiums or bounty for diligence.

A. 58.—On boys occasionally.

A. 59.—By overlookers and parents only.

A. 60.—I do not recollect any case of this description.

A. 61.—I have sometimes heard of boys being punished, but generally I have been informed by the overlookers.

A. 62.—I have forbidden all corporal punishment, except it be inflicted by an overlooker or parent, and by the latter only when they request it.

A. 63.—I have given no written instructions to our overlookers, but I frequently give them verbal directions for their conduct in this respect, and that is, that they endeavour to treat all children placed under their care the same as if they were their own, and should they meet with any that cannot be managed with moderate correction, to send them home to their parents.

A. 64.—During the nineteen years that I have carried on our manufactory in this borough I do not recollect any instance of a complaint being made to the magistrates either against me or any of our overlookers.

A. 65.—We have eight or ten families living in houses which we leased with the old factory; we exercise no superintendence farther than to require them to keep their houses clean and orderly.

A. 66.—In general those who begin early are the most expert.

A. 67.—I think the health of our workpeople has been much the same the last ten years as at any former period.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 Y

A. 68.



Cheshire.

*Joseph Walters.*

A. 68.—In general we leave the choice of employment to the parents, but we recommend weaving to girls, because by placing them in that department we can keep them better separated from the other sex. Weaving is considered more cleanly than spinning, but we have less sickness in the spinning than the weaving departments.

A. 69.—Ours being a cotton-mill, we of course are subject to the provisions of the Act.

A. 73.—So far as I know, the mills in this town strictly conform to the provisions of the Act.

A. 74.—Have not heard of any.

A. 75.—Some years since we heard of one concern being fined.

A. 76.—I heard of no difficulty in obtaining evidence.

A. 77.—No.

JOSEPH WALTERS.

No. 237.

*Fernleys & Wilson.*

ANSWERS of Messrs. FERNLEYS &amp; WILSON, New Bridge Lane Mill, Stockport.

A. 1.—New Bridge Lane Mill, in the township and parish of Stockport and county of Chester.

A. 2.—Mule-spinning and throstle-spinning, including the preparation processes of blowing, carding, &c. necessary thereto.

A. 3.—Works erected at one time, viz. 1791 and 1792, for the purpose of a cotton factory as at present.

A. 4.—Water-power, to which is united a steam-engine, worked in cases of necessity occasioned by want of water, damage of water-wheel, &c. The degrees of irregularity are altogether uncertain to us, owing to these circumstances, together with the occasional use of the wheel by the proprietors for pumping water, in which case they work the steam-engine for us. The power we usually require is about thirty-horses.

A. 5.—Sliding sashes in the transom or leaded windows, and in some of the sash windows which have iron framing we have two casement panes, and in some only one, the nature and effects of which are to discharge foul air, and to receive pure air by the current which passes through the rooms.

A. 6.—On the opening of the windows and casements.

A. 7.—Controlled at the discretion of any of the persons employed.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—Any of the workpeople change their clothing on entering and leaving their work at pleasure; some do not use a change at all. We prefer them to change, and therefore encourage it. Some put their clean clothes on pegs in the rooms for that purpose, and some into boxes. They are allowed to wash before going out, but we do not insist upon it; they have access to plenty of water.

A. 10.—Nine years; we observe the Act of Parliament.

A. 11.—Yes; because in cleaning some of the machinery, which is essential to its working as it ought, they are at the age of from nine years and upwards better capable of getting to its various parts underneath, and therefore with less danger.

A. 12.—We think less in the species of machinery used most by us.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—Some twelve hours, and some upwards of twelve hours, varying according to the requirements of their work, and to its state of forwardness or neglect, as the case may be, by their own attention or otherwise.

A. 18.—The answer to No. 17. is our answer to this question, except in its application to those who are under eighteen years of age, who work the hours stipulated by the Act of Parliament, viz. twelve hours each day, and nine hours on the Saturday.

A. 19.—Fourteen and a half hours, on which occasion only the carding-engines worked during the dinner hour, and the other extra time to enable us to supply the other parts of the works with a sufficiency; and at which time no persons under the age stipulated by Act of Parliament were allowed to work, and not more than six of such as were of full age.

A. 20 & 21.—The occasional variations in the time actually worked by our workpeople during the last year have been such that the most clear and definite answer we are able to give is, that those employed in the card-room have lost two days and a half during the year, the throstle-spinners eight days, and the mule-spinners more than that, but as they are piece-work hands we never keep their time particularly.

A. 22.—The answer given to Nos. 19, 20, & 21 comprehend our answer to this question mainly, to which we beg leave to add, that on a few occasions when part of our works have had to stop for supply from other parts we have not particularized those occasions in our notices, so as now to be able definitively to state them.

A. 23.—Our answers to No. 17 to 22 will, in consequence of the variations we are occasionally subject to, include all we can say to this question.

A. 24.—Twelve hours and a half, which extra half an hour was for lost time; but the lost time mentioned in Nos. 20 & 21 is dead loss.

A. 25.—Mostly for casual break-downs in the main gearing.

A. 26.—Not avoidable without serious loss to us, to omit the mention of profit by business; if we do not work the time up that may be lost, we lose 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per day for rent and turning. On the May and October fair-days our workpeople will leave their work,

also



also at some of the neighbouring wakes, whether we please or not, and we have no means of escaping accidents in the main shafting or gearing.

A. 27.—No; we only begun the business of cotton-spinning in April 1828.

A. 28.—In our particular case the answer to this question is nullified by the answer given to No. 27.

A. 29.—The manufacturer who works his mill more than the regular hours may have an inducement to do so from pressing demand for his production, owing to its scarcity, quality, &c.; but we suppose this to be uncommon, and the principal reasons for over-working to be rather in general reducible to self-interest where it exists as a common practice, since by so doing he saves something in rent, or perhaps in rent and turning, if he happen to have good water-power at command, either charged or calculated; and of course, if his business be profitable, the more he throws over the larger are his profits.

A. 30.—The alteration in the time of working made by the present Bill has not so much affected us as it might do others who, prior to its existence, worked so much longer hours; but if from the present rate of hours another reduction takes place, the loss of rent and turning to us upon the quantity less produced, together with the rate of wages at which we shall then have to pay our workpeople, will decide the increase in the cost of our production, and it will affect all the branches of our business equally, we conceive.

A. 31 to 35.—We do not work in the night, and therefore presume that we are not required to give any answer to these questions.

A. 37.—Not being able to express at length our opinion in answer to this question, we avail ourselves of the permission to do so upon a separate sheet. We offer a two-fold application of it. First, if restricted to young persons only, say under twenty-one years of age, we consider its effects likely to be,—1. A less constant employment of them, and therefore a more pauperized population arising out of it. The parents of the unemployed will become more troublesome to their parishes, many of whom, by the removal of their poor to manufacturing districts, have been relieved from the burden of them altogether, but must, in the event of a further restriction of the hours of labour, have increased demands for relief made upon them if the mill-owners exclude from their employment all young persons, giving preference to those who are of age legally to work the usual hours. 2. Demoralization of juvenile character. We do not know of any thing that increases this more than idleness, and find always that we can much more safely depend for moral honesty and industry upon such workpeople as have been in regular employment than upon those who have been accustomed to saunter away their time in association with triflers like themselves; and we feel convinced that the bulk of the delinquents who fill our assize calendars are not of those who are well employed in manufacturing establishments, but are those in general who will not work. The increase of beer-shops, whose tendency is to afford facilities for the spread of moral evil, which before did not exist, together with the licentious, unrestricted public press, which teems with a species of literature that ought to be prudently and carefully withheld from the young, will, we fear, give a direction ultimately to their mature character which ought rather to be dreaded than otherwise. At the beer-shops they learn to squander their money, and from the productions of a very great proportion of the issues from the public press they learn to be disloyal to the government under which they live, insubordinate to their employers, disobedient to their parents, and evil-disposed in the general tenor of their conduct. This, we think, is evident to us even from the present appearances of things, in which every gradation of authority exercised in the general procedure of those whose province it is to govern is menaced as it never was before, and receives an indirect sanction at least from occasional parliamentary speeches, which are celebrated for their professed intentions only to secure the public good. Secondly, if the hours of labour be shortened for all, young and of mature age, we consider that every evil alluded to in the foregoing remarks will be likely to abound much more, and are of opinion that the sources last named have created much more real mischief and suffering in a given time, and over a given surface of country, than all the factories within the same boundary put together; and therefore the miseries of the working classes are unjustly laid upon those who (according to the averages recently taken in this town) give to their workpeople good work and good wages. The giving a bonus to foreigners, which more restricted hours of labour will do proportionably to its extent, and thereby enabling them more easily to rival our productions in cheapness, will, we fear, injure our foreign commerce, which therefore requires attentive consideration, since it cannot be a matter of trifling importance to raise them and depress ourselves. And when it is considered that the cost of clothing will probably be enhanced, that the labouring classes will be less able to procure changes of clothing than they now are, that the home-trader in almost every article of consumption is affected (for we remember that the mule-spinners turn-out in our town in 1829 affected the shopkeepers very much), that less of the capital of the country will be in circulation, that its national revenue will have to be raised by the agricultural interest in proportion as its commercial interest suffers, these consequences we think should be noticed, in connexion with the reduction of the hours of labour in manufacturing establishments, before any serious alteration is attempted.

A. 38.—About sixty to sixty-five degrees, excepting when by the heat of the weather in the summer months it is increased by the natural temperature; sixty is the lowest degree we can well do with.

A. 40.—We have no process that absolutely requires more than sixty-five degrees.

A. 41, 42, 43, 44, & 45.—None.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 Y 2

A. 46.

Cheshire.

Fernleys & Wilson.



Cheshire.

*Fernleys & Wilson.*

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—During the parts of the year when we light up in the morning and evening we use gas.

A. 51.—Same as the day.

A. 52.—We do not work during the night.

A. 53.—We are governed by the Act of Parliament. Our usual fixed times are from eight o'clock to half past eight for breakfast, from twelve to one o'clock for dinner, and from four to half past four o'clock for the afternoon meal.

A. 54.—We require all the persons under eighteen years of age to leave their work during the meal-times; part of the other workpeople do so, and part do not, as their work is forward or otherwise, as the case may be.

A. 55.—Many, as a matter of convenience to themselves, living at a distance, bring all or part of their meals, and many have them sent to the works, to enable them to lose less time, do more work, and get more money, and by doing so accommodate both their employers and themselves.

A. 56.—It would lose us one hour's work per day in carding, and an hour's work in some of our spinning, and would proportionably increase the cost of yarn produced.

A. 57.—Our regular means are, after suitable admonition has been frequently disregarded, to turn them out of our employment, and get fresh hands.

A. 58.—Occasionally, but we allow no extreme flogging.

A. 59.—By ourselves, when ever done at all.

A. 62.—We do not allow it to be done by any workpeople, and when we have done it ourselves it has only been in the way of securing attention to duty when any parts of the works have been stopped by wilful negligence, or mischief has been done by vile and improper conduct; and in such cases we have done it very sparingly, for our rule, stated in A. 57, is our ordinary means.

A. 63.—Not statedly or formally, excepting just stating to them in a casual way, when at any time we may have had occasion to converse freely with them on the subject of discipline, that we generally think that if workpeople will not do without coercion they will not suit our purpose at all.

A. 64.—Never; we never inflicted a punishment that we have any reason to think would be cognizable by a magistrate.

A. 65.—None of our workpeople do; we have no houses. As to their moral improvement, we endeavour to set them example by acting on correct moral principle, and occasionally reminding them of its propriety. They bring books and tracts from their Sunday-school and other libraries in the town, and we do not oppose their use at the works at proper times.

A. 66.—Not having been in business long enough to bring up workpeople from their youth, the answer we should give to this question would not be founded upon our own experience as masters; but from facts which are to us demonstrative we are fully convinced that those who have been employed at the business from children are decidedly better and more expert than those who have begun to learn at mature age.

A. 67.—Having been in business so short a time, five years, we cannot, from any observations we have been led to make, give any answer at all suitable to this question. We cannot observe any difference, on the whole, in our establishment; we have had but little sickness.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—We were informed against under the Act of 42 Geo. 3. for not making entry of our works in the book kept by the clerk of the peace for the county at the Epiphany sessions, but the information was rendered nugatory in consequence of our entry being made before the sessions closed, and therefore the magistrates could not convict.

A. 71.—No.

A. 73.—We know nothing to the contrary. We consider the common informers are sufficiently watchful to detect any fault of this kind, but we are not able to say any thing strictly about our neighbours.

A. 75.—We have not been present at any trial but the one alluded to in A. 70.

A. 76.—The evidence brought in support of the charge in A. 70 was apparently very easily obtained, and as maliciously contrived and given, we thought.

A. 77.—Ours are not, so far as we know; but we cannot tell that, in their case, it has ever been tested. We are aware that workpeople have it in their power frequently to contrive to have the law broken unknown to their masters, and afterwards to give information against them.

A. 78.—We think that the workpeople breaking the law ought to be subject to a penalty as well as the masters.

A. 79.—On the subject of the present inquiry, viewing it as emanating from the laudable design of doing good to the laborious classes, we feel it our duty to express our obligations in being invited and allowed to make our observations, in connexion with others engaged in the same line of business to whom the affair more particularly refers. We think that the sufferings of the industrious poor do not, so far as we have been able to extend our observations, arise so much out of the factory system (and particularly if we regard the amount of their weekly earnings, which it is fair should be considered as the means of procuring the necessaries of life,) as they do from the want of that domestic economy which,



when exercised as it ought, will enable them, when reaping the reward of their daily labour which is given generally in our town, to provide not only the necessities but also the luxuries of life in many instances. We therefore deplore, that while there appears to us an abundance of employment and suitable remuneration for it in our own neighbourhood generally, that we should have to express it as our opinion that but for the improvidence of the working classes we should scarcely know what pauperism is; and that if the profits realized by the beer-shops and spirit-vaults of our town during the last two or three years could be accurately estimated, only upon that part which has been uselessly and to themselves detrimentally spent by the working classes, it would furnish an amount very far approaching towards the whole charge of our parochial poor's rate for the same period. From these considerations we infer the necessity rather of suitable means to lead the labouring classes to the best manner of employing the fruits of their industry than to stagnate or injure in any way the sources of it; and we heartily rejoice in witnessing the establishment of savings banks and every other institution which in its operations really benefits them, and think that well selected libraries of proper books, judiciously managed, might be rendered very serviceable, and prevent that injurious tendency which arises both to their minds and to their habits and circumstances from some of the abominable publications issued unsparingly in the present day. We think His Majesty's Commission of Inquiry is right; and although we presume not to expect that its results will be the finding of no objectionable things in the manufactories that may be examined, we are steadily of opinion that many of those who are opposed to it, if we may judge from the sentiments of their placards posted on the walls of our town, are more afraid of a fair examination into the truth of their past statements than the master cotton-spinners are of the full and minute investigation of the factory system that may be given by the Honourable His Majesty's Commissioners, together with the seventy-nine questions submitted for their answer. With the policy of farther legislative interference between workpeople and their employers we think it would be improper in us to attempt to meddle, and that therefore the line of conduct adopted by us ought and shall be in obedience to the Government under which we live, whose proceedings we doubt not will be in accordance with what appears to them the best and soundest policy. Apologizing therefore for the very imperfect manner in which only we are able to enter into the subject, and for any thing which to the views of the Honourable His Majesty's Commissioners may seem out of place or intrusive, we beg leave to subscribe ourselves with respectful deference,

Their Honours

most obedient, humble servants,

FERNLEYS & WILSON.

Cheshire.

*Fernleys & Wilson.*

#### ANSWERS of SAMUEL GREG, Styall, Wilmslow.

No. 238.

*Samuel Greg.*

A. 1.—Styall, parish of Wilmslow, Cheshire.

A. 2.—Throstle-spinning coarse twist.

A. 3.—In 1784, 1800, and 1818.

A. 4.—Water, ninety-horse power; stream irregular, occasionally a day or day and a half lost by floods. In dry seasons, for some weeks, only three quarters of daily work done. In ordinary seasons, a few hours lost daily for two or three weeks.

A. 5.—In scutching (cleaning the cotton), the dust and flock is carried off through flues by means of powerful fans, leaving the room perfectly free from inconvenience.

A. 6.—Yes; every window opening at the top.

A. 7.—By the overlookers.

A. 8.—Yes.

A. 9.—No dressing-rooms. They seldom change other than their cloaks, shawls, and bonnets; these they hang up on pegs within the rooms. Many put on white pinafores or aprons, and have slippers to work in. All are required to come clean. Can wash their hands. It is a clean employment.

A. 10.—Nine years. Some few have assisted weavers.

A. 11.—No; but unless they begin early, they seldom acquire the necessary tact. Quickness, cleanliness, and attention are the requisites. No bodily labour enters into the employment.

A. 12.—No difference.

A. 13.—Yes; usually from seventy to eighty.

A. 14.—Mostly from the Liverpool poor-house. A few from the neighbouring parishes.

A. 15.—Some are orphans. Are visited by the overseers and parents, generally once a year, from Liverpool.

A. 16.—A very respectable man and his wife reside in the same house, and superintend their general conduct. Their education is attended to by our own family, and their welfare, in all respects, as far as is possible.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 Y 3

A. 17.



Cheshire.

Samuel Greg.

A. 17.—Twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturday; or sixty-nine hours weekly for all ages.

A. 18.—Sixty-nine hours weekly for all ages. Only sixty-eight were actually worked.

A. 19.—Twelve hours and forty-eight minutes. Making up time lost by floods and scarcity of water.

A. 20.—Three hundred and ten days and a half.

A. 21.—Three thousand five hundred and forty-one hours during the last year, March 1832 to March 1833.

A. 22.—All begin and stop together.

A. 23.—Eleven hours and twenty minutes.

A. 24.—Have one set only.

A. 25.—Making up time lost by floods, deficiency of water, and repairs of millwright work.

A. 26.—Not avoidable where the moving power is uncertain, as is water. And if water-mills are to maintain a competition with other mills, provision must be made, allowing the time lost from floods, occasional deficiency of water, and repairs, to be made up. Any legislation, bearing hard on water mills, will entirely ruin an immense property. These mills, being generally situated in country places, merit peculiar protection, in consequence of the superior health, comfort, and good manners of the people.

A. 27.—Formerly seventy-four hours. Under the Act of 1825, seventy-two hours; and under the present Act, sixty-nine hours.

A. 28.—Yes.

A. 29.—To reduce the expence, by obtaining a greater produce.

A. 30.—Yes. Reduction of work done in our business will be equivalent to any reduction of time, depending almost wholly on machinery, not on bodily labour.

A. 31.—Deficiency of population, or the consequent expence.

A. 32.—Not by us. Population inadequate.

A. 33.—No.

A. 36.—Generally considered desirable, as night-working is accounted injurious to health and morals of the people. No practical experience.

A. 38.—From 64° to 70°; 64° quite sufficient.

A. 39.—No particular degree of heat required.

A. 40.—We have no such process.

A. 46.—No.

A. 50.—By Argand lamps.

A. 51.—Same as by day.

A. 52.—Do not work in the night.

A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner.

A. 54.—Some do not, living at one mile and a half distance.

A. 55.—For their convenience.

A. 56.—Mischievous; exposing many to the inclemency of the weather.

A. 57.—Barely beyond a box on the ear, to call attention.

A. 58.—Never.

A. 65.—Many do; and for their use there is a chapel, infant-school, day-school, and Sunday-school attached, with masters and mistresses.

A. 66.—Very great. More expert, cleaner, more regular and orderly.

A. 67.—Health good; and have not remarked any change since the time was reduced from seventy-four hours. By the evidence of the sick-club books, the sick are 2.16 per cent., and the deaths one in one hundred and fifty; and among the apprentices, one in one hundred and twenty. The sick-club is maintained by the payment of  $\frac{1}{8}d.$  in the shilling upon each person's wages; and the allowance for the sick is half the amount of their wages for twelve weeks; and allowance for burials is, for a child 3*l.*, for an adult 5*l.*, and for the head of a family 8*l.* This has been found adequate.

A. 68 & 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—Never.

A. 73.—There is but one, and that not regularly at work.

A. 77.—Think not.

A. 78.—Where the law is reasonable and practicable, almost all are disposed to obey it; if otherwise, from necessity, they are compelled to evade or disregard it.

SAMUEL GREG.



## DERBYSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of J. H. S. PEET, St. Alkmund's Derby.

Derbyshire.

No. 239.

*J. H. S. Peet.*

- A. 1.—St. Alkmund's parish, Derby.
- A. 2.—Weaving ribbons, galloons, and doubles.
- A. 3.—All erected at the same time, nine years ago.
- A. 4.—Steam.
- A. 5.—The lower rooms are ventilated by the windows, and likewise open to the staircase; the upper rooms by slides, doors in the floor above into the roof, in addition to the windows.
- A. 6.—Depends upon the opening of the windows and slides in part, but is constantly ventilated by the staircase.
- A. 7.—Partly by the workpeople themselves, and partly by the overlooker.
- A. 8.—All are fenced off that are considered dangerous.
- A. 9.—No arrangements respecting a change of clothes. Water is provided to wash themselves when necessary.
- A. 10.—Eight years of age, but are employed by the workpeople, and are their own children.
- A. 11.—No.
- A. 12.—Not as respects ourselves.
- A. 13.—No.
- A. 17.—Eleven hours at most, after deducting meal-times, for in the morning fifteen minutes grace is allowed, the same at dinner, and half that time at breakfast and tea; therefore we do not work more than ten and a quarter or ten and a half hours.
- A. 18.—All work the same time in our manufactory, both under and above twenty-one.
- A. 19.—Eleven hours.
- A. 20.—Say two hundred and ninety-four days, when holidays are taken off, and time lost in repairing the steam-engine.
- A. 21.—We have never kept a correct account, but never more than eleven hours per day.
- A. 22.—All parts begin and leave off at the same time.
- A. 23.—All days are alike, excepting Saturday, when we stop the engine one hour sooner in summer, and from one to two hours sooner in the winter.
- A. 24.—Eleven hours.
- A. 25.—At no time.
- A. 26.—We never tried it, and are very unwilling to do so.
- A. 27.—Never.
- A. 29.—The large capital invested and the extreme small profit may induce some manufacturers to adopt the plan of extra hours, or even through the night; but we consider it seldom to much advantage when worked by steam; there is more inducement when worked by water.
- A. 30.—We have never tried a greater number of hours to work.
- A. 31.—We consider the objection in our business would be very great, for in that case there would want two sets of overlookers, to which there is a decided objection; and the workpeople being paid by the piece, it would take several hours between each relay of hands to measure the quantity of work done before the other could commence, and would give rise to constant disputes.
- A. 32.—We have never tried it.
- A. 33.—No.
- A. 34.—We consider it not our interest to do so.
- A. 35.—We never employ night-hands.
- A. 36.—We are not aware that any manufacturer in our business employs night-hands.
- A. 37.—To reduce the working hours to less than the number stated would be attended with bad consequences without at the same time the obnoxious corn laws were done away with, for without that the working class would have less money to purchase food with, but by doing away with that unjust monopoly some reduction in the hours of labour might take place.
- A. 38.—About fifty-five or sixty in winter, and sixty to seventy-five in summer, only sufficient to keep the people warm.
- A. 50.—With gas.
- A. 51.—The same as by day, as stated before.
- A. 52.—Do not know, for never had any.
- A. 53.—Half an hour for breakfast, with ten minutes grace; one hour dinner, with fifteen minutes grace; and half an hour tea, with ten minutes grace.
- A. 54.—All leave at dinner by compulsion; at breakfast and tea some few of the grown-up people stay in the factory for their own convenience.
- A. 55.—Those that do not leave the factory stay from choice, and to suit themselves.
- A. 56.—We consider it much better for all meals to be taken out of the factory, being more conducive to health by going backwards and forwards in the open air.
- A. 57.—Scolding them and reporting them to their employer.
- A. 59.—By no one.
- A. 60.—Not to our knowledge.
- A. 62.—Yes, at all times.
- (App.—D. 1.)



Derby.

J. H. S. Peet.

A. 63.—The instructions have been, not to inflict punishment, but if idle turn them away.

A. 64.—None.

A. 65.—None of them live in houses of their employers, excepting the overlookers.

A. 66.—Those that commence at an early period of life generally make greater proficient and better workmen than those who learn later in life.

A. 67.—We are not aware that there is any difference in the general health during last year compared with any former years, and we consider there is no more sickness than there was nine years ago.

A. 68.—None, as we consider no part of it is injurious to health more than the same confinement in any other business.

A. 69.—We consider not.

A. 73.—We know nothing of what other mills do in that respect.

A. 77.—Should think they are not afraid of offending their employers by giving evidence by any means.

A. 78.—We would beg to state that the hours of labour for children cannot be lessened without causing a greater evil.

A. 79.—Give them cheaper bread, by abolishing the present corn laws, so that they can obtain their present food for less money; then the hours of labour may be lessened; but lessening their labour and pinching their bellies would be legislation of the worst description.

J. H. S. PEET.

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### LANCASHIRE.

Lancashire.

ANSWERS of ROBERT LUND, for James Lund and Nephew, Blackburn.

A. 1.—Blackburn, Lancashire.

A. 2.—Cotton spinning and weaving by power.

A. 3.—The oldest part of our present works was erected in 1775; large additions have been made to it in 1816, 1818, and 1822.

A. 4.—Our power consists of two steam-engines of thirty-five and fifteen horse power.

A. 5.—Our only method of ventilation consists in opening the windows, all of which are provided with slide sashes or casements for that purpose.

A. 6.—Entirely.

A. 7.—The ventilation is principally directed by the workpeople themselves, although it frequently requires the especial authority of the overlookers to induce them to allow the rooms to be kept at a regular temperature.

A. 8.—Sufficiently so.

A. 9.—Almost all the persons we employ reside in the immediate neighbourhood of the factory, and consequently any particular arrangements to enforce cleanliness in the works are unnecessary; we have sometimes occasion to send children home to wash themselves. Many of them employed in the rooms most subject to dust change their clothes on coming into and leaving the factory.

A. 10.—We employ no children under nine years of age, and very few are admitted who have been previously employed at other trades.

A. 11.—Certainly not; and with reference to our own convenience, we should greatly prefer having no children in our works under that age. The greatest evil, we conceive, which would arise from the age of admission being restricted to twelve in so dense a population as ours, would be the difficulty the poorer families depending for subsistence on factory labour would experience in finding employment for their younger children, or supporting them without employment.

A. 12.—We are not aware of any difference in this respect.

A. 13.—No.

A. 17.—The usual and regular number of working hours for all we employ is twelve.

A. 20.—Two hundred and ninety-three days and a quarter.

A. 22.—We have kept no particular account of the working hours during which each separate part of our manufactory has been carried on.

A. 23.—Eleven and a half.

A. 24.—Thirteen.

A. 25.—To make up for time lost by stoppages of the steam-engines, breaking of the mill-work, &c.

A. 26.—Of course it would be a direct loss, both to us and the workpeople, if we did not avail ourselves of the legal provision for working to make up for time lost by stoppages.

A. 27.—No.

A. 29.—To realize the greatest possible profit from the capital employed.

A. 30.—Every limitation of the hours of work, being a restriction on the full and free use of capital, has a direct tendency to increase the cost of production; local taxation and many heavy expences incurred in a cotton factory are the same for a lesser as for a greater



greater number of working hours, though the exact proportion which the cost of production may bear to the number of working hours we are not prepared to state.

A. 31.—The difficulty of making two persons responsible for work off the same machine.

A. 32.—With respect to the additional one hour per day for working time lost by stoppages, for the few days allowed by the present law, we consider it perfectly unnecessary to employ two sets of hands; in factories worked day and night we believe it is usual to employ two sets.

A. 33.—Never.

A. 37.—Any further reduction in the working hours must operate as a direct tax on the owners and occupiers of cotton factories. The apparent diminution of profits from any serious reduction would be only about one third of the actual loss sustained, various heavy expences would remain as before, and the remuneration from sunk and floating capital would be proportionably diminished. The foreigner, fettered by no restrictions, and possessing many advantages not attainable by us, would be able to compete with us in our own markets; an impetus would thus be given to the improvement of foreign machinery (which has already attained a fearful state of perfection), the wages of our workpeople must be reduced, and the brawlers for the miscalled "Cause of Humanity" would have the consolation of reflecting that their ignorant exertions had occasioned the misery and absolute beggary which would universally prevail from want of employment and low wages.

A. 38.—In the spinning-rooms, 70° to 75°; in the card-rooms, 65°; in the weaving-rooms as low as possible, seldom exceeding 65°; in the dressing-room, 75° to 80°.

A. 39.—Eighty degrees.

A. 40.—Four men only.

A. 41.—Never for the manufacturing processes.

A. 50.—By coal-gas.

A. 51.—The same as in the day.

A. 53.—One hour and a half.

A. 54.—All.

A. 57.—Scolding and threatening with dismissal; no strap or billy-roller.

A. 58.—We recognize no system of corporal punishments, but do not deny that slight chastisements have been inflicted.

A. 59.—By spinners on children they employ and pay, and especially by parents on their own children.

A. 62.—Frequently.

A. 63.—Yes; ordering the overlookers to dismiss rather than chastise the persons under them.

A. 64.—Never.

A. 65.—Yes, most of ours do; we give every encouragement to the well-conducted and orderly.

A. 66.—Those who are admitted into the factory above seventeen or eighteen years of age seldom attain that manual dexterity in any department which those arrive at who begin early, and have gone through the different processes in gradation. We have not observed any dissimilarity in the general character of persons admitted at different ages.

A. 67.—We register no facts relating to this subject, though we are inclined to think that the general health of factory-workers has improved within the last few years.

A. 68 & 69.—Yes.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We are not sufficiently acquainted with the regulations of other factories to give a proper answer; we believe none of the neighbouring factories work during the night.

A. 74.—Not that we are aware of.

A. 78.—We are of opinion that the present law, if obeyed in every respect, is amply sufficient for the protection of children and the prevention of overworking them, and that the penalties to which masters are now liable are large enough, if enforced, to deter them from any evasion of the law. We conceive that the most effectual means for enforcing the law, would be to have a regularly appointed officer in every parish or district in which cotton factories are situate, whose province it should be to inspect regularly every factory in his district, and lay informations against any found working contrary to law.

A. 79.—We wish to be understood as protesting against the injustice of mixing up the question of the employment of children in cotton factories (which has been the subject of continued legislative interference) with the regulations of working children adopted in other trades totally unconnected with them; and to submit, that legal enactments for the protection of children employed in all manufactures similar to those now in force for the regulation of cotton factories ought in strict impartiality to be the primary object of parliamentary interference.

ROBERT LUND.

Lancashire.

Robert Lund.



Lancashire.

No. 241.

*John Sparrow.*

## ANSWERS of JOHN SPARROW for James Rodgetts &amp; Co., Blackburn.

- A. 1.—In the parish and township of Blackburn.
- A. 2.—Spinning cotton into yarn, and weaving the yarn into cloth.
- A. 3.—The spinning-mill was built in the year 1818, commenced and has continued from that time to be employed exclusively for that purpose. That part in which the manufactory of cloth is carried on was erected in 1831-2.
- A. 4.—Two steam-engines, one of fifty horse power, and one of thirty-six horse power.
- A. 5, 6, & 7.—The rooms in our factory are sufficiently ventilated by the admission of air from twenty-eight windows in each room, running parallel, fourteen on each side; and these windows are opened or closed by the workpeople themselves indiscriminately.
- A. 8.—The dangerous parts of the machinery are all fenced off.
- A. 9.—We have no such arrangements; the great majority of the workpeople live within a few yards of the place.
- A. 10.—Some are admitted at nine, that is as soon as the law permits, but we prefer older. We do not recollect taking a child of that age that had been previously employed at any other trade.
- A. 11.—From the nature of the machinery children above the age of twelve would be unfit, because too big to perform the necessary work.
- A. 12.—We cannot answer this question; the machinery in our mill is of fifteen years standing.
- A. 13.—We do not employ apprentices.
- A. 15.—Nor lodge nor maintain orphans or children.
- A. 17.—Including Saturday, and averaging the six days, eleven hours and a half.
- A. 18.—No difference is made.
- A. 19.—Thirteen.
- A. 20.—We cannot satisfactorily answer these questions, as our works were at a stand during the greater part of last year in consequence of putting down a new engine, and on account of making extensive alterations in the machinery it was a considerable time before the whole of the works were fully employed.
- A. 25.—In cases of accidents to the principal machinery, such as the gearing, steam-engine, &c. the regular hours of work have been exceeded.
- A. 26.—Scarcely avoidable, because, from the great diversity of operations carried on, and their entire dependence on each other, if an accident happens to the steam-engine or other principal machine of one department, it would be tantamount to a stoppage of the whole works if the time so lost were not made up by that department in which it was lost.
- A. 27. We do not recollect that at any time our factory has ever been worked more than twelve hours per day.
- A. 29.—Profit is doubtless the only inducement to work extra hours.
- A. 30.—We cannot answer this question from actual experience, but conceive that our answer to question 37 will apply to this.
- A. 31.—We have never required extra hours work, but if such a case do exist we know of no objection to having two or more sets of children where they can be procured.
- A. 33.—We have no night-work.
- A. 37.—Should the hours of labour be reduced, and no reduction take place in wages (which however cannot be expected), the cost of production, as far as wages are concerned, would be increased in the exact ratio of the diminution of the hours of labour, while the ground-rents and other multifarious local taxes, such as poor rates, police, &c. &c., to which factory property is liable, would remain the same; and should the hours of labour be reduced one third, the expence of oil, grease, leather, &c., together with the repairs of machinery, would be little or nothing decreased, all tending to increase the cost of production.
- A. 38.—The usual temperature in the spinning department is about sixty-nine degrees; to the latter part of the query we should say about sixty-two degrees; in the dressing department ranging between eighty and ninety degrees.
- A. 39.—Eighty degrees.
- A. 40.—About twelve young men are employed in this department. It is difficult to keep the temperature of this room at the required heat, as the hotter it is the greater quantity of work can be done, so that the workmen, if the overlooker is not present, will increase the heat ten degrees higher than necessary.
- A. 41.—We have not worked during the night.
- A. 46.—No.
- A. 50.—Our works are lighted in winter with gas.
- A. 53.—The works stop at eight till half past for breakfast, from twelve till one for dinner, and refreshments are brought into the factory to the hands from half past four until five o'clock.
- A. 54.—The great majority of them leave the works.



A. 55.—Those that do not remain for their own convenience. We should prefer their leaving entirely.

A. 56.—There could be no objection to it, except that those hands that come from a distance might have to get their meals in the open air.

A. 57.—Peremptory dismissal.

A. 58.—No corporal punishments are in the slightest degree tolerated.

A. 64.—No complaint has ever been preferred to the magistrates against us or any of our foremen since our commencement of this business.

A. 65.—The greater part of those employed in the spinning department live in our own cottages. Immorality of any description is either met by dismissal or severely reprimanded, and they are required to keep their houses clean.

A. 66.—Instances are very rare of admitting those who have not been brought up in a factory; of course their skill would depend on the nature of their previous employment, and in any case must necessarily be much inferior to those who have been brought up in a factory from infancy.

A. 67.—Cannot say that there is any material alteration.

A. 68.—No.

A. 69.—The spinning department is under the Act, but we believe the dressing and weaving are not.

A. 70.—No.

A. 73.—We believe in the town of Blackburn the Act is conformed to.

A. 74 & 75.—About three years ago the proprietors of a factory that have since stopped payment were taken before the magistrates and fined for working longer hours than the Act allowed.

A. 76.—We don't know.

A. 77.—Undoubtedly, when a good feeling exists between masters and men there will be some difficulty in obtaining evidence; but when the contrary is the case, the workmen will readily be disposed to give evidence.

A. 78.—If the penalty were imposed on the steam-engine or first moving power, the proof of transgression of the law would be much easier.

A. 79.—It will be seen in these answers we have confined ourselves principally to the spinning department, as the other departments are scarcely completed. It is the general opinion of the trade that the Ten Hours Bill will tend to decrease instead of increasing the comforts of the working class, by causing a reduction of wages, to meet foreigners in their own market.

JOHN SPARROW.

Lancashire.

John Sparrow.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS THOMASSON for the Proprietor, John Thomasson.

No. 242.

T. Thomasson.

A. 1.—Parish of Bolton, county of Lancaster.

A. 2.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—Principal building erected in 1829; a small portion about twenty years ago.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, twenty horse power; water-wheel of power varying from five to twenty-five horses power, according to the supply of water, which is very irregular.

A. 5.—No specific provision for ventilation excepting in the rooms for cleaning cotton, which are ventilated by a machine which removes the dust arising from the cotton to an extent as great, probably, as is practicable. These rooms form only a small portion of the entire works, are detached, and there are generally from five to ten persons employed therein, all adults.

A. 6.—In the remainder of the works ventilation depends upon the opening of windows and doors.

A. 7.—Ventilation by windows controlled at the discretion of the persons employed and of the overlooker.

A. 8.—The main mill-gears, upright shafts boxed off with wood and cast-iron casings, and such parts of the frames as are dangerous and can be covered without detriment to the operations carried on, fenced off also.

A. 9.—They usually change their outward clothing on entering the mill, hanging it up in the rooms where they work. Personal cleanliness attended to by reprimanding such as neglect it, but any arrangements on the premises unnecessary, from the short distance at which the workpeople reside from the works, rarely exceeding a quarter of a mile; necessaries outside the mill, and hands allowed to fetch water from adjoining bleach-works at pleasure.

A. 10.—Nine years.

A. 11.—The employment of children under twelve years of age not absolutely necessary.

A. 12.—Never absolutely necessary.

A. 13.—None.

A. 17 & 18.—Twelve hours.

A. 19.—Thirteen hours.

(APP.—D. 1.)

3 Z 2

A. 20.



Lancashire.

T. Thomasson.

A. 20.—Three hundred and five.

A. 21.—Six thousand five hundred and forty hours and a half.

A. 22.—The different parts worked the same time.

A. 24.—Thirteen hours.

A. 25.—In case of excess, or want of due supply of water, and of the breaking down of mill-gears.

A. 26.—Such excess avoidable; but in such case the workpeople would lose their wages during the time lost, from the causes stated above.

A. 27.—Have no distinct recollection of the time worked some years ago; latterly have been guided by the several Acts on the subject.

A. 28.—The cost of producing a given quantity of yarn is certainly enhanced by reducing the hours of working.

A. 29.—Profit. Suppose that the working one set of hands night and day is impossible.

A. 30.—Increased cost of production ensues from limitation of the hours of work, but in what branches, to what extent, and in what proportion to the diminution of hours, it would be impossible to state in a small compass; it mainly arises from the fact that certain expenses connected with a cotton-spinning establishment are the same when working twelve hours as if working only one hour daily.

A. 31 &amp; 32.—Not having tried this plan, am not competent to give an opinion; am not aware of its having been tried.

A. 33.—Have employed a night-set of hands in part of the works, who come to the frames when the day-hands leave them.

A. 34.—By increased production.

A. 35.—A portion of the hands work regularly by night, another portion change weekly with the same number of day-hands alternate weeks.

A. 36.—A lessened production.

A. 37.—Wages would be reduced, if working two hours less, one sixth. The spinners would be well able to support themselves; they form only a small proportion of the total number employed. The remainder, whose wages vary, say from 2s. 6d. to 7s. weekly, could scarcely support themselves, and their condition would be deteriorated. The general effect would be to increase the cost of yarn, and would be a direct bonus to foreign spinners. How far we should be able to compete with them under these circumstances I am not competent to give an opinion. Without cheaper bread, I should consider a reduction of hours of working an act very unwise; with it, a measure of unspeakable advantage to the moral and physical condition of the operatives.

A. 38.—The usual temperature of the rooms where the cotton is opened is sixty-six degrees, of the card or preparation room seventy-five, and of the spinning-rooms seventy-eight degrees. These temperatures are best suited to the operations.

A. 39.—Seventy-eight degrees.

A. 40.—About one hundred and twenty.

A. 41.—A portion of the works have been worked at night during the whole of last year.

A. 42 to 45.—No persons employed during the night without a certificate from themselves, parents, or guardians, that they are respectively of the age of twenty-one years, according to the Act.

A. 46.—None.

A. 50.—By gas.

A. 51.—Opening windows.

A. 52.—Cannot tell.

A. 53.—In the day, one half hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and one half hour during the night.

A. 54.—Generally all leave, but this is left entirely to the option of the individual.

A. 55.—In no case detained during the time of meals for the convenience of the manufactory.

A. 57 to 61.—Corporal punishment has very rarely been inflicted on children, and in no case with undue severity.

A. 62.—Have strictly forbidden any harsh treatment of children by the overlooker or others under whose control they happen to work.

A. 63.—He has had instructions from time to time not to allow improper treatment of children; none in writing.

A. 64.—No such instance has occurred.

A. 65.—Part of them only. Cleanliness in their habitations enforced by reprimand in case of deficiency.

A. 66.—Those longest employed appear to be most skilful.

A. 67.—Have no sufficient data on which to found an opinion; should suppose the general average of health to be the same as ten years ago.

A. 68.—Such arrangements deemed not necessary.

A. 69.—It is,

A. 70.



A. 70.—Once.

A. 71 & 72.—In June last, convicted in the mitigated penalty of ten pounds, which paid, for working an individual during the night who was under the age of twenty-one years. He had been employed only one night and a half, to the best of my recollection, and appeared to have been sent for the purpose of supporting an information; since then have required a certificate from each individual employed at night of their being twenty-one years of age, as specified in the Act.

A. 73.—Believe the Act is conformed to in this neighbourhood.

A. 77.—Myself the only instance I know, under circumstances as above.

A. 77.—If their evidence did not meet the view of masters, should suppose them under some apprehensions as to being discharged. Almost always very easy to obtain employment elsewhere.

A. 78.—If bread were cheaper, these things would regulate themselves.

A. 79.—None.

Lancashire.

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T. Thomasson

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THOS. THOMASSON.







C. 1.  
North-eastern District.  
(PART II.)

QUERIES addressed by the COMMISSIONERS for the NORTH-  
EASTERN DISTRICT to MILL-OWNERS - - - - p. 69

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| 236. | S. Wrigley and Brothers, Scout Head, Quick -                                                                                                | 295  | 269. | J. Whitehead sen. and J. Whitehead jun., Lumb, Sowerby -     | ib.  |
| 237. | Shaw and Co., Upper Mill, Saddleworth, Quick -                                                                                              | 296  | 270. | J. Hadwen and Sons, Kebroyd Bridge, Soyland -                | 327  |
| 238. | R. R. Whitehead and Brothers, Oak View, Quick -                                                                                             | 297  | 271. | H. Holdsworth, Soyland Mill, Soyland -                       | 328  |
| 239. | Greenwood and Whitaker, Greenholme, Burley -                                                                                                | 298  | 272. | J. Learoyd, Clough Mill, Soyland -                           | 329  |
| 240. | J. R. and J. Thompson, Rawden -                                                                                                             | 299  | 273. | A. Aspden, Harley House, Stansfield -                        | 330  |
| 241. | W. Thompson, Park Mill, Rawden -                                                                                                            | 300  | 274. | Beaumont and Vichenuaus, Steps, South Crosland -             | 331  |
| 241. | W. Thompson, Larkfield Mill, Rawden -                                                                                                       | 301  | 275. | J. Hartley, Sutton -                                         | ib.  |
| 242. | W. Beaumont, Austerlands, Saddleworth -                                                                                                     | 302  | 276. | West House Factory Company, West House, Fewston -            | 332  |
| 243. | G. Bramall, Quick, Saddleworth cum Quick -                                                                                                  | 303  | 277. | J. Fairbank, Leventhorp, Thornton -                          | 333  |
| 244. | J. and T. Robinson, Wood Brook, Saddleworth -                                                                                               | 304  | 278. | D. Wright and Son, Thornton, near Bradford -                 | 334  |
| 245. | J. Scholes, Denshaw Hall, Saddleworth -                                                                                                     | 305  | 279. | Roberts, Kaye, and Dyson, Carr Bottom, Turnley Tyas -        | 335  |
| 246. | J. Seel, Quick Mill, Saddleworth -                                                                                                          | ib.  | 280. | J. Crossley and Sons, Hebden Bridge, Wadsworth -             | 336  |
| 247. | Taylor, Son, and Gibson, Springhead and Royal George Mills, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, and Bank Mill, Lancashire, under the same regulations - | 306  | 281. | J. Sutcliffe, Midge Hole, Wadsworth -                        | 337  |
| 248. | J. Waring and Sons, Pastures, Saddleworth -                                                                                                 | ib.  | 282. | Walker and Edmondson, Mytholmroyd, Wadsworth -               | 338  |
| 249. | J. Wrigley and Brothers, Holly Grove, Saddleworth -                                                                                         | 307  | 283. | J. Alderson, Hoyl Bottom, Warley -                           | 339  |
| 250. | J. Vipont and Co., Knaresborough Old Mills, Scriven -                                                                                       | 308  | 284. | W. Appleyard, Wainstall, Warley -                            | 340  |
| 251. | J. Proctor and Son, Settle -                                                                                                                | 309  | 285. | J. and J. Calvert, Wainstalls, Warley -                      | 341  |
| 252. | J. Rayner, New Mill, Shipley -                                                                                                              | 310  | 286. | G. Greenup, Sowerby Bridge, Warley -                         | 342  |
| 253. | Wilcox, Bradley, and Co., Low Well, Shipley -                                                                                               | ib.  | 287. | M. and S. Morley, Sowerby Bridge, Warley -                   | ib.  |
| 254. | W. Oldridge, Embray, Skipton -                                                                                                              | 312  | 288. | T. Murgatroyd, Lumb, Warley -                                | 343  |
| 255. | J. B. Sidgwick, Skipton -                                                                                                                   | 313  | 287. | R. Whitworth and Co., Peel House, Warley -                   | 344  |
| 256. | J. Holdsworth and Co., Shaw Hill, Skircoat -                                                                                                | 314  | 290. | S. and W. Smith, Ludendenfoot, Warley -                      | 345  |
| 257. | J. Sutcliffe, Willow Hall, Skircoat -                                                                                                       | 315  | 291. | Anderson and Brother, Wilsden -                              | 346  |
| 258. | Mary Horsfall, Slaithwaite -                                                                                                                | 316  | 292. | R. Nichols and Co., Hewnden Mill, Wilsden -                  | 347  |
| 259. | W. J. and E. Kent, Blackmoor Holme Mill, Slaithwaite -                                                                                      | 317  | 293. | Charlesworth and Sons, Holmfirth Mill, Wooldale -            | 349  |
| 260. | Scholes, Varley, and Co., Waterside, Slaithwaite -                                                                                          | 318  | 294. | J. Cuttall and Brothers, Cuttall Mill, Underbank, Wooldale - | 350  |
| 261. | J. and J. Farrar, Bankgate, Slaithwaite -                                                                                                   | 319  | 295. | J. and G. Gartside, Holmfirth Mills, Wooldale -              | 351  |
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# Q U E R I E S

ADDRESSED BY

THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT TO MILL-OWNERS.

N. B. *The Answers to the following Questions are considered to refer to the 1st of May, 1833, unless otherwise expressed. If any alteration has occurred in the subject matter of any of the following Questions (except 5, 6, 7, 8,) since 1st January, 1830, mention the former practice also, and the date and reason of the alteration.*

QUERY 1.—What is the manufacture or description of work performed at this mill?

C. 1.

Q. 2.—What is the date of its erection, or application to its present purpose?

Q. 3.—Is the power employed steam or water, or both? If water power, state the name of the river or stream producing it.

QUERIES  
TO  
MILL-OWNERS.

Q. 4.—What is the power of the engine or wheel? Do you employ the whole power, or is part of it let off to other, and what purposes?

Q. 5.—How many persons are employed in your mill, (exclusive of those in the counting-house and warehouse department) distinguishing them into the following classes?

Q. 6.—What is the average of standing weekly wages of those who are paid by time, according to the following classes?

Q. 7.—What number and description of persons are paid by piece-work, and what is the average amount of their weekly earnings in a regular week's work, according to the following classes?

Q. 8.—What number and description of persons are employed in your mill, whose wages are paid by the workpeople under whom they work?

Q. 9.—Is the pay of those who receive standing weekly wages, the same per hour for over-hours, as during the regular time? If not, state the difference.

Q. 10.—At what hour does your regular day's work begin? and when does it terminate? If the regular hours are different at different times, distinguish the periods of alteration, and the reasons of them.

Q. 11.—If a water-mill, state how far your hours of work are dependent on the supply of water from other mills. State your usual hours of commencing and concluding work in drougthy seasons.

Q. 12.—Is the regular day's work less on Saturday, than on the other days of the week? If so, is the time made up in any manner on the other five days, and how?

Q. 13.—What time is allowed for each meal, and at what hours are they usually taken? If any persons take their meals at a different time from the others, state the number, and why.

Q. 14.—Does the moving power stop during all or any of the meal-times? If not, mention the processes in which those are engaged who take their meals whilst at work.

Q. 15.—Explain your practice with regard to making up the time lost by reason of accidents to the machinery; or in water-mills by defect or excess of water, or injuries to the dam or watercourse. Is it allowed and paid for to the workpeople? is it lost to you and to them? is it made up by working extra hours? and if so, at what rate are the hands paid for that extra time?

Q. 16.—Is any time allowed to the hands during sickness, or absence from the mill arising from accidents? Explain your practice in this respect.

Q. 17.—How many regular holidays and half-holidays have your workpeople in the year besides Sundays?

(APP.—C. 1.)

K

Q. 18.



QUERIES  
TO  
MILL-OWNERS.

Q. 18.—Explain your practice with respect to allowing holidays. Are the workpeople paid for any part of their holiday time? Is that time made up at any other time? If so, in what manner?

Q. 19.—Explain your rules with respect to fining for absence or irregularity, or to enforce obedience. What interval is allowed to elapse beyond the proper time of attendance, before the fine is imposed?

Q. 20.—Do you work more than one set of adult hands? If so, explain the succession and intervals of their labour.

Q. 21.—Have you ever employed more than one set of children to relieve each other during the labour of the same set of adult hands? State the objections to such a practice.

Q. 22.—Are corporal punishments sanctioned? If so, to what age are the children considered liable to it?

Q. 23.—Does the nature of your work require the employment of children under twelve years? State the processes in which the greatest number of young children are employed in your works?

Q. 24.—During how many days of the week has your machinery been at work for the purpose of your manufacture, during each quarter of the years 1830, 1831, 1832, beginning respectively 1st of January, 1st of April, 1st of July, and 1st of October? How many of these were Saturdays?

N. B. This question has no reference to the *hours* of work, but to the *days* only.

Q. 25.—During how many hours has your machinery been so at work in each quarter of the years 1830, 1831, and 1832?

Q. 26.—Have any alterations taken place in this mill since 1st of January 1830, (except in the answers to questions 5, 6, 7, 8,) other than you have mentioned in your answers?

Q. 27.—State any remarks you may be desirous of making on the subject of regulating the hours of factory labour by act of parliament.



## A N S W E R S.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS received to the QUERIES.

## YORKSHIRE.

## ANSWERS of BLAND ELLIS and Co. High Mill, Addingham.

No. 1.  
*Bland Ellis.*

- A. 1.—Preparing and spinning worsted.
- A. 2.—The time of its erection cannot exactly be ascertained; but the time of its being employed in spinning worsted was in the year 1822.
- A. 3.—The power is water; the name of the river is Wharf.
- A. 4.—The wheel is eight horse power, and it is all employed in the above manufacture.
- A. 5.—Twenty-one persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.     | 2s. 8d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 3d. | 4s. 9d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s.    | 7s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 24s.    | —        |
- A. 7.—We do not pay any of our hands by piece-work.
- A. 8.—None are paid by the workpeople.
- A. 9.—When any of the hands work over-hours, we pay them rather more than their weekly wages amount to per hour.
- A. 10.—We begin work at six o'clock in the morning, and we terminate working at seven o'clock at night, nearly all the year round.
- A. 11.—In drougthy seasons we cannot work more than half the frames, and in rainy seasons we are obliged to stop the whole mill for half a day, a whole day, and sometimes two days or more.
- A. 12.—We work on Saturdays the same hours as other days.
- A. 13.—One hour is allowed for dinner.
- A. 14.—The wheel generally stops during dinner hours, but sometimes two or three girls or boys will choose to tent the roving and drawing frames during dinner hour; they do it out of choice; it is very easy.
- A. 15.—The defect or excess of water is made up by running the mill over hours till the lost time is regained; but the loss of time occasioned by damage or any misfortune, is never made up by the workpeople.
- A. 16.—When any of the hands get any hurt in the mill, which is a very rare occurrence, we always allow them their wages, doctor's bill, &c.
- A. 17.—Two days at our feast, one or one and a half at Christmas, and several half days besides during the year.
- A. 18.—If an extra holiday is requested by the hands besides those above-mentioned, they are always willing to work it out by one hour per day.
- A. 19.—We do not impose any fines to enforce regularity, and very seldom any coercive measures.
- A. 20.—We do not work more than one set of hands.
- A. 21.—We never employed more than one set of hands.
- A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishment; it is never resorted to but in the slightest manner.
- A. 23.—We employ young children in what we call tenting the spinning frames; they can do no other work in our mill at that age.
- A. 24.—It is impossible to answer this question.
- A. 25.—This we cannot answer.
- A. 26.—None.
- A. 27.—All our hands are satisfied with the hours we run the mill; they live well, dress well, and look well; they are generally very healthy, so much so that not one child has died
- (APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.  
Bland Ellis.

died out of our mill these ten years. If the ten hours' bill were to pass into a law we should be half ruined. It is our decided opinion that if all mills employed in the worsted manufacture were to run the same hours as we do (especially in country places) the children would not suffer in their health. Our wages are low, but the depressed state of the trade is the real cause. We expect to be able to give more wages, as things look rather brighter. The children who have lately come to the mill do not get so much wages as those who have been longer employed; they require some time to learn.

BLAND ELLIS & Co.

No. 2.  
J. B. Garforth.

ANSWERS of JAMES B. GARFORTH, Belle-Busk Mill, Airton.

A. 1.—Spinning cotton yarn No. 40. by machines called mules.

A. 2.—1796 or 1797.

A. 3.—Both. Name of the stream, river Aire.

A. 4.—The water-wheel has the power of about sixteen horses; the steam-engine has the power of about six horses.

A. 5.—One hundred and seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 10       |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | 4      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | 6      | 8        |
| 21 and upwards        | 32     | 16       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —        | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d.  | 2s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | —        | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s. 6d.  | 4s. 2d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —        | 5s. 7½d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 14s. 3d. | 6s. 7½d. |

A. 7.—Seventy-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3, earning 2s.      | 1, earning 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, earning 3s.      | 8, earning 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 4s.      | 3, earning 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4, earning 4s. 6d.  | 2, earning 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 5s.      | —                   |
| 18 and under 21       | 6, earning 10s. 6d. | 4, earning 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 18, earning 18s.    | 12, earning 7s. 1d. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—All within the age of eighteen are employed by others (the spinners) and are called piecers.

A. 9.—No over-hours are made.

A. 10.—In summer, the day's work is from half past five in the morning till seven in the evening for five days. On Saturday, from half past five till four in the afternoon. During winter, the work begins and ends half an hour later.

A. 11.—The advantage of a steam-engine to assist the water-wheel, during dry weather, prevents the necessity of any material deviation from the regular hours of working.

A. 12.—The mill works nine hours on Saturday, and twelve on every other day.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast at eight in the morning; one hour for dinner at twelve; half an hour for tea at half past four. All the workpeople take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner, but not in the afternoon. The persons employed in the card-room take their tea whilst at work.

A. 15.—The loss of time by trifling stoppages is generally made up by ten or fifteen minutes per day. The workpeople are then paid their regular wages; but if the stoppage amounts to one quarter of a day, it is then lost to me and to the workpeople also.

A. 16.—No time is allowed to the hands during sickness; but they are paid their regular wages while absent from the mill in consequence of accidents, and the surgeon's charge is also paid. No serious accident has ever occurred here.

A. 17.—Two days and a half in the year.

A. 18.—The workpeople are allowed their wages for Christmas day. Neither that, nor any other holiday time is made up.

A. 19.—No fine has ever been imposed for absence. Sometimes a fine has been levied for bad work, but this has been generally returned upon the fault being amended.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. In this place they could not be procured.

A. 22.—None are allowed.

A. 23.



A. 23.—Yes. The young children employed here are generally the sons and daughters of the spinners, and work with their fathers and brothers, as may be seen from the answer to the eighth question.

Yorkshire.

J. B. Garforth.

|                           | 1830.             |        |        | 1831.            |        |        | 1832.             |        |        |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                           | Days.             | Hours. | Satur. | Days.            | Hours. | Satur. | Days.             | Hours. | Satur. |
| A. 24 & 25.—First Quarter | 77                | 885    | 13     | 77               | 885    | 13     | 77 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 894    | 13     |
| Second - -                | 73                | 840    | 12     | 77               | 885    | 12     | 77                | 888    | 12     |
| Third - -                 | 79                | 909    | 13     | 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 834    | 13     | 78                | 897    | 13     |
| Fourth - -                | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 894    | 12     | 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 900    | 13     | 77 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 891    | 13     |
|                           | 306 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3528   | 50     | 305              | 3504   | 51     | 310 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 3570   | 51     |

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—If the time of working was reduced to eleven hours per day for five days, and nine hours on Saturday, such a change would not, in my opinion, injure the manufacturer.

JAMES B. GARFORTH.

ANSWERS of NORRIS, SYKES, and FISHER, Bankbottom Upper and Lower Mills,  
Almondbury.

No. 3.  
Norris, Sykes, &  
Fisher.

A. 1.—Woollen cloths.

A. 2.—Commenced manufacturing within in 1824.

A. 3.—Water power on the river Wessenden.

A. 4.—Upper mill water-wheel twelve horse power for scribbling, lower mill water-wheel thirteen horse power for fulling, &c. &c. We do not let off any part.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2  | - | -        | 6  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3  | - | -        | 7  |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 5  | - | -        | 3  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 5  | - | -        | 2  |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 1  | - | -        | 6  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 3  | - | -        | 9  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 58 | - | -        | 12 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |         |   | FEMALES. |     |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---|----------|-----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s.     | - | -        | 3s. |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s.     | - | -        | 3s. |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s. 6d. | - | -        | 4s. |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 5s. 6d. | - | -        | —   |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 8s.     | - | -        | 6s. |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —       | - | -        | 6s. |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | —       | - | -        | 7s. |  |

A. 7.—Sixty-five persons; viz. three weavers between eighteen and twenty-one years of age, earning 15s. each; forty-four above that age, earning 18s. each; and eighteen burlers, earning 6s. 6d. each. Besides which we have three overlookers who receive 40s. each; one dyer about the same; one spinner 24s., and three millers 20s. each.

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Twenty-four boys and girls from ten to sixteen years of age.

A. 9.—Over hours paid for same as regular time.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—Commence at six o'clock, being the first mill upon the river, but cannot state the time of concluding, the seasons being various.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturdays is nine hours and a half.

A. 13.—The time allowed for each meal is half an hour at eight in the morning, one hour at twelve at noon, and half an hour at half-past four afternoon.

A. 14.—The water-wheels for the turning of fulling stocks, run during the half hour in the morning and afternoon, also for the turning of scribbling machines.

A. 15.—When we work over time for making up lost time by accidents, &c. &c. we pay in the same proportion as regular time.

A. 16.—When we have had any accident in the mill, they are paid during such sickness.

A. 17.—Christmas Day and Good Friday, and about six other half days during the year.

A. 18.—We do not pay for holydays.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—Only one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—Only one set of children.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments allowed.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years are employed in piecing for slubbers and mules, and feeding scribbling and carding machines.

(APP.—C. 1.)

L

A. 24.



Yorkshire.

Norris, Sykes, &  
Fisher.

A. 24.—Not having registered the time, we cannot answer this question in the absence of our managing partner, who is upon a journey at present.

A. 25.—Cannot answer this question for the same reasons.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place since 1st of January.

A. 27.—We are of opinion that any legislative interference will prove prejudicial both to masters and workmen, more especially so where only water power is used. There exists no necessity whatever in the mills employed in manufacturing woollen cloths, and did we deem it needful to legislate on the subject, so difficult is the business, we should feel ourselves utterly at a loss how to act.

NORRIS, SYKES, &amp; FISHER.

ANSWERS of JOSEPH NORTH, for Nowell, Cockill, and Bennett, Birks Mill,  
Almondbury.

No. 4.  
Joseph North.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing and fulling woollen.

A. 2.—1820.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty horse. All by ourselves.

A. 5.—Forty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 12     | 2        |

A. 6.—Tealgers, 10s. per week; feeders, 4s. per week; piecers, 3s. per week.

A. 7.—Four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.         | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, earning 3s. | 1, earning 3s. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1, earning 3s. | 1, earning 4s. |

In a regular week of seventy-six hours.

A. 8.—Sixteen piecers and eight feeders.

A. 9.—No difference.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning to seven at night generally, except in short days and on Saturdays, when we generally give over work at five in the afternoon.

A. 11.—Ours is a steam-engine only.

A. 12.—No making up of the two hours that we work less on Saturdays.

A. 13.—Our engine does not often stop for meals, as we are so situated for one to help another.

A. 14.—Our work is not of that importance but any or even all the machines may stand during meals.

A. 15.—We very rarely make up any lost time, and we pay according to the time of working.

A. 16.—When any one is sick, if he or she think proper, they give up working; and when recovered, they return if they choose; if not, another is appointed.

A. 17.—I think a few days will make up the whole, perhaps eight or ten.

A. 18.—The engineer, the miller, the dryer, and the carrier are paid, but not the others included in this document.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—No, not at any time.

A. 21.—We have no occasion to employ more than one set of children; neither do we.

A. 22.—We do not allow the children to be beat, except in a remarkably cautious manner.

A. 23.—Yes. Such are piecers and feeders, but especially piecers.

A. 24.—We seldom or never make any difference, except in cases of depression of trade; then we may have about five days in the week, or just as we have work.

A. 25.—This we cannot ascertain exactly.

A. 26.—We have one slubber dead; so there are two piecers, and I think one feeder less.

A. 27.—We consider ten hours in the day quite sufficient either for children or adults.

N.B. We have a man lately come to us as a tealger, who receives 10s. per week. I make this remark as he was overlooked in making out the scale of forty-two persons.

JOSEPH NORTH, for Nowell, Cockill, &amp; Bennett.



Yorkshire.

No. 5.

*Joseph Varley.*

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH VARLEY, Old Corn Mill, Lingards, Almondbury.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing of sheep's wool. Also doubling cotton.  
 A. 2.—About the year 1800 it commenced woollen.  
 A. 3.—It is a water mill, on the river Colne.  
 A. 4.—Power of the wheel, about eight horse. The turning of jennies for cotton doubling, at let off.

A. 5.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards —      | 6      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.    | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.    | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s.    | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 7s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards —      | 8s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Five men, at 15s. 6d.

A. 8.—Twelve children are paid by the slubbers, the number included in the above account.

A. 9.—When they work over hours they receive rather more than the weekly wage.

A. 10.—It begins at six in the morning, and gives up at half past seven at night in summer; and begins at seven, and ends at half past eight in winter. Saturdays two hours less.

A. 11.—The supply of water is regular, except in a drought and hard frost, when it is irregular and deficient; sometimes we lose three hours a day.

A. 12.—Two hours less on Saturdays, and not made up only as above stated.

A. 13.—All half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner; and slubbers, and their hands, half an hour for afternoon drinking.

A. 14.—The scribbling engines work the dinner hour and breakfast half hour, but all the others stop.

A. 15.—No time is made up for stoppages of machinery or water-courses. Part of the time lost for want of water has been made up, and the weekly hands paid over time for it at rather a better price than the weekly wage.

A. 16.—No allowance during sickness, and I do not remember an accident.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas; two half days at Easter and Whitsuntide; and one at the feast-time.

A. 18.—The weekly hands are deducted for holydays, and none of the time made up.

A. 19.—There are no fines here; if they do not do their duty they are discharged.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Have never employed more than one set of children. I do not approve of children working all night. They never work over time here.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned here.

A. 23.—The work does not require children under twelve years of age; but the slubbers bring their own when they get about nine, or, if they have none, they hire such as they can; most of them are employed at piecing the cardings.

A. 24.—I cannot tell, as I have kept no account. Sometimes we have been as much as two days in the week short of work during those years; and this year we have been sometimes one day in a week short.

A. 25.—Hours about the same in those years as now, as near as we can recollect.

A. 26.—No alteration since January 1830.

A. 27.—If the present time of working is much shortened, it will be a great inducement to foreign nations to push their manufactories on to our injury. I hope Parliament will, in its wisdom, not make the masters or managers liable to be convicted of manslaughter in the case of accidents, as such may happen, notwithstanding all the care that can possibly be taken.

JOSEPH VARLEY.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH VIRKENNAN, Almondbury.

No. 6.

*Joseph Virkenn*

A. 1.—Woollen cloth. Scribbling and finishing cloth.

A. 2.—Six years. I have had it the same.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Six horse power. Employed myself.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 5.



Yorkshire.  
Joseph Virkennan.

A. 5.—Twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|---|
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | - | - | 4 |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | - | - | 6 |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | - | - | 2 |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | - | - | 4 |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | - | - | 4 |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | - | - | 8 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |   |   |         |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|---------|
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | - | - | 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | - | - | 6s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | - | - | 10s.    |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | - | - | 15s.    |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | - | - | 20s.    |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | - | - | 24s.    |

A. 7.—One person, at 24s. per week, in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Two lads for piece in cardings for a slubber, twelve years old, and have 3s. 6d. per week each.

A. 9.—I seldom allow the engine to go more than twelve hours a day; and if it does, they have the same for over-hours as per week exact.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning; half an hour for breakfast; one hour for dinner; half an hour for drinking, or tea. Close at eight o'clock at night. Twelve hours per day, as the Scriptures say, when men can work.

A. 12.—Saturday we close at five o'clock; it is understood, and no time made up; and at seven o'clock on Monday morning, instead of six; no time made up for that. Half an hour at eight o'clock; one hour at one o'clock; half an hour at five o'clock. Close at eight o'clock.

A. 14.—Always stops at meal times.

A. 15.—I never made more than thirteen hours a day in my life with the mill.

A. 16.—I have had no accident since I began, nor any sick to detain them from work more than a day or two, which has been taken off when they are not at work.

A. 17.—About ten days.

A. 18.—When I do not work I do not pay; if the engine stands, then we take off the wage.

A. 19.—No fine; if they are not within half an hour I reprove them; and if repeated four or five times, I send them back till dinner-time for a punishment, and bates them half a day's wage.

A. 20.—No more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—I never did employ more than one set.

A. 22.—No punishment allowed to any; if they do not submit to reproof, then I send them home to get a better place.

A. 23.—No.

A. 24.—Only six days per week, or six and a half when we make over hours, which was one hour per day; and not more than five or six weeks that this has been done these six years.

A. 26.—No alterations for these six years past.

A. 27.—We work twelve hours cheerfully, and no grumbling. If we could get better profits we should work less ourselves, without an act of Parliament to make us. It is not for work that we stop at it so long, it is for the wage or profit as you may call it, which is very little now.

JOSEPH VIRKENNAN.

No. 7.  
B. L. Clarkson.

ANSWERS of B. L. CLARKSON, for John Clarkson, Westgate Common Mill, Alverthorpe.

A. 1.—Scribbling and slubbing.

A. 2.—1796.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Sixteen horse power; no power let off.

A. 5.—Thirty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3 | - | - | -        | 3 | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 8 | - | - | -        | 2 | - | - |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 5 | - | - | -        | 1 | - | - |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 1 | - | - | -        | 1 | - | - |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 2 | - | - | -        | 1 | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 8 | - | - | -        | — | - | - |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |         |   |   | FEMALES. |         |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---|---|----------|---------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s.     | - | - | -        | 3s.     | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s.     | - | - | -        | 3s.     | - | - |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s.     | - | - | -        | 4s.     | - | - |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 4s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 4s. 6d. | - | - |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 8s.     | - | - | -        | 8s.     | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 20s.    | - | - | -        | —       | - | - |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Five slubbers at 21s. per week, in a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—From six o'clock in the morning to seven o'clock at night, that is, seventy hours for the week; but the average for a number of years back will not exceed sixty-four hours per week.

A. 12.—Two hours less on Saturdays, viz. from six o'clock to five; the two hours not made up in any manner on the other five days.

A. 13.—One hour allowed for dinner, from twelve o'clock to one; the breakfast and drinking taken whilst at work, at eight o'clock and four o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops during the dinner hour. The children are employed during breakfast and drinking time in piecening, and feeding scribbling and carding machines, and the men in slubbing; the nature of which work will allow sufficient time for the above meals.

A. 15.—The time lost by accidents, &c. is lost also to the workpeople and myself.

A. 16.—None. As to accidents, not a single one of any consequence has occurred for the last ten years, and should any arise, as they would be entirely owing to carelessness of the parties, no remuneration whatever would be made.

A. 17.—Half a day Shrove Monday, half a day Easter Monday, half a day Whit Monday, and Christmas Day; besides, say three days for various feasts and fairs occurring in the neighbourhood during the year.

A. 18.—No allowance to the workpeople for holiday time, nor is that time made up at any other period. The overlooker, fireman, and carrier, who have stated weekly wages, have no deductions for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines whatever are imposed. A workman or a child not attending regularly, would be dismissed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; there is no necessity for such.

A. 22.—No punishments whatever; should a child not perform its work aright, he or she is dismissed.

A. 23.—The greatest number are employed in piecening. Children above twelve years of age are not so well adapted for such employment as those under that age; besides, children at twelve years of age and upwards can then command a higher rate of wages in other departments of mill labour.

A. 24.—Days of the week our machinery has been at work for the purpose of manufacture.

| 1830.        | Days. | Satur. | 1831.        | Days. | Satur. | 1832.        | Days. | Satur. |
|--------------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|--------|--------------|-------|--------|
| Jan. Quarter | 72    | 12     | Jan. Quarter | 78    | 13     | Jan. Quarter | 76    | 13     |
| April —      | 77    | 13     | April —      | 77    | 13     | April —      | 74    | 13     |
| July —       | 75    | 13     | July —       | 73    | 12     | July —       | 76    | 13     |
| Oct. —       | 77    | 12     | Oct. —       | 81    | 14     | Oct. —       | 74    | 13     |

A. 25.—Hours our machinery has been at work in each quarter of the years

| 1830.        | Hours. | 1831.        | Hours. | 1832.        | Hours. |
|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|
| Jan. Quarter | - 789  | Jan. Quarter | - 925  | Jan. Quarter | - 721  |
| April —      | - 901  | April —      | - 861  | April —      | - 784  |
| July —       | - 893  | July —       | - 812  | July —       | - 843  |
| Oct. —       | - 881  | Oct. —       | - 748  | Oct. —       | - 884  |

A. 26.—No alterations whatever since January, 1830.

B. L. CLARKSON.

ANSWERS of JOHN CARR, for Mrs. Ann Ward, Flanshaw New Mill, Alverthorp-with-Thorns.

No. 8.  
John Carr.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing.

A. 2.—1808.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-eight horse power.

A. 5.—Thirty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 2    | - 5      |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 7    | - 1      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 3    | - 2      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 1    | - —      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 1    | - 3      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - —    | - 1      |
| 21 and upwards        | - 9    | - —      |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES.          |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 3s.     | - 3s.             |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 3s.     | - 3s.             |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 4s.     | - 4s.             |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 4s.     | - 4s.             |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 5s. 6d. | - —               |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - —       | - 4s.             |
| 21 and upwards        | - —       | - what they earn. |

(APP.—C. 1.)

M

A. 7.



Yorkshire.

*John Carr.*

A. 7.—Five men are paid by piece; their average wages is about 17s. per week, in a regular day's work of eleven hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—For over-hours they are paid at the same rate per hour as their regular weekly wages.

A. 10.—On Monday it begins at six in the morning, but on other mornings at five, and terminates at seven P. M., except Saturdays, when it terminates at five.

A. 12.—On Saturday the mill closes at five, and the time is not made up.

A. 13.—At breakfast, half an hour; at dinner, one hour; at tea, half an hour.

A. 14.—The mill always stands during the meal-times.

A. 15.—As the workpeople have what they earn, the time lost by accidents is lost both to the master and workpeople.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Holidays are, a half day on Shrove Tuesday; a half day each on Easter Monday and Tuesday; a half day each on Whit Monday and Tuesday; Wakefield fair one day; Alverthorp feast a half day; and two days at Christmas.

A. 18.—They are not paid for holidays, unless it is made up by over-hours.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Only one set is employed.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Yes; carding pieceners.

A. 24.—Being frequently short of work, we cannot answer this question.

A. 25.—Not able to answer this.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place.

A. 27.—The men in this factory have all been consulted, and they wish for a ten hours' bill. But it is the opinion of the proprietor, that a ten hour bill would be injurious, as in all probability it will tend to reduce wages; but would suggest an eleven hour bill.

JOHN CARR.

No. 9.

*Jonas Roebuck.*

ANSWERS of JONAS ROEBUCK, of the Firm of J. Roebuck and Sons, Bankend Mill, Austonley.

A. 1.—Scribbling, slubbing, and spinning wool.

A. 2.—It was erected in the year 1800.

A. 3.—Water only.

A. 4.—Eight horse, and all employed for the above purpose.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | —        |

A. 7.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —               | 1, earning 4s. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 4s.  | 2, earning 4s. |
| 12 and under 14       | —               | 4, earning 5s. |
| 14 and under 16       | 3, earning 6s.  | 1, earning 6s. |
| 16 and under 18       | —               | 1, earning 6s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 6, earning 20s. | —              |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Five boys and nine girls.

A. 9.—We do not work over-hours.

A. 10.—We begin at six o'clock in the summer and stop at eight; in winter we begin at daylight and stop at nine.

A. 11.—We cannot average above seven hours per day in a long drought.

A. 12.—We stop at seven o'clock on Saturdays, and only allow one hour for meals in summer; in winter we stop at dark.

A. 13.—We allow half an hour for breakfast at eight o'clock, one hour for dinner at twelve, and half an hour at five in the afternoon.

A. 14.—We stop at all the meal-times.

A. 15.—The time is lost to us and to them.

A. 16.—We make no allowance in these cases.

A. 17.—We allow six days and two half days in a year.

A. 18.—We make no allowance for holiday time; the men work by the piece.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We only employ one set of children, and we believe they can work twelve hours a day without receiving any injury.

A. 22.



- A. 22.—We do not sanction punishment at all.  
 A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age make the best piecers.  
 A. 24.—We have kept no time-book, therefore we cannot tell.  
 A. 26.—There has not.

JONAS ROEBUCK.

Yorkshire.  
 —  
 Jonas Roebuck.

## ANSWERS of HENRY and THOMAS BRAMLEY and Co., Skireholm Mills, Appletreewick.

No. 10.  
 Messrs. Bramley.

- A. 1.—Cotton-spinning by mules and throstles, with preparatory processes.  
 A. 2.—One mill, purchased in 1826, was then partly used as a cotton mill; the other, built in 1831, commenced working in 1832, not yet filled with machinery.  
 A. 3.—Water; partly Bland-beck, but chiefly Skireholm-beck, having two reservoirs lately made; that is, within three years.  
 A. 4.—One wheel, thirty-nine feet by five feet six inches; the other, twenty-four feet by seven feet: none of the premises or power let off.

A. 5.—Eighty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 11       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 10     | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 8      | 7        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | 6        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 13     | 5        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 4½d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 1½d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 10d. | 4s. 11d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s. 9d.  | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.     | 6s. 1d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s.     | —        |

A. 7.—Forty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —                  | 2, earning 2s.     |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, earning 2s. 6d. | 6, earning 3s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5, earning 3s. 6d. | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6, earning 5s.     | 2, earning 6s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2, earning 6s.     | —                  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —                  | 1, earning 6s. 2d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 6, earning 20s.    | 5, earning 6s. 9d. |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

- A. 8.—Twenty.  
 A. 9.—Yes.  
 A. 10.—Begins at six, and ends at half past seven; in winter commence at daylight.  
 A. 12.—Yes.  
 A. 13.—One hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock.  
 A. 14.—It stops during dinner time.  
 A. 15.—Work half an hour each day, except Saturday, till time is made up: work-people receive for time they work, and in advance when run short time for want of water.  
 A. 16.—Hands not paid when sick.  
 A. 17.—Whitsuntide, Appletreewick fair, and Christmas day; one day each of these times.  
 A. 18.—Time not made up for holidays.  
 A. 19.—A rule for fines read to the hands when they come, and a copy put up in the mill.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No; in towns where hands are plentiful, and the parents have chance of work, there might not perhaps be many objections; but in a hamlet where we have as it were to raise hands by offering work to people or their children coming from other townships, if one set of hands were to leave, we should probably be obliged to work only part of the time; not finding it always easy now to meet with hands.  
 A. 22.—Corporal punishment not used.  
 A. 23.—No, not absolutely; though older hands could not do the work so conveniently without altering the positions of the machinery; setting in rovings for mules and doffing throstles.  
 A. 24.—Six days, except the holidays mentioned, though not always running full time.  
 A. 25.—Cannot say.  
 A. 27.—It is conceived that limitation of hours might probably be beneficial eventually both to masters and servants, if any thing really effective could be hit upon to limit time of working; but what is to be the effective method does not so clearly appear to the writer of this. The immediate effect will most likely be to lower wages; and it is a question whether gradually bringing down the working hours to ten would not be better than doing it at once.

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

Messrs. Bramley.

once. It is believed also by the writer, that factories are not so detrimental either to health or morals in small as in large towns. The air of the neighbourhood is purer, and the hands have generally not so far to go to and from their work, their homes being near.

HENRY &amp; THOMAS BRAMLEY &amp; Co.

No. 11.  
H. W. Farrar.

ANSWERS of H. W. FARRAR, Manager for Benjamin Gott and Sons, Armley Mill, Armley, Leeds.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing sheep and lamb's wool, and fulling cloth.

A. 2.—Rebuilt and enlarged after a fire in 1807, and again enlarged in 1824.

A. 3.—Water-power only, by the river Aire.

A. 4.—Three water-wheels, one hundred and forty horse power; and no part or proportion is let off for other purposes.

A. 5.—One hundred and eighty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 23     | 20       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 18     | 19       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 13     | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8      | 8        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 59     | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                   | FEMALES.                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3 at 3s.                 | 3 at 3s.                |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.                      | { 1 at 5s.<br>19 at 3s. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | { 3s.<br>8 at 5s. }      | 3s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | { 3s.<br>12 at 5s. }     | 5s.                     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | { 7 at 5s.<br>1 at 8s. } | 5s. 3d.                 |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  | —                       |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.  | { 1 at 6s.<br>1 at 5s.  |

A. 7.—Twenty-four slubbers at 29s. 3d. each. The earnings of cloth-millers, eight in number, are uncertain, varying from 20s. to 38s. per week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same wages for over-time in proportion.

A. 10.—At six in the morning; breakfast, eight to half past eight; dinner, twelve to one; and drinking, half past four to five o'clock. Those are the regular hours for the year, if the mill is full of work. Floods and drought cause irregularities; and irregularity of hours occurs from excess or deficiency of work.

A. 11.—All water-mills are governed by the supply of water in floods or drought, and by the hours of working in the mills above them in drouthy seasons. The hours still commence at six A. M., and terminate at seven P. M., with few exceptions of longer time in the evening.

A. 12.—Monday and Friday inclusive, from six to seven; Saturday six to half past four; half past four to five in cleaning the mill, &c. Always two hours for meals, except Saturday, when the time allowed is an hour and a half.

A. 14.—For the fulling stocks and scribbling machines, the moving power continues uninterruptedly during the day, except three days per week, when it is suspended a quarter of an hour each day, for examining the machinery.

A. 15.—We never make deductions for stoppages or loss of time, from floods, drought, or accidental causes; and always pay for over-time. The stoppages have been as much as a week at a time from floods; but not frequently more than a day or two at a time. From drought, the stoppages fluctuate from two to four, and, some seasons, five or six hours per day.

A. 16.—Those absent from sickness are paid, more or less, according to circumstances. In some cases, full wages; in others part, as they are deserving. Those absent from accidents by machinery, are always paid their full wages during absence from this cause.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, Good Friday, and Armley feast; at the latter, two half days.

A. 18.—The time lost is not made up; and all who receive weekly wages are paid as if at work.

A. 19.—No fines; but discharged after repeated warnings.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. We never tried the experiment, and cannot state the objections.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not allowed in any case.

A. 23.—Yes; children under twelve years of age are employed as pieceners at 3s. per week; some, under twelve, are employed as fillers of the machines, at 5s. each per week.

A. 24.



A. 24.—Except on Christmas-day, Good Friday, &c., the mill may have worked some time on every legal day, Monday to Saturday inclusive. The actual number of days, of eleven hours per day, are as follows:—

|             | 1830. | 1831. | 1832. |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1st Quarter | 68½   | 61½   | 57½   |
| 2d —        | 72¾   | 58    | 75½   |
| 3d —        | 73¼   | 64½   | 62½   |
| 4th —       | 68    | 56    | 78    |

A. 25.—Answered by the above, multiplied by eleven hours per day.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place.

A. 27.—In fulling mills, it is quite necessary the hours should be unlimited, to accommodate the trade; and that the time of working should not be controlled.

H. W. FARRAR.

Yorkshire.

H. W. Farrar.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH ISHERWOOD and Sons, Stone Bridge Mill, Armley.

No. 12.  
J. Isherwood.

A. 1.—Scribbling and slubbing, and fulling woollen cloth.

A. 2.—We only entered this mill October 1832, and cannot answer this question.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Fourteen horse. We employ the whole.

A. 5.—Thirty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 11     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.      | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 9s.      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s. 1d. | —        |

A. 7.—Four persons, earning 1l. 10s. each, in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None at all.

A. 9.—They receive the same for over-hours.

A. 10.—They commence at six o'clock in the morning and stop at seven in the evening, except Saturday, when they stop at five o'clock.

A. 12.—It is less by two hours, and not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour at eight o'clock; one hour at twelve; half an hour at four.

A. 14.—The engine stops half an hour of the meal-times; only four work, and it takes them one quarter of their time to do it in, the rest to take their meat in.

A. 15.—We have not made up any lost time at present for this reason.

A. 16.—We have not any.

A. 17.—Not having run one year, we cannot answer this.

A. 18.—They that are paid by the week are pulled off according as they are paid over-hours.

A. 19.—We have no fine but one; that is, if they do not attend regular, we get fresh hands.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; the men cannot work to advantage more than eleven or twelve hours, exclusive of meal-times.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; they are employed in piecing cardings.

A. 24, 25, & 26.—See Answer 2.

A. 27.—If you can stop the progress of drinking, our opinion is, the poor man will be more enabled to send his children where they work regular hours, or keep more of them at home.

JOSEPH ISHERWOOD & Sons.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES CLIFF, Arncliffe Mill, Arncliffe.

No. 13.  
James Cliff.

A. 1.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 2.—About 1793.

A. 3.—Water, supplied from the Ewebeck.

A. 4.—Estimated at nine horse power; all employed by the occupier.

(APP.—C. 1.)

N

A. 5.



Yorkshire.  
James Cliff.

| A. 5.—Forty-five persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |   |
|--------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|
| 10 and under 12 years          | - | 2      | - | 1        | - |
| 12 and under 14                | — | 4      | - | 3        | - |
| 14 and under 16                | — | 5      | - | —        | - |
| 16 and under 18                | — | 7      | - | 4        | - |
| 18 and under 21                | — | 4      | - | 5        | - |
| 21 and upwards                 | - | 8      | - | 2        | - |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— |   | MALES.  |   | FEMALES. |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------|---|----------|---|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - | 2s. 6d. | - | 2s. 6d.  | - |
| 12 and under 14                       | — | 3s.     | - | 3s.      | - |
| 14 and under 16                       | — | 4s.     | - | —        | - |
| 16 and under 18                       | — | 5s. 6d. | - | 4s.      | - |
| 18 and under 21                       | — | 7s. 6d. | - | 6s.      | - |
| 21 and upwards                        | - | 12s.    | - | 6s.      | - |

| A. 7.—Nine persons; viz. |   | MALES.          |   | FEMALES.       |   |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|---|----------------|---|
| 18 and under 21 years    | - | —               | - | 3, earning 6s. | - |
| 21 and upwards           | - | 6, earning 10s. | - | —              | - |

A. 8.—Three males, employed as piecers.

A. 9.—Same as when they are paid for over-hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning to seven o'clock at night, all the year.

A. 11.—Independent of other mills.

A. 12.—The same as other days, being near no market.

A. 13.—One hour allowed at noon. Those at piece-work go home to breakfast and tea, about eight o'clock in the morning and four o'clock in the evening.

A. 14.—Stops during the hour of dinner.

A. 15.—By the addition of one hour per day to the regular time, which having been paid for when water was deficient, no further allowance is made.

A. 16.—Sometimes; according to circumstances.

A. 17.—One day each on Kettlewell fair days, and on Christmas-day.

A. 18.—No holidays but as stated above; no holiday times made up, but the people receive their wages for that time.

A. 19.—No regulations.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; children in this situation could not be procured.

A. 22.—Under certain circumstances.

A. 23.—No; they are employed as piecers.

A. 24.—Every day in the week that there has been a sufficiency of water, with the exception of the holidays already stated; no particular account kept.

A. 25.—Cannot tell.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Less interference between the master and the workpeople and the better.

JAMES CLIFF.

No. 14.  
J. Barber & Co.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH BARBER and Co., Holm Bridge Mill, Austonley.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing of wool, and milling of cloth.

A. 2.—Original building ancient; principal part rebuilt A.D. 1823.

A. 3.—Both steam and water. Steam-power only used in cases of extreme drought, or scarcity of water.

A. 4.—Power of the steam-engine fourteen horse. Two water-wheels when steam is not applied; eighteen horse power.

| A. 5.—Twenty-nine persons; viz. — |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|
| Under 10 years of age             | - | 2      | - | 3        | - |
| 10 and under 12 years             | - | 5      | - | 3        | - |
| 12 and under 14                   | — | 4      | - | 1        | - |
| 14 and under 16                   | — | 1      | - | —        | - |
| 16 and under 18                   | — | 1      | - | —        | - |
| 18 and under 21                   | — | 2      | - | —        | - |
| 21 and upwards                    | - | 5      | - | 2        | - |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - | 5s.    | - | 5s.      | - |
| 12 and under 14                       | — | 6s.    | - | 6s.      | - |

| A. 7.—Seventeen persons; viz. |   | MALES.             |   | FEMALES.           |   |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| Under 10 years of age         | - | 2, earning 4s. 6d. | - | 3, earning 4s. 6d. | - |
| 10 and under 12 years         | - | 3, earning 4s. 6d. | - | 2, earning 4s. 6d. | - |
| 14 and under 16               | — | 1, earning 14s.    | - | —                  | - |
| 16 and under 18               | — | 1, earning 18s.    | - | —                  | - |
| 18 and under 21               | — | 2, earning 18s.    | - | —                  | - |
| 21 and upwards                | - | 3, earning 24s.    | - | —                  | - |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

Six persons are paid by weekly wages as per Question 6; seventeen as per Question 7; and six persons are employed in the fulling mill.

A. 8.



A. 8.—Twenty-seven.

A. 9.—They are not abated for under-hours, nor paid for over-hours.

A. 10.—Day's work begins at six, and terminates at eight; working hours fewer in the winter than the summer months, having less demand in winter.

A. 12.—Day's work on Saturdays two hours less than other days; this two hours not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast at eight; one hour for dinner, twelve to one; half an hour for afternoon drinking, half past four. Two individuals have to work during breakfast and afternoon meal, but are relieved.

A. 14.—Moving power does not stand statedly, except at dinner hour. See Question 13.

A. 15.—Time not made up.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Various holidays.

A. 18.—Workpeople not paid for holiday time.

A. 19.—No fines enforced.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Only one set of children. No objections if the plan were practicable; but the question is deserving of serious consideration.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments sanctioned.

A. 23.—The nature of the work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age; but children under that age will perform some work as well as those who are older; this process is piecing cardings.

A. 24 & 25.—No account kept.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—We are decidedly of opinion that there should be some restriction as to the hours of labour performed by children.

JOSEPH BARBER & Co.

Yorkshire.

J. Barber & Co.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN HARPIN and Co., Bottoms Mill, Austonley.

No. 15.  
J. Harpin & Co.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, spinning, and fulling woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected in 1825, and gradually filled with machinery for the above purpose.

A. 3.—Water from the river Holm, and steam when short of water.

A. 4.—The engine is twenty-horse; we have two water-wheels, about fifteen horse power each. No part let off for other purposes.

A. 5.—Fifty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | 7        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 12     | —        |

Employed in scribbling, carding, slubbing, and spinning.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.    | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s.    | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s.   | 12s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.   | —        |

A. 7.—Twelve persons; viz.

|                | MALES.           | FEMALES |
|----------------|------------------|---------|
| 21 and upwards | 12, earning 21s. | —       |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—The whole number except five, who pay the others their wages.

A. 9.—No over-hours.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and terminates at eight in the evening, when there is daylight at six in the morning. During winter we begin at daylight in the morning, and work about twelve hours.

A. 11.—Having a steam-engine, this question does not apply to us.

A. 12.—About two hours less on Saturdays, and not made up again.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for other refreshments. Breakfast about eight, dinner half past twelve, the other refreshment half past four in the afternoon.

A. 14.—Stops during dinner. The scribblers run during the other two meals.

A. 15.—Generally lost to all parties.

A. 16.—We have had no accident of consequence. Nothing allowed during sickness.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, three days at the feast, half a day on Shrove Tuesday, one day at Easter.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays; the time is not worked up again.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 19.



Yorkshire.  
J. Harpin & Co.

- A. 19.—We have no fines.  
A. 20.—No.  
A. 21.—No; we consider it impossible to find two sets of children in this neighbourhood.  
A. 22.—We dislike corporal punishments, though sometimes the men think it necessary.  
We have no regular rule.  
A. 23.—Piecing the cardings is considered to be best done by children nine or ten years of age; and the greatest number of small children are in that department.  
A. 24.—We have kept no regular account, therefore cannot answer this question.  
A. 25.—No account.  
A. 26.—None.

JOHN HARPIN & CO.

No. 16.  
G. S. Wells.

ANSWERS of GEORGE S. WELLS, Ripponden, Barkisland.

- A. 1.—Cotton spinning and twisting.  
A. 2.—Erected forty years ago; first employed in cotton-spinning in 1830.  
A. 3.—Water from the Ryburn.  
A. 4.—About eight horse power, the whole of which is employed.  
A. 5.—Fifty-two persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | 6      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | 1        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:
- |                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —       | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 3s. 6d. | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 18s.    | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 24s.    | —        |
- A. 7.—Twenty persons; viz.:
- |                              | MALES.               | FEMALES. |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| 18 and under 21 years of age | 2, earning 17s. 7d.  | —        |
| 21 and upwards               | 18, earning 17s. 7d. | —        |
- In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.
- A. 8.—Seventeen; twelve boys and five girls, from eleven to sixteen years of age.  
A. 9.—We never work over-hours.  
A. 10.—It should begin at six o'clock and end at half past seven, if circumstances allowed it.  
A. 11.—Of course we are dependent on a supply of water; but in the most droughty seasons we never commence before five nor work after nine o'clock.  
A. 12.—It is; and the time is never made up.  
A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock.  
A. 14.—The moving power only stops during breakfast and dinner.  
A. 15.—We lose a great portion of time in droughty seasons, the whole of which we can never make up; our practice has been to pay the hands full wages, and make up the time as far as we could.  
A. 16.—We have been fortunate in having so little sickness, that the time has always been allowed the hands.  
A. 17.—Two whole and two half holidays.  
A. 18.—They are paid for their holiday time, and never make it up again.  
A. 19.—I have often threatened to fine, but never yet carried these threats into execution.  
A. 20.—No.  
A. 21.—Never.  
A. 22.—They are not; nor have any ever been inflicted.  
A. 23.—Not if a sufficient number at and above that age could be obtained; the greatest number of children employed in my works are piecers.  
A. 26.—No.  
A. 27.—I have no further remarks to offer.

G. S. WELLS.



## ANSWERS of JOHN BURNLEY and Sons, Hick Well Croft Mill, Batley.

Yorkshire.

No. 18.

J. Burnley & Sons.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—February, 1830.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-five horses. We employ the whole.

A. 5.—Seventy-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards —      | 14     | 16       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d.  | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d.  | 3s. 2d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.      | 3s. 7d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7s.      | 4s. 8d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s. 6d.  | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s. 5d. | 6s. 3d.  |

A. 7.—Eight persons: viz. —

|                | MALES.          | FEMALES. |
|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| 21 and upwards | 8, earning 30s. | —        |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes; they are paid for over-hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening, regularly through the year, excepting some solitary instances, which may not add more than one day or two in a year.

A. 12.—Nine hours; and not made up at any other time.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight o'clock to half past; one hour for dinner, from twelve o'clock to one; half an hour to tea, from four o'clock to half past.

A. 14.—Stands at noon, and runs during breakfast and tea time, when five females are employed during the time in serving a scribbler each, at which process they have plenty of spare time to take their meals.

A. 15.—If it is half a day, the workpeople are deducted, or if an hour or two it is made up.

A. 16.—If any misfortune occurs we make an allowance, according to the necessity of the case.

A. 17.—Four holidays of two days each, and one half holiday.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays, or made up at any other time.

A. 19.—No fines or punishments allowed whatever.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; we conceive the children will stand as well as the men.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; in piecing cardings.

A. 24.—From January 1st to December 31st, 1832, three hundred and three days and half, and fifty-two Saturdays.

A. 25.—From January 1st to December 31st, 1832, three thousand one hundred and fifty-nine hours.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We conceive an act of parliament, restricting the hours of labour to eleven per day, would have a happy tendency to check any unjustifiable and oppressive labour being exacted, to the injury of the health or morals of the children, by any manufacturer.

JOHN BURNLEY &amp; Sons.

## ANSWERS of JOHN CLAPHAM, for Nusseys and Clapham, Brookroyd, Batley.

No. 19.  
John Clapham.

A. 1.—Woollen mill. In the processes of scribbling and slubbing of wool.

A. 2.—1792.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—About fifteen horses.

5.—Forty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 13     | 2        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

O

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
John Clapham.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— |   |          |   | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------------|---|----------|---|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years                  | - | 3s.      | - | -      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14                        | — | 3s.      | - | -      | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16                        | — | 3s.      | - | -      | 3s.      |
| 16 and under 18                        | — | —        | - | -      | 4s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21                        | — | —        | - | -      | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards                         | - | 18s. 6d. | - | -      | 6s. 8d.  |

A. 7.—Seven persons, 21 years and upwards, earning 1l. 1s. 3½d. each, in a regular week of sixty-five hours and a half.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The children, when they work over-time, have the same wages per hour for all extra time. The adults have no addition for extra time, nor deduction for short time.

A. 10.—At six o'clock every morning, except Monday, when it is seven, and terminates at half past seven, except on the Saturday, when it is five.

A. 11.—No water-wheel.

A. 12.—The Saturday's work is two hours less than on other days, and the time made up by ending half an hour later on other days; so as to make up eleven hours per day, or sixty-five and a half per week.

A. 13.—Two hours per day : breakfast, half an hour at eight; dinner, one hour at twelve; drinking, half an hour at half past four o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops at dinner-time altogether; at the other meal-times, except the scribblers, which are seven, and are half the work of the servers.

A. 15.—We make up no time lost in this way, except when very busy, when we make it up by half an hour extra per day: to those who work by the piece we pay them accordingly; to adults, who have standing weekly wages, we neither add for over, nor deduct for short time, but the children are all paid for extra time at the same rate per hour as for regular time.

A. 16.—We find a surgeon, and allow regular wages; but for several years past have had only one case of a finger much crushed, and the boy had several weeks' wages paid him till he returned to his work.

A. 17 & 18.—Seven days; namely, Christmas, two days and a half; New-year's day, half a day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, one day; Whitsuntide, one day; Birstal feast, one day and a half. Part are paid, others not paid, and the time is not made up.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. Loss of time in the change of one set of hands for another; less readiness in their application to their employment; more dissipated and careless; also an increase of wages, which the trade could not bear: and children, at a suitable age, could not generally be procured.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Yes. As pieceners of rovings, and always make the best pieceners when introduced under nine years of age: it is time for them to go to other employments at twelve.

A. 24.—We always run, except on Sundays and holidays, as stated before.

A. 25.—Answered before.

A. 26.—Eight of the men are earning about 2s. per week more, in consequence of an advance of wages, since May last.

A. 27.—We think eleven hours, as stated before, the most practicable system in this part of the country, and any shorter limit would be exceedingly objectionable, and much deprecated both by the workpeople and masters. The Trades' Union dictates the rate of wages we are to pay, the men we are to employ, and would also dictate the hours of labour, if they wished them to be less. We are under sufficient restraint without Act of Parliament.

JOHN CLAPHAM.

No. 20.  
John Nussey.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN NUSSEY, Carlinghow Mill, Batley.

A. 1.—Broad woollen cloth. In the processes of scribbling, carding, spinning, and fulling.

A. 2.—1826. An interruption of 40 weeks during 1831-1832 took place in consequence of the mill being burnt down.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty horse power.

A. 5.—Seventy persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 9      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 8        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 6        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 17     | —        |

A. 6.



| A. 6.—Fifty persons ; viz. | TOTAL AMOUNT. | AVERAGING.                             |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------|
| To twenty-eight males -    | 180s.         | 6s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. each person.    |
| To twenty-two females -    | 102s.         | 4s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ d. — |
| Total - -                  | 282s.         | 5s. 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. —               |

Yorkshire.

John NusseyA. 7.—Twelve men and 12 women, averaging 9s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., in a regular week of 65 hours.

A. 8.—Five mule-pieceners and three fullers.

A. 9.—The same per hour, except three men.

A. 10.—Begins at seven o'clock on Monday mornings; six o'clock on other mornings; terminates at half-past seven P. M., except Saturdays, when it terminates at five o'clock in summer, and four in winter.

A. 12.—Less, and not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner at twelve; half an hour for refreshment at four o'clock P. M.

A. 14.—Stops at noon, but moves at other times on account of the fulling. Occasionally also moves at noon and all night for the same purpose.

A. 15.—Lost time is not made up.

A. 16.—Surgeon allowed, but no instance has yet occurred to require one, no accident nor absence from sickness having yet taken place, except one slubber a few days from cold, his place being supplied from his own family, and his wages, by piece-work, amounting to 28s. per week, which were paid.

A. 17.—Three days, sometimes four; and eight half holidays.

A. 18.—Part are paid, and part are not paid. Time not made up.

A. 19.—No fines of any kind.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. The objections would be, loss of time in the change of one set for another, less aptitude to their work, more dissipated and careless, and increase of wages the trade could not bear; and lastly, hands at a suitable age could not be procured.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—It does. As pieceners of rovings; children always make the best pieceners when introduced under nine years of age, and it is time for them to go to other employments at twelve.

A. 24.—No register has been kept.

A. 25.—Not accurately known, but certainly under the regular time before stated.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—No regulation required, and would be more deprecated by the workpeople than by their employers. The children employed in the woollen-cloth trade are not very numerous, the hours of labour are not excessive, and the work light, and the employment allowed on all hands to be conducive to health.

If any regulation be necessary on account of other manufactures, I should wish the time to be limited by *hours per week*, and not hours per day, which limit, if the welfare of the workpeople and the prosperity of the country is to be regarded, rather than the outcry of a faction, ought not to be less than sixty-six hours per week.

N. B. No regulation by Act of Parliament is necessary, because the Union among the workpeople dictates to us the rate of wages we are to pay, the men we are to employ, and, if they desired it, would dictate the hours of labour also. Our servants are our masters, and the situation of employer is become exceedingly unpleasant.

JOHN NUSSEY.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SHEARD, SPEDDING and Co., Batley.

No. 21.

Sheard, Spedding,  
& Co.

A. 1.—Woollen. Flushings, paddings, and druggets from wool and rags.

A. 2.—1822. Same as above.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—One engine, 30 horses power; one ditto 20 ditto; employed by the owners, except about two horses power we let off for the teasing of woollen rags.

| A. 5.—Seventy-one persons ; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age -          | 8      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years -          | 10     | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 — -              | 6      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 — -              | 2      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 — -              | 2      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 — -              | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards - -               | 23     | 1        |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age -               | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years -               | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 — -                   | 4s.      | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 — -                   | 4s. 6d.  | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 — -                   | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 — -                   | 14s. 6d. | 14s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards - -                    | 20s.     | 8s. 6d.  |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 7.



Yorkshire.

Sheard, Spedding,  
& Co.

A. 7.—Eight men, earning 1*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* each, in a regular week of sixty-three hours. On the 26th day of February last, those eight men turned out for an advance of wages, and stopped our works; and we were (and are still) obliged to pay an advance of 10 per cent. on the above wages.

A. 8.—Four men, who are paid by the millers or fullers of cloth.

A. 9.—The same per hour for over-hours as during the regular time.

A. 10.—From March to September, Monday morning at seven o'clock; other mornings at six, and terminates at seven. From September to March, commences at seven in the morning, and stops at eight at night.

A. 12.—From March to September, terminates work at half past four o'clock. From September to March at four. The time is not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast; one hour for dinner; and half an hour for drinking; stops at eight, twelve, and four. All at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops for dinner only. The scribbler feeders are the only persons employed in the mill at breakfasts and drinkings, and they have plenty of leisure time to take their victuals; all the adults, and the other children (except as above) go to their respective homes to all their meals if they please.

A. 15.—If an accident happen that stops the works for three or four hours in a week, which seldom happens, we make up the lost time by one hour or half an hour per day, if necessity requires.

A. 16.—We always make allowances, according as the circumstances of the case require.

A. 17.—Ten days holidays in the year, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—Our day labourers are paid for all the holidays. The time is not made up.

A. 19.—No fines for irregularity, except for smoking in the mill.

A. 20.—The fulling stocks run six days, and occasionally three, four, or five nights per week; four men are able to work the stocks, and eight men are regularly employed, who take the night-work alternately.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment is allowed here; if any child is disorderly, one of the masters is generally informed, and a reprimand is given, which always has the best effect.

A. 23.—Piecing cardings. Yes, we think a healthy child from eight to ten years of age is better able to stand their work than of twelve; they have not more than one ounce and a half weight of cardings to take at once, and the work they have to do is slowly moving, but always in action; and a child from eight to ten is always in an erect position; a taller one has to stoop downwards, and it affects the frame more considerably than children of a less stature.

A. 24.—From Christmas 1831 to Christmas 1832, we made ten days and a half short of the full time, as stated in clause 10.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—My Lord. We have given you as correct a statement as possible; we are of opinion restrictions are unnecessary here. Since the commencement of our works we do not know we ever in one year made more time than in the last; we are of opinion to restrict the hours of labour would be injurious to us, and also to the operatives.

SHEARD, SPEDDING & Co.

No. 22.

Samuel Walker.

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL WALKER, for J. Walker and Sons, Beeston.

A. 1.—Scribbling, and slubbing and spinning wool; and in weaving, fulling, and dressing cloth.

A. 2.—Part of it built in 1785, another part in 1795, and another part in 1825.

A. 3.—Steam-engine.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, 28 horses power; employed wholly by ourselves in the above manufacture, &c.

A. 5.—One hundred and eighty-one persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 1  | - | - | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2  | - | - | 13       |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 5  | - | - | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 6  | - | - | 16       |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 3  | - | - | 6        |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 16 | - | - | 17       |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 63 | - | - | 26       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |              |   |   | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|--------|--------------|---|---|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3 <i>s.</i>  | - | - | 3 <i>s.</i> |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3 <i>s.</i>  | - | - | 3 <i>s.</i> |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 6 <i>s.</i>  | - | - | 4 <i>s.</i> |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 10 <i>s.</i> | - | - | 5 <i>s.</i> |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 14 <i>s.</i> | - | - | 6 <i>s.</i> |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 18 <i>s.</i> | - | - | 6 <i>s.</i> |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 24 <i>s.</i> | - | - | 7 <i>s.</i> |

A. 8.



A. 8.—The fillers and piecers for the slubbers; the ditto for the spinners. The fillers' 6 in number for slubbers, will have about 5s. per week each; the piecers, 18 ditto, 3s. each.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, except on Saturday, when they only work until five o'clock, P.M.

A. 11.—Steam.

A. 12.—Work from six o'clock in the morning to five o'clock in the evening, which is paid for as a day of eleven hours, without being made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, eight to half-past; one hour for dinner, twelve to one; half an hour for drinking, half-past four to five.

A. 14.—The engine generally works during meal-times; the scribble fillers, six women, fill the scribbling machines, and the fulling stocks are working. All other machinery stands during meal-times.

A. 15.—If an accident occur to the engine or machinery likely to require it to stand longer than one hour, we dismiss the workmen, and pay them for such time as they attend.

A. 16.—Sometimes an allowance is made, but that is at the discretion of the master. No stipulated regulations are made on the subject.

A. 17.—One day, 7 half days. Christmas-day, one day; Shrove Tuesday, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, Leeds fair, Beeston feast, Leeds winter fair, New Year's day, for half a day; and occasionally, when any particular occurrence happens in the neighbourhood.

A. 18.—Very few of the workmen are paid during holidays. If the time of a holiday be made up, the workmen are paid for it. We have no particular rule on the matter.

A. 19.—We usually make a deduction for the exact time deficient after the rate of the man's wages per day. Ten minutes.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—We have no regulations on this subject. We are not desirous that corporal punishment should be inflicted, which we suppose scarcely ever happens.

A. 23.—For piecers for slubbing and spinning, children under twelve years of age are generally preferred.

A. 24.—We cannot give a correct or exact reply to this. Our engine has generally worked from six o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock in the evening, on every day excepting holidays or for repairs.

A. 25.—Further than what is implied in reply to Q. 24, we would observe, that although the engine has generally worked during the hours stated, still, as the whole of the machinery has often been but partly employed, or one part working during those hours, and other parts working less, we do not think the average of the whole of our machinery working, or workmen's time, will amount to sixty-four hours per week.

A. 26.—We have made no alterations, or any new system worth mentioning, during this period.

A. 27.—If it appear that children are overworked in woollen manufactories, and that parents will not, or cannot protect them, we deem it right that legislative enactments should be made for that purpose, but not otherwise. But whilst these enactments are making to protect workpeople from oppression, we think some regard should be had to such regulations made amongst workmen as have a tendency greatly to annoy and oppress themselves and masters; as a specimen of which we submit our present situation with our workpeople.

We understand that the greatest part of our workpeople, excepting women, are members of a club or combination called the "Trades Union." We have employed a woman named Mary Brown for nearly sixteen years as a teazle setter. She is now paid by the piece, or 1½d. per teazle-frame; at which price she can earn upwards of 20s. per week of 64 hours. We have several times been desired by members of the Trades Union to dismiss her, and on the 28th and 31st May last a similar requisition was made from the Union, with an intimation that if we did not comply, unpleasant consequences would follow. We did not comply with these requisitions; and since the 31st May, nearly the whole of the men, boys, and children employed by us have not been to their work. Their object, we suppose, is, to compel us to discharge this Mary Brown, and two or three others not acting according to the rules of the Union. Others have since been induced to leave us, and we judge others, from fear, do not apply to us for work. The turn-out workmen say they do not complain of their wages, or of any treatment they have individually received from us.

We understand that the majority of workpeople in this neighbourhood are in the Trades Union.

SAMUEL WALKER.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM ANDERTON, Dubb Mill, Bingley.

No. 23.  
William Anderton.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—The mill was erected about the year 1819, and applied to its present purpose immediately after it was finished.

A. 3.—The whole of the power employed is steam.

(APP.—C. 1.)

P

A. 4.



Yorkshire.

William Anderton.

A. 4.—The engine is considered to be from fourteen to fifteen-horse power. We employ the whole of the power ourselves.

A. 5.—Fifty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|----------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2 | - | -        | - | 4 |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4 | - | -        | - | 6 |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 9 | - | -        | - | 1 |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 2 | - | -        | - | 7 |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | — | - | -        | - | 7 |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | — | - | -        | - | 7 |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 3 | - | -        | - | 4 |

This list includes nine females, whose ages vary from 14 to upwards of 21 years, whose hours of labour are not exactly regulated by the engine, but average somewhat less than the average length of time the engine runs.

A. 7.—We employ no hands but such as receive standing wages.

A. 8.—We employ no description of persons to whom this question is applicable.

A. 9.—We only run over-hours in order to make up deficiencies made by accidents, or occasional holidays, and the wages at those times are precisely the same.

A. 10.—Our regular day's work begins about six o'clock in the morning, and for the first five days in the week terminates about half past seven; but on Saturdays, at six o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—Our regular week's work amounts to seventy-five hours, eleven and a quarter of which hours are run on the Saturday, and the remaining sixty-three hours and three quarters are divided equally among the other five days of the week.

A. 13.—The machinery never stops for meals, except at noon, when three quarters of an hour is allowed for dinner; the other meals are taken while the hands are at work, at that time which best suits their respective families to carry them.

A. 14.—As has been written in the preceding answer, the engine only stops at noon: the work of the junior hands is of such a nature that they generally take their breakfast and afternoon meal while watching their work.

A. 15.—If the period lost be but short, it is made up by working over-hours; if long, the hands are abated for the whole length of time so lost, and in this case is lost to both master and workpeople.

A. 16.—If by accidents in this question be meant those only arising while at work, we answer that none have happened since we first occupied the mill we now occupy. We do not abate for sickness, except when those sick are unable to attend their employment for a considerable length of time.

A. 17.—There are six regular holidays during the year, making in the whole about eight days.

A. 18.—The whole of the factory stands during holidays. The hands are paid for no holidays. One day out of the above-mentioned eight days is gained by running extra time, at the regular rate of wages.

A. 19. We enforce no fines for irregularity or disobedience: if any hands be absent half an hour or upwards, they are abated in proportion to their regular rate of wages.

A. 20.—We employ only one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children, who work the same length of time that any of the adults work. We consider the work of the children to be easier than that of the adults.

A. 22.—We have no particular rule on this head; but may safely say, that corporal punishment is scarcely used, if used at all, in our mill.

A. 23.—The work performed by children under twelve might be performed by those above, but it is equally as well done by those under as it would be by those above. The whole of the young children employed by us are employed in piecing threads of yarn that happen to break, betwixt what is called the front roller of the spinning frame and their entrance on the yarn bobbin: in addition to this, they have to keep their machinery clean, &c.

A. 25.—The regular hours, as stated above.

A. 26.—No alteration; we never reckon to vary much.

A. 27.—As to Act of Parliament, from what I see and know of children employed in factories, I know of no over-working or ill-using, as I have seen stated in the handbills, &c. which have been printed and circulated in this neighbourhood.

WILLIAM ANDERTON.

ANSWERS of FREDERICK GREENWOOD, of the Firm of Messrs. John Greenwood and Sons, Vale Mill, Bingley.

No. 24.

Fred. Greenwood.

A. 1.—Spinning of cotton-twist from Nos. 20 to 36.

A. 2.—In the year 1792.

A. 3.—Water, Haworth Sun and North Becks.

A. 4.—Two powerful water-wheels; no power is let off.

A. 5.



A. 5.—Seventy-three persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 10       |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 5        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 7        |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | 20       |

Yorkshire.

Fred. Greenwood.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —         | 1s. 6d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 3d.   | 2s. 3d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 0d.   | 2s. 11½d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 3d.   | 4s. 7d.   |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s. 10½d. | 5s. 3d.   |
| 18 and under 21       | —         | 6s. 6½d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s. 5d.  | 7s.       |

A. 7.—Ten persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 1, earning 7s. 9½d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 9, earning 7s. 9½d. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Over-hours paid in proportion to their standing weekly wages.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven at night, except Saturday.

A. 11.—Very little affected by drougthy weather.

A. 12.—Mill begins at six in the morning, and stops at six at night.

A. 13.—Dinner time at half past twelve at noon, and fifty minutes allowed.

A. 14.—The mill stops during the dinner hour.

A. 15.—We make up lost time at the rate of half an hour per day.

A. 16.—In case of accidents from the machinery (which seldom occur), the surgeon's bill is generally paid.

A. 17.—From January 1st to December 31st, 1832, six whole days and seven half days holiday.

A. 18.—No wage is paid, nor time made up for holidays.

A. 19.—The rule at the end of the week is, the total absence of time is taken, and a deduction made in proportion to their wage.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands are worked.

A. 21.—Only one set required.

A. 22.—Not allowed.

A. 23.—In doffing the bobbins and cleaning the rooms, &amp;c.

A. 24.—The whole of the time, except the holidays mentioned in Question 17th.

A. 25.—Average twelve hours a day.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We consider twelve hours a day the most proper time to be allowed, both for the master and the hands employed.

FREDERICK GREENWOOD.

## ANSWERS of JOHN ILLINGWORTH, Micklethwate, Bingley.

No. 25.

John Illingworth.

A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn.

A. 2.—In 1812.

A. 3.—Water only. Morton Beck.

A. 4.—Nine-horse power. None let off.

A. 5.—Thirty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 4        |

Paid to thirty hands, 8l. 15s. per week.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 2d. | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —       | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | —       | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 4s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 5s. 10d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    | 6s. 6d.  |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 7.



Yorkshire.  
John Illingworth.

A. 7.—Six persons, viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1, earning 3s. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1, earning 4s. |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1, earning 5s. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3, earning 9s. |

In a regular week of seventy-seven hours.

A. 8.—All the hands are paid by the master.

A. 9.—They never work over-hours.

A. 10.—At six o'clock, till a quarter to eight in the evening, and no alteration.

A. 11.—We take it when it comes.

A. 12.—I always allow them one hour on Saturday, at the least; but very rarely light up on Saturday night.

A. 13.—Three-quarters of an hour at twelve o'clock When they think proper at other times.

A. 14.—Three-quarters of an hour at twelve o'clock.

A. 15.—I have not had an accident for twenty years to make any abatement.

A. 16.—Sickness for any length of time I bate them.

A. 17.—Holidays they are bated for.

A. 18.—Not made up.

A. 19.—No fining.

A. 20.—Only one.

A. 21.—No, never.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 23.—We can do with children under twelve very well for spinning.

A. 27.—Eleven hours and a half, I think, will be the best for both the master and work-people.

JOHN ILLINGWORTH.

No. 26.  
John Sharp.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN SHARP, at Bingley.

A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.

A. 2.—Erected for a cotton factory from thirty to forty years ago, and enlarged in 1830.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse power. Employ the whole power.

|                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | MALES. |   |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8      | - | - | - | 9        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 10     | - | - | - | 13       |
| 12 and under 14       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 11     | - | - | - | 12       |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9      | - | - | - | 10       |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3      | - | - | - | 9        |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | —      | - | - | - | 6        |
| 21 and upwards        | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20     | - | - | - | 10       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | MALES.                   |   |   |   | FEMALES.               |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.  | - | - | - | 1s. 7d.                |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.   | - | - | - | 2s. 11d.               |
| 12 and under 14       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3s. 5d.                  | - | - | - | 3s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.   | - | - | - | 4s. 10d.               |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6s. 4d.                  | - | - | - | 5s. 6d.                |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | —                        | - | - | - | 6s. 6d.                |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. | - | - | - | 6s. 9d.                |

A. 7.—Twelve persons; viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | FEMALES.                            |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2, earning 7s.                      |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2, earning 10s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3, earning 6s. 4d.                  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5, earning 7s. 6d.                  |

In a regular week of seventy-five hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at twenty-eight minutes after seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Ninety minutes less, which is made up at eighteen minutes per day, and included in time mentioned in Question 10.

A. 13.—Forty minutes for dinner, from twelve to twenty minutes before one o'clock; breakfasts and drinkings brought into the factory by the children's parents or others.

A. 14.—At twelve o'clock. Drawing, spinning, winding, &c.

A. 15.—Lost time redeemed beyond the usual hours of labour, and paid for accordingly.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Four holidays and five half-holidays.

A. 18.—In some instances holidays are redeemed and paid for (according to the state of trade.)

A. 19.



A. 19.—Have a small fine from those who are irregular in their attendance, which is divided amongst those who are regular. The interval varies from five to ten minutes according to the description of labour to be performed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; neither do I think it would be practicable.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; spinning.

A. 24 & 25.—Cannot give an answer to these Questions, as the time-books are not taken care of when done with.

A. 26.—I regularly make alterations to keep pace with improvements.

A. 27.—I think it would prove to be a great injury to parents and children, to reduce the hours of labour to a shorter time than the present Act for Cotton Factories.

JOHN SHARP.

Yorkshire.

John Sharp.

### ANSWERS of HENRY KIRKBY, Pateley Bridge.

No. 27.

Henry Kirkby.

A. 1.—Preparing and spinning flax.

A. 2.—In the year 1795 and 6, additions built since.

A. 3.—Water; Felbeck.

A. 4.—From 10 to 20 horse power, and in own possession.

A. 5.—Sixty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | 11       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d. | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.     | 2s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 9d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.     | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s.     | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 6s.     | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 12s.    | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Eight persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 1, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 2, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 5, earning 6s. 6d. |

In a regular week of twelve hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same, but seldom run over-hours.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at seven in the evening.

A. 11.—Not much dependant. In the greatest droughts we commence on the Monday at five or half-past; other days at about seven; stop three or four hours at noon, and terminate about six in the evening.

A. 12.—By about two hours; but made up by twenty minutes from the noon hour.

A. 13.—One hour, except as above: breakfast and drinkings are taken whilst they attend their work, mostly having time; if not, the spare hands assist them, as the parents do not all bring these meals at a stated time.

A. 14.—Stop at noon.

A. 15.—By reason of short water and accidents, have occasionally only paid for five days, but not less, although have not done more than three days and a half work.

A. 16.—If it do not exceed half a day: seldom have any accidents; but if, generally the doctor's bill paid.

A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, one day and a half; Whitsuntide, one day and a half; feast, in September, two and a half; and Christmas-day.

A. 18.—Prior to 1825, I gave the half days at the above times; since, they have either allowed or made up the time by about half or three quarters of an hour per day, if the water and season permitted, which is generally left optional to the hands.

A. 19.—No fine, only deduct wages for non-attendance.

A. 20.—I do not.

A. 21.—I have not; neither would it be at all practicable in this thinly-populated part of the country.

A. 22.—Not at all.

A. 26.—No material change.

A. 27.—I am decidedly of opinion that some limitation to the hours of children attending factories is absolutely necessary; say ten hours, exclusive of meals, may be the best.

HENRY KIRKBY.



## ANSWERS of JOHN &amp; GEORGE METCALFE, High and Low Bishopside.

Yorkshire.

No. 28.

J. &amp; G. Metcalfe.

A. 1.—Flax-spinning.

A. 2.—1814.

A. 3.—Water; river Nidd.

A. 4.—Fifteen-horse power. The whole.

A. 5.—Seventy persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 9        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 9        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | 13       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —        | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 1d.  | 3s. 2d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 1½d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s.      | 4s. 7d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | 5s. 4d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 4d. | 5s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Eight females; viz. 16 and under 18 years

18 and under 21 — 2, earning 6s. 6d.

21 and upwards — 4, earning 6s. 6d.

In a regular week of 72 hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Six in the morning to seven in the evening.

A. 11.—Independent of other mills. Droughty seasons very rarely cause any variation in the time of commencing and concluding work.

A. 12.—Two hours less. Made up by working part of the noon-hour.

A. 13.—One hour allowed, from twelve to one, for dinner. Time to take breakfast and tea.

A. 14.—The mill stops only during the noon-hour. The spinners are the only ones engaged while the machinery is in motion.

A. 15.—None made up. Lost to the workpeople.

A. 16.—We pay for medical attendance, but allow no wages on these occasions.

A. 17.—Six half days and one whole day.

A. 18.—Not paid.

A. 19.—An abatement of wages for irregular attendance. Five minutes is the extent of time allowed without such abatement.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of hands; the neighbourhood being too thinly inhabited to admit of more being procured, without incurring considerable expence.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment whatever is permitted.

A. 23.—None under twelve. In the spinning department.

A. 24.—The unavoidable absence of one of the partners, renders it impossible to answer this question at present with precision; but it is pretty certain that the mill has not stood more than a day in any given quarter, except holidays and Sundays.

A. 25.—For the reason assigned in Answer to Question 24, this cannot at present be replied to.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We humbly submit it as our opinion, that ten working hours per day, with an hour for dinner and half an hour each for breakfast and drinking interposed, will be the best arrangement that can be made with regard to time.

JOHN &amp; GEORGE METCALFE.

No. 29.

Thomas Ackroyd.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS ACKROYD, Birkenshaw Bottoms.

A. 1.—Worsted yarn.

A. 2.—Built in 1813 for a cotton mill; stood unoccupied from 1826 to September 1832, when it was made into worsted.

A. 3.—Entirely steam.

A. 4.—The engine, forty horse. None let off.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 6      | 18       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 9      | 22       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 11     | 26       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5      | 13       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 11       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 2        |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standard weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.      | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 6d.  | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s.      | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 10s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s. 6d. | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 25s.     | 7s.      |

Yorkshire.

Thomas Ackroyd.

A. 7.—Sixty-five persons, viz.

|                       | MALES.           | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | —                | 7, earning 9s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —                | 8, earning 10s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | 5, earning 17s.  | 8, earning 11s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 31, earning 20s. | 6, earning 11s. 6d. |

In a regular week of sixty-five hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—They receive a day's wage for ten hours and a half, but the children have never worked over-hours since they came to this mill.

A. 10.—They begin at six o'clock in the morning; and terminate at seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturday is eleven hours (see No. 18.).

A. 13.—The mill stops half an hour for dinner; and as for breakfast, and afternoon drinking, there is a sufficient number of hands kept, so as they can a few get their meals at once, as they receive them from home.

A. 16.—They have their wage paid all the time: and if hurt in the mill, or the premises, I also pay the doctor's bill.

A. 17.—New Year's Day, one day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Good Friday, one day; Easter Monday, half a day; Whit Monday and Tuesday, each half a day; Birkenshaw Feast, one day; Christmas Day, one day; day following, half a day.

A. 18.—I consider seventy-two hours a week; whereas I run seventy-three hours and a half, which is an hour and a half over, which about makes up for the holidays. I pay full for all the holidays, the same as though they were working; and make every one a present at Christmas.

A. 19.—Never make a fine, except they stop wilfully a day.

A. 20.—I have only one set of hands.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—I do not allow as much punishment as what there is in a common day-school; for if they do not behave well, we send them home to their parents.

A. 23.—I have the greatest number, and they suit the best, from the age of nine to fourteen years, in keeping up the threads of the spinning frame, which is very easy work.

A. 24.—I always run my engine regular, as stated before.

A. 27.—I do not think the time we run too long, but am willing to submit to the laws of my country: one request, to let me and my work-people suit ourselves how we run it; for country situations are very different to a town.

THOMAS ACKROYD.

## ANSWERS OF THOMAS ATKINSON, Kirkheaton.

No. 30.

Thomas Atkinson.

A. 1.—Woollen scribbling, slubbing, spinning, weaving, dressing, &amp;c.

A. 2.—Built before 1800.

A. 3.—Steam and water; on the Colne river.

A. 4.—Engine, ten-horse; water wheel, ten-horse; and employs the whole of the power.

A. 5.—One hundred and forty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | 7        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 7        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 81     | 8        |

A. 6.—Male and female scribbling piecers, under fourteen years, 3s. per week, and mule piecers 4s. per week; engine feeders, 4s. per week; burlers, moaters, &amp;c. from 5s. to 8s. per week; males, sixteen and under eighteen, 12s. per week; eighteen and under twenty-one, 16s. per week; twenty-one and upwards, 21s. per week.

A. 8.—Twelve scribbling piecers, males and females, under fourteen years of age, 3s. per week; three carder feeders, 4s.; and six mule piecers, 4s. per week, and chiefly under fourteen years of age.

A. 9.—The same ratio for hours as their weekly wages.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning and eight in the evening throughout the year, during which time they have two hours for meals.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 12.



Yorkshire.

Thomas Atkinson.

A. 12.—From six in the morning till five in the evening, during the summer season; in the winter season, until four o'clock in the afternoon; and pay same for Saturdays as other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour at eight o'clock, one hour at twelve, and half an hour at four o'clock.

A. 15.—Complete loss, both to me and my work-people.

A. 16.—No rule; if any thing is given, it is gratuitously given.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas, half day at Shrovetide, two half days at Easter, one day at Whitsuntide, and one day at May fair.

A. 18.—Abate them for holidays, and pay them for over-time; except in some cases, we don't abate them for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines; but change them for others as soon as possible.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set of hands, because the children will bear their work equally as well as the adult hands.

A. 22.—My orders are to send the children home, if they won't do without beating.

A. 23.—The greatest number in my employ are carding piecers at the billie, from nine to thirteen years of age; if above thirteen, we find them some other employ, that affords a greater wage.

A. 24.—Six days in the week, except some seldom times, for short of work, &c.

A. 27.—No remarks to make: but consider that children do not work—it is only confinement; they work more at play in one hour, and more fatigue, than the confinement all day; say 12 hours.

THOMAS ATKINSON.

No. 31.  
red. Greenwood.

ANSWERS of FREDERICK GREENWOOD, Wreaks Mill, near Ripley, at Birtswith.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning from Nos. 28 to 36.

A. 2.—Don't know the exact year when it was erected; has always been employed as cotton mill; the present owners have had it twenty-seven years.

A. 3.—Water power; river Nidd.

A. 4.—Water-wheel about forty-horse power, and none let.

A. 5.—Eighty-eight persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 6       |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 4       |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | 7       |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 6       |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 17      |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | 28      |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1s. 10½d. | 1s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 1s. 10½d. | 1s. 9¾d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 2s. 7½d.  | 2s. 9½d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2s. 10½d. | 3s. 9½d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 4s. 9d.   | 6s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 6½d. | 6s. 7½d. |

This average of wages includes the whole of the hands employed at this mill; total number eighty-eight; see Query 5.

A. 7.—Fifteen persons, viz.

|                       | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 3, earning 6s. 2d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 12, earning 6s. 2d. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Over-hours paid in proportion to the wage.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and seven at night, except on Saturdays, when they give over at six o'clock.

A. 11.—Time is sometimes lost by drought and backwater, when the hands go home, which is made up by working half an hour a-day.

A. 13.—Dinner-time, ten minutes past twelve o'clock, and begins at one o'clock.

A. 14.—The whole of dinner-time.

A. 15.—Loss of time made up by not more than half an hour a-day. If the hands are absent, deductions are made after the rate of their wage; when the time is made up, no alteration is made in the wages.

A. 16.—The surgeon's bill, if any accident occurs in the mill, is generally paid; but they are of rare occurrence.

A. 17.—In 1832, Shrove Tuesday, half a-day; 21st March, General Fast, one day; 23d April, Monday, Easter, half a-day; 11th June, Whit-Monday, half a-day; July, St. Peter Birstwith Feast, half-day, and Hampsthwaite Feast, half a-day; August, Ripley Fair, half a-day; and Christmas, one day.

A. 18.—No wage paid for the holidays named in No. 17. No time is ever made up for the holidays named, and no wage paid for them.

A. 19.



A. 19.—At the end of the week, the time of the absence is taken, and a deduction made, in proportion to their wages; suppose 6s. a-week, it will be 1*d.* per hour.

A. 20.—None.

A. 21.—None required.

A. 22.—Never; the hands are turned away, without submission is made by them or their parents.

A. 23.—In doffing the bobbins, and sweeping the rooms, &c.

A. 24.—The whole time, with the exception of the holidays, stated in Query 17.

A. 25.—Average twelve hours a-day.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We consider twelve hours a-day a proper time.

FREDERICK GREENWOOD.

Yorkshire.

Fred. Greenwood.

# ANSWERS of Messrs. ADDISON & ROPER, Prospect Mill, Bowling.

No. 32.

Addison & Roper.

A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.

A. 2.—1819.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Thirty horses' power. Part let off, to turn throws for mechanic shop.

| A. 5.—One hundred and fifty-five persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under ten years of age                         | 5      | 13       |
| 10 and under 12 years                          | 6      | 34       |
| 12 and under 14                                | 4      | 30       |
| 14 and under 16                                | —      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18                                | —      | 20       |
| 18 and under 21                                | —      | 17       |
| 21 and upwards                                 | —      | 16       |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.      | FEMALES.                |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | 3 <i>s.</i> | 3 <i>s.</i>             |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 4 <i>s.</i> | 4 <i>s.</i>             |
| 12 and under 14                       | 5 <i>s.</i> | 5 <i>s.</i>             |
| 14 and under 16                       | —           | 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> |
| 16 and under 18                       | —           | 8 <i>s.</i>             |
| 18 and under 21                       | —           | 8 <i>s.</i>             |
| 21 and upwards                        | —           | 8 <i>s.</i>             |

A. 7.—Forty-one females; viz. 16 and under 18 years - 12, earning 7*s.* 6*d.*  
 18 and under 21 — - 15, earning 8*s.* 6*d.*  
 21 and upwards - - 14, earning 10*s.* 6*d.*

In a regular week of 70 hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Rather more than regular wages.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock in the morning, and end at 7 o'clock at night, except Saturdays, on which days we give over at half past five o'clock.

A. 13.—Half an hour allowed for dinner.

A. 14.—Stops at dinner-time.

A. 15.—We make up lost time, by working half an hour longer each day than our regular hours, until such lost time is made up.

A. 16.—If they are sick, we pay them one week's wage; in some cases, two weeks' wage. If they happen to have any accident, we pay them their wage during the whole time.

A. 17 & 18.—Seven days and a half holidays are allowed during the year; for which holidays no deductions are made in their wages, nor do they make up any such lost time. Any other holidays which they may have during the year, besides the seven days and a half, they work overtime for such additional holidays.

A. 19.—We have no fines; if they do not attend in a reasonable way we dismiss them.

A. 20.—We only work one set.

A. 21.—We never employed more than one set of children; were we to employ two sets, wages would be so much reduced as would cause great distress in many families.

A. 22.—No more so than in Sunday schools.

A. 23.—It requires them under twelve years of age. The greatest number are employed in piecing.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think it would be the best to begin at six o'clock in the morning, and close at six o'clock at night; and allow twenty minutes for breakfast, and forty minutes for dinner. And we are of opinion some time ought to be allowed before this restriction takes place, or it will cause distress among the combers and weavers.

ADDISON & ROPER.



Yorkshire.

No. 33.

W. & J. Terry.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM and JOHN TERRY, Bowling.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—January 1st, 1833.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-one horse power; part let off to David Sutcliffe and William Hainsworth, for worsted spinning.

A. 5.—Forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 12       |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 1d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 9d.  | 3s. 8d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 7d.  | 4s. 1d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 4d.  | 5s. 2d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s.      | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s. 6d. | 8s. 3d.  |

A. 7.—Ten females, who work about ten hours per day, at 8s. 3d. per week each.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and ceaseth at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Gives over work at half-past five o'clock.

A. 13.—We allow one hour at noon, and at other meals the children are allowed to sit down till they eat them; but one half of the hour at noon they work, to make up for all holidays and their short time on Saturdays.

A. 14.—Half an hour at noon.

A. 15.—Their wage paid.

A. 16.—They have their wages.

A. 17.—Seven days and three-quarters.

A. 18.—They have their wages.

A. 19.—Never imposed any fine.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, in piecing the threads.

WILLIAM and JOHN TERRY.

## ANSWERS of JOHN AKED, Horton Mill, at Bradford.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—In the year 1820.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Forty-horses power; part lately used for the grinding of corn, and another part let off to Joshua Chapman &amp; Sons, for worsted spinning.

A. 5.—Twenty-eight persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 0d. | 2s. 9d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s. 9d. | 3s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 9d. | 4s. 1½d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 6d. | 4s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | —       | 7s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Twelve persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | —               | 1, earning 8s.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —               | 3,              |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, earning 26s. | 7, earning 10s. |

In a regular week of twelve hours.

One woman only works two hours per day, averages 3s. per week.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.

No. 34.

John Aked.



- A. 9.—Never less, but sometimes a trifle more.
- A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, except Saturdays, when I close at half-past five o'clock.
- A. 12.—One hour and a half less on Saturdays than any other day; see query No. 18.
- A. 13.—Only half an hour allowed for dinner, leaving off at twelve, and beginning at half-past. The other meals are taken during their work.
- A. 14.—The drawers, rovers, spinners, and overlooker.
- A. 15.—If the engine has wholly to stand, my practice is to pay the hands during the time, and then run over half an hour each day, till it is completed, for which they receive no wages.
- A. 16.—If the accident happens in the mill, I employ a surgeon, and pay their wages during the time of absence, but not of sickness.
- A. 17.—Two whole days, and eleven half days during the year.
- A. 18.—Christmas day is given as a holiday, and the six days and a half, together with one hour and a half on Saturdays is made up by running half an hour per day more than twelve hours.
- A. 19.—No fines are imposed; if the people do not attend pretty punctually others are taken in their places.
- A. 20.—No.
- A. 21.—No; nor is it necessary.
- A. 22.—No.
- A. 23.—No; but the parents oblige us to take them before they are that age, else they would remove the elder children. The greatest number are employed in spinning.
- A. 24.—I find it utterly impossible to answer these queries, as no account has been kept of lost time, having run it up again, so soon as the engine was repaired.
- A. 25.—See Answer No. 24.
- A. 26.—None whatever.
- A. 27.—I have no objection to a Ten Hours' Bill; but think it should be brought about gradually: should we reduce from twelve to ten all at once, it would throw a great number of adults out of employment.

JOHN AKED.

Yorkshire.

John Aked.

## ANSWERS of SWITHIN ANDERTON, Bradford.

No. 35.

Swithin Anderton.

- A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn.
- A. 2.—Eighteen hundred and eighteen, 1818.
- A. 3.—Steam.
- A. 4.—Twenty horses power (one concern).
- A. 8.—None.
- A. 9.—When we work over-hours, ten hours a day, or after that rate, is paid for; never run over, or at least have not done so for some years past.
- A. 10.—At six in the morning, until seven at night.
- A. 12.—Ten hours and a half on Saturdays, and nothing made up.
- A. 13.—Half an hour for dinner.
- A. 14.—Half an hour for dinner only. Children engaged in spinning take their breakfast and drinking whilst the engine is at work; but it is a regular custom to put the spare hands to the children's work, whilst they take their meals.
- A. 15.—Any time lost is made up again, in certain proportions every day; say an hour a-day, not more, but sometimes less. The children receiving their regular week's wages.
- A. 16.—If an accident should occur, of course, I should think of allowing the wage for the time off work.
- A. 17.—Eight days in a year.
- A. 18.—The work-people have their holidays as above (No. 17), for which there is no deduction made in their wages. The time is made up in the half hour a-day; instead of running twelve hours per day, we run twelve hours and a half, which makes up for the holidays.
- A. 19.—If any are in the habit of coming late, sometimes they are sent back again until breakfast time, and a quarter of a day's wage deducted. But I am not aware that I have imposed that fine, except there has been a very special reason for doing so.
- A. 20.—No.
- A. 21.—Never more than one set. It would not be at all beneficial to the employers; I think it would be injurious to the work-people, provided that plan could be adopted, as if they run less hours, of course, they must receive less wages.
- A. 22.—Not at all.
- A. 24.—I have for a great number of years worked our regular time; viz. twelve hours a-day, or seventy hours and a half per week on an average.
- A. 25.—Regular time.
- A. 26.—None.
- A. 27.—With respect to the hours of labour, it is my opinion a *Ten Hours' Bill* is quite *uncalled for*; but I have no objection to a restriction to prevent overrunning, and would propose

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

Swithin Anderton.

propose twelve hours a-day for eight months, and eleven hours for the remaining four months. A Ten Hours' Bill will never answer; and as for eight hours, it cannot be brought into operation, with two sets of hands, as it will be impossible to procure hands.

SWITHIN ANDERTON.

No. 36.  
Anderton & Co.

ANSWERS of JOHN ANDERTON and Co., and SAMUEL HATTERSBY and Son, Bradford.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarn, by John Anderton and Co. Manufacturing of spindles and flyers, &c. &c. by Samuel Hattersby and Son.

A. 2.—In 1823 and 1824.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Fourteen horse power. Ten horse power, worsted spinning; four ditto, manufacturing spindles and flyers, &c. &c.

A. 5.—Forty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2 | - | - | -        | 3 | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2 | - | - | -        | 6 | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 5 | - | - | -        | 6 | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 3 | - | - | -        | 6 | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | — | - | - | -        | 4 | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | — | - | - | -        | 3 | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 4 | - | - | -        | — | - | - |

The above list is the persons employed by J. A. and Co.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |         |   |   | FEMALES. |         |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---|---|----------|---------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2s.     | - | - | -        | 3s.     | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s.     | - | - | -        | 4s.     | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 4s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 4s. 6d. | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 5s.     | - | - | -        | 5s. 6d. | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | —       | - | - | -        | 6s.     | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | —       | - | - | -        | 7s.     | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 21s.    | - | - | -        | —       | - | - |

A. 7.—Six persons: viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   | FEMALES. |                    |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|--------------------|---|---|
| 16 and under 18 years | - | - | - | - | -        | 2, earning 7s.     | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | - | - | - | - | -        | 3, earning 7s.     | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | -        | 5, earning 7s. 6d. | - | - |

Reelers and warpers. The above list is the persons employed by J. A. and Co.

In a regular week of seventy-three hours.

A. 8.—Not any.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Begin at six in the morning, and give up at seven in the evening, except Saturday at five in the evening.

A. 12.—Less by two hours on a Saturday, and not made up any way.

A. 13.—Half an hour for dinner, from twelve o'clock till half past.

A. 14.—Only for dinner. Those who take their meals while the mill is at work are pieceners. It is a rule with us to set the doffers to piecen while they take their meals.

A. 15.—Sometimes we make up the time lost by accidents, at the rate of one hour per day; sometimes it is lost to us. The hands paid by the week or time have always their wages, whether the mills be working or not.

A. 16.—We allow nothing in the way of wages during sickness; we pay them during absence from accidents, if they happen when due care has been observed by the party so happening.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, and Good Friday, the whole day; January 1st, half a day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; Summer and Winter Fair, each two half days: that is, two days; ten half days.

A. 18.—The holidays are all paid for, there never is any deduction made in Bradford.

A. 19.—The only deduction we make for being absent, is the time they are absent, according to their regular rate of wages.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children. We are of opinion that children under twelve years of age ought not to work more than six hours per day. We consider it to take two years before a child is competent to manage a sider; and it is our opinion, if children were only worked half the time during their learning to piece, they would make better and be more useful hands.

A. 22.—We have no regulation respecting punishments.

A. 23.—Not particularly under twelve years of age; but children are two years, or thereabouts, before they are considered competent hands; in that case it takes them two years to learn in. The processes in which the greatest numbers are engaged are pieceners.

A. 24.—We have run our regular time during 1830, 1831, and 1832; we have paid our hands their full wage all the time, and we are now running the same.

A. 25.—Nine hundred and forty-nine hours per quarter of a year.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.



A. 27.—We are of opinion, that any regulation restricting the moving power to less than sixty-nine hours per week, would be injurious to the trade in general; but if an Act of Parliament could be so framed as to suit the different branches of trade, and fixing sixty-nine hours per week as a limitation, we think it would be an act of justice to all parties concerned in the manufactures of this country.

JOHN ANDERTON & Co.

Yorkshire.

Anderton & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. BILLINGSLEY and TAUKOND, Bradford.

No. 37.

Billingsley and  
Taukond.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—The 9th of November, 1831.

A. 3.—The power employed is steam only.

A. 4.—The power of the engine is twelve horses. The whole of the power is employed by us.

A. 5.—Sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 11       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 9        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 10       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d. | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d. | 3s. 1½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 3d. | 4s. 0½d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 7s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    | 9s.      |

A. 7.—Sixteen persons; viz.

|                              | FEMALES.           |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years of age | 6, earning 7s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21 —            | 4, earning 9s.     |
| 21 and upwards               | 6, earning 9s.     |

In a regular week of sixty-six hours, eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—Not any.

A. 9.—The pay for over-hours, when any, is a week's wages for sixty hours: at the same rate in pay as for seventy-three hours and a half, which is a regular week.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock A. M. and terminates at seven o'clock P. M. No alteration from the above time.

A. 11.—Not a water-mill.

A. 12.—Saturday's work is eleven hours; no time made up on this account.

A. 13.—Half an hour for dinner every day at twelve o'clock; the other meals are taken during work. All dine at one time: the others are taken at their discretion.

A. 14.—Stops at twelve o'clock noon, half-hour for dinner. Spinning and drawing.

A. 15.—We have hitherto had no occasion to make up lost time, having had no accidents.

A. 16.—The wages are partially paid for sickness, and wholly for accidents.

A. 17.—Seven days and a half per year.—Christmas, two days; 19th February, half a day; Easter, two days; Whitsuntide, one day; Bradford fair, one day; ditto, half a day; Feast, half a day.

A. 18.—The wages for the above holidays are paid without any time being made up, more than has already been expressed in Answer 9, which comprehends half an hour each day (Saturdays excepted) for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed on time-hands; piece-hands are fined for bad work.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—Not generally. But when it is necessary, it is given by the hand, without any other offensive weapon. Liable to it at all ages in the spinning department (drawers and rulers excepted).

A. 23.—No. Spinning.

A. 24.—From the 9th of November, 1831, six days in every week up to the present time, excepting the allowances for holidays as given in No. 17.

A. 25.—Seventy-three hours and a half each week, excepting allowance for holidays, as given in No. 17.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We are of opinion that a legislative enactment, limiting a certain number of hours for working children in factories is necessary; first, for protecting children from being over-worked; and secondly, to give every manufacturer the same chance in the market. We also think that the present length of hours might be shortened in manner following: viz. eleven hours actual labour, with additional time for meals,—say twenty minutes breakfast, forty minutes dinner, and leave work at six o'clock at night.

BILLINGSLEY and TAUKOND.



Yorkshire.

## ANSWERS of RICHARD JAMES and WILLIAM GARNETT, Bradford.

No. 38.

R. J. & W. Garnett.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—High-street, one mill, twenty-horse engine; erected 1815. High-street, one mill, sixteen-horse engine; converted from warehousing and other buildings in 1823. Union-street mill, one twenty-four-horse engine; this erected for a mill; and one building, with ten-horse engine; used for spinning worsted, warehouses, washhouse, and various purposes. These premises in Union-street we only purchased three years ago; therefore cannot give the date of their erection or application to their present purpose.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Total power of engines seventy horses (see question No. 2); and the whole employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Three hundred and eighty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 13 | - | -        | 20 |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 28 | - | -        | 52 |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 23 | - | -        | 43 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 10 | - | -        | 38 |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 4  | - | -        | 32 |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —  | - | -        | 39 |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 37 | - | -        | 48 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |          |   | FEMALES. |          |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|----------|----------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2s. 4d.  | - | -        | 2s. 4½d. |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s. 2½d. | - | -        | 3s. 8d.  |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s.      | - | -        | 4s. 6d.  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 5s.      | - | -        | 5s. 4½d. |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 6s.      | - | -        | 6s. 3d.  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 7s.      | - | -        | 7s.      |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 24s.     | - | -        | 7s. 6d.  |  |

A. 7.—Sixty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |                    | FEMALES. |                      |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---|--------------------|----------|----------------------|--|
| 16 and under 18 years | -      | — | -                  | -        | 2, earning 7s. 9d.   |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | — | -                  | -        | 14, earning 8s. 7d.  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | - | 1, earning 8s. 6d. | -        | 48, earning 8s. 11d. |  |

In a regular week of fifty to sixty hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No; the weekly number of hours are seventy-three hours and a half for the week's wages. All over-hours are paid for after ten hours for the day, because no meal times or holidays are necessary.

A. 10.—Our day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and ends at seven o'clock in the evening; and on Saturday we begin at six o'clock in the morning, and end at half-past five o'clock in the afternoon.

A. 12.—Our hours for work on Saturday are from six o'clock in the morning to half-past five o'clock in the afternoon; no time made up for this, being a shorter day than any other working day.

A. 13.—Breakfast for overlookers and children are brought by their friends, from eight to nine o'clock, and no regular time allowed. Dinners, both overlookers and children go home at twelve o'clock, and one half hour is allowed. Drinkings for overlookers and children are brought by their friends, from four to five o'clock in the afternoon, and no regular time allowed. Breakfast and drinkings are taken by overlookers and children during working hours, and no stoppages of engines. Warpers and reelers go home to breakfast, dinner, and drinkings, at such times as suit their own convenience, they working piece-work. Mechanics go home to breakfast at eight o'clock in the morning, and are absent thirty minutes; to dinner at twelve o'clock, and absent sixty minutes; to drinkings at four o'clock, and absent thirty minutes. Our mechanics all work by the day; no piece-work done by them.

A. 14.—Our engines stop during dinner time for one half hour, and no other part of the day. During breakfast and drinkings time the machinery is always working; that the overlookers and children take those meals as conveniency suits.

A. 15.—No accidents in machinery wrought up. All stoppages of work, arising from accidents to engines and millwright-work, we worked up. We pay no wage for such working up, the wage being paid for the time stopped during repairs of such accident; and the time to be wrought up from such accident is wrought daily up, either by one half hour or one hour per day, as the overlookers think most advisable.

A. 16.—In accidents, we pay both doctor's bill and wages. In sickness, the wages are paid for the whole of the week in which the parties leave their work; and wages commence again on the day they return to their work.

A. 17.—The holidays we allow are, New-year's Day, from one to seven o'clock, or one half day; Shrove-Tuesday, half day; Good-Friday, the whole day; Easter-Monday and Tuesday, half day each; Whitsun-Monday and Tuesday, half day each; summer fair, two half days, and same at our winter fair; at Christmas Eve we stop at four o'clock, and Christmas-day and the day after are holidays the whole days.

A. 18.—The holidays (see No. 17) are the customary holidays that we always allow; and we



we pay wages the same for these holidays as if our workpeople had been working; viz. the children and overlookers. To warpers and reelers, who are at piece-work, it is to them a loss.

A. 19.—No fines for absence, irregularity, or to enforce obedience. In attendance our rule is, after being ten minutes too late, an account of time is kept of both children and overlookers; and when that time amounts to three hours, we call it a quarter of a day, and deduct it from the wages.

A. 20.—We only employ one set of hands.

A. 22.—At times when we cannot avoid it, and then as slightly as possible. Our orders are, if children will not work without being to be struck at by their overlooker, after a first cause made to strike them, to turn them off.

A. 23.—We employ children younger; but we prefer a child at twelve years of age to one younger. Our children are employed in the preparing and spinning of worsted yarns.

## NUMBER OF SATURDAYS.

|                                                |    |   |             |   |             |
|------------------------------------------------|----|---|-------------|---|-------------|
| A. 24.—1830, Jan. 1st to 31st March inclusive, | 13 | - | In 1831, 13 | - | In 1832, 13 |
| — Apr. 1st to 30th June                        | 13 | - | — 13        | - | — 13        |
| — July 1st to 30th Sept.                       | 13 | - | — 13        | - | — 13        |
| — Oct. 1st to 31st Dec.                        | 13 | - | — 14        | - | — 13        |

## DAYS WROUGHT.

|                                         |                  |   |                    |   |                    |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1830, Jan. 1st to 31st March inclusive, | 76               | - | In 1831, 76        | - | In 1832, 77        |
| — Apr. 1st to 30th June                 | 74               | - | — 74               | - | — 74               |
| — July 1st to 30th Sept.                | 79               | - | — 79               | - | — 78               |
| — Oct. 1st to 31st Dec.                 | 75 $\frac{3}{4}$ | - | — 75 $\frac{3}{4}$ | - | — 75 $\frac{3}{4}$ |

The days wrought include Saturdays. The holidays stated to Question 17 are deducted from the number of days wrought; and no time is stated but what has been actually wrought.

|                                             |   |                                      |   |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| A. 25.—1830, 1st Quarter, 930 $\frac{1}{2}$ | - | 1831, 1st Quarter, 930 $\frac{1}{2}$ | - | 1832, 1st Quarter, 943    |
| — 2nd — 905 $\frac{1}{2}$                   | - | — 2nd — 905 $\frac{1}{2}$            | - | — 2nd — 905 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| — 3rd — 968                                 | - | — 3rd — 968                          | - | — 3rd — 955 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| — 4th — 909                                 | - | — 4th — 907 $\frac{1}{2}$            | - | — 4th — 909               |

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We consider ten hours a day a sufficient length of time for a child to work; and regular meal times ought to be allowed, and the children go home to those meals at stated hours,—say, half an hour to breakfast, at eight o'clock; dinner at twelve o'clock, to be one hour; and drinkings half an hour, at four o'clock, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; and on Saturday, breakfast half an hour, and dinner hour allowed as on the other days, and, instead of drinkings, shut up the mill at half-past four o'clock. All loss arising from holidays, accidents or breakages, or stoppages to engines or millwright-work, to be deductions from the weekly wages. Our opinion is, this question cannot be settled but by parliamentary interference.

R. J. and W. GARNETT.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HOLDSWORTH, Albion Mill, Eccleshill, Bradford.

No. 39.

Thos. Holdsworth.

A. 1.—Scribbling, slubbing wool, and fulling cloth, for hire.

A. 2.—It was erected in 1822, and began work July 1823.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Twenty-four horses' power, and the whole power employed. Nothing let off.

A. 5.—Sixty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 13     | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 11     | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES.   |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, 4s. 6d. | —          |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2, 5s.     | 4, 5s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1, 5s.     | 5, 5s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —          | 2, 7s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —          | 2, 7s. 6d. |

A. 7.—Thirty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 13, earning 3s. 3d. | 3, earning 3s. 3d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 9, earning 3s. 3d.  | 3, earning 3s. 3d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1, earning 12s.     | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 8, earning 28s.     | —                  |

In a regular week of thirteen hours per day. Two hours off for meals.

A. 8.—Twenty-eight carding-piecers.

A. 9.—Over-hours paid after the rate of regular time.

A. 10.—Six in the morning and seven at night; when work is plentiful, two hours additional;

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

Thos. Holdsworth.

tional; and when work is scarce, as it has been up to January 1833, commencing from the year 1829, nine in the morning to three or four o'clock in the afternoon, sometimes not so long. Regulated entirely by the demand for goods.

A. 11.—Steam mill. Question will not apply.

A. 12.—The mill invariably ceases working at five o'clock on Saturday night, let work be scarce or plentiful.

A. 13.—Half an hour at breakfast, one hour at dinner, and half an hour in the afternoon, say half-past four to five, for drinkings. All get their meals at same time.

A. 14.—The engine stops at noon, for the purpose of greasing, &c.

A. 15.—If accidents happen by breakage, &c. customers take their work elsewhere, the mill stands, and the work is lost to both master and workpeople.

A. 16.—Occasionally: if a person is sick for a short time, or a slight accident happens, time is allowed; but there is no regular practice in this respect.

A. 17.—Christmas week, two or three days; Easter week, two half days; Whitsun week, two half days; Idle feast, two or three days; Eccleshill feast, two half days; Bradford fair, half a day.

A. 18.—Those who work by day are paid for holidays, but not those who work by the piece: if work is plentiful, the time is made up by over-hours.

A. 19.—No fining is allowed; if persons will not attend, they are sent about their business.

A. 20.—No. One set is as many as is required.

A. 21.—No. Not needful.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments not allowed: if children do not suit, they are turned away.

A. 23.—Yes. In carding piecing twenty-eight are employed.

A. 24.—1830:

January Quarter,  
6 days average.

April Quarter,  
6 days average.

July Quarter,  
5 days average.

October Quarter,  
5½ days average.

Same as present Return.

1831:

January Quarter,  
6 days average.

April Quarter,  
5 days average.

July Quarter,  
5 days average.

October Quarter,  
3½ days average.

1-9th reduced from present  
Return.

1832:

January Quarter,  
3 days average.

April Quarter,  
3½ days average.

July Quarter,  
3½ days average.

October Quarter,  
4 days average.

1-3d reduced from present  
Return.

Saturdays included in the above Return.

Thirteen hours considered a day, with two hours off for meals.

N. B.—In the years 1831 and 1832, reduced 1-9th and 1-3d, means, there was 1-9th and 1-3d less machinery used than in 1830 and 1833.

A. 25.—Question answered above.

A. 26.—The trade has fluctuated much in the last three years (see the Return above), but no alterations have been made since 1830, except from this cause.

A. 27.—I consider thirteen hours a day, with two hours off for meals, not too much for children or adults; and that no child should be allowed to enter a factory till it is eight years old, it will then be nine or twelve months before it learns what it has to do. Besides, many children are the principal support of a family; for instance, a widow left with four or five children can maintain them without going to the parish for relief; but if no child is allowed to commence work till it is ten years old, they must go on the parish, and when they come into mills they will be more stubborn, and require more teaching. Frequently, children of a sickly, puny cast, are very much improved in health by entering woollen mills, the smell of the oil and indigo being very conducive to health; and in mills of this description children at eight years old may be safely allowed to commence work, as their health will be much better by being so employed with a full stomach, than letting them run wild in the fields or in the lanes with an empty one.

THOS. HOLDSWORTH.

No. 40.

Hollings & Sons.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HOLLINGS and Sons, Silsbridge Lane, Bradford.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—Erected in the year 1826.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Engine, forty-horse power. The whole employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—One hundred and seventy-six persons; viz.

|                       |   |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | 10     | - | - | 10       |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | 10     | - | - | 14       |
| 12 and under 14       | — | - | 18     | - | - | 20       |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | 3      | - | - | 25       |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | 1      | - | - | 19       |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | —      | - | - | 19       |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | 11     | - | - | 16       |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s. 9d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s. 4d.  | 4s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 11d. | 4s. 10d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 7d.  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s. 6d.  | 6s. 4d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 6d. | 7s. 6d.  |

Yorkshire.

Hollings & Sons.

A. 7.—Thirty persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 4, earning 10s. 1d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 8, earning 10s. 2d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 18, earning 10s. 9d. |

In a regular week of fifty-six hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Exactly the same.

A. 10.—The regular day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, except on Saturdays, when it ends at half after five. These are our regular hours at all times.

A. 12.—The time is less on Saturdays by one hour and a half. It is not made up on other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for dinner; the other meals are taken during work; breakfast, at eight o'clock; dinner, at twelve; the afternoon meal at four.

A. 14.—The engine stops during dinner only. Overlookers, spinners, and drawers, take the other meals during work.

A. 15.—When accidents happen to the engine or machinery, the time is lost to us; if we make it up, the workpeople are paid for extra hours.

A. 16.—If accidents happen to the hands in the mill, they receive their regular wages, but not during sickness.

A. 17.—The regular holidays and half-holidays amount to seven days and a half during the year, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—The workpeople are paid for their holiday time. It is not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—When a hand has been repeatedly too late in attendance in a morning, that hand is sent home till nine o'clock, when a quarter of a day's wages is deducted.

A. 20.—We never work more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have not. There is not a sufficient supply of hands to allow this to be a general practice.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments in moderation are sanctioned.

A. 23.—Not absolutely. Spinners are the youngest children we employ.

A. 24.—We cannot give a correct answer to this question; we have always run our regular time, except on holidays, and when accidents have happened.

A. 25.—We have no means of ascertaining the number of hours we have worked in those years, but are confident they will not average more than seventy-four hours per week.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think some regulation highly desirable, but if the hours are much curtailed, will be injurious to both master and workpeople.

THOMAS HOLLINGS &amp; Sons.

## ANSWERS of J. G. HORSFALL and Co., Bradford.

No. 41.

Horsfall & Co.

A. 1.—Power-loom weaving.

A. 2.—In 1823.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—There are two engines, one of which is twelve-horse power, and the other twenty-four-horse, both of which we employ ourselves.

A. 5.—Three hundred and eighty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 12       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 13       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 31       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 52       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 112      |
| 21 and upwards        | 28     | 122      |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —            | 2, 2s. 9d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3, 3s. 3d.   | 12, 3s. 2d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3, 4s. 3d.   | 11, 4s. 2d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3, 4s. 7d.   | 14, 4s. 7d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3, 5s. 6d.   | 6, 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, 10s. 2d.  | 2, 10s. 2d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 28, 23s. 4d. | 18, 9s. 9d. |

(APP.—C. 1.)

T

A. 7.



Yorkshire.

Horsfall & Co.

A. 7.—Two hundred and seventy-nine persons; viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | - | - | - | - | 2, earning 4s. 6d.    |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | - | - | 17, earning 8s.       |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | - | - | 46, earning 9s. 3d.   |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | - | - | 110, earning 10s. 9d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | 104, earning 11s. 5d. |

In a regular week of seventy hours and a quarter.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—They receive the same wages per hour for over-time as during regular time, except mechanics, and they reckon ten hours over time as one day.

A. 10.—It begins six in the morning and ends at seven in the evening, five days in the week; on Saturdays it begins at the same time in the morning and ends at five in the evening. There is no alteration in the hours of working.

A. 12.—There is no more time run than is stated above to question No. 10.

A. 13.—Quarter of an hour for breakfast, half an hour for dinner, and quarter of an hour in the afternoon; all our workpeople take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—It stops during all meal times.

A. 15.—We never run more than the hours stated to question No. 10, except some time be lost by accidents to the machinery or engine. The workpeople who receive regular weekly wages, are paid their full wages every week; and the time that is lost is made up by working extra hours, at the same number of hours per day as before specified.

A. 16.—We allow no time for sickness; but in case of accidents we frequently pay the medical man who attends the sufferers.

A. 17.—Two whole days and ten half days.

A. 18.—All who have standing weekly wages are paid for holidays, and no more time run than has already been stated.

A. 19.—We make a point of fining our workpeople if they are not at their work in a quarter of an hour after the engine begins after each meal time.

A. 20.—We never work more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children; we have never found it necessary.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments allowed.

A. 23.—We could entirely do without working children under twelve years of age; the children we employ under that age wind yarn for the weavers.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—The machinery has been regularly at work twelve hours a day for five days in the week, and ten and a quarter hours on Saturday, with the exception of the holidays before stated. Suppose this answer may apply to Questions 24 &amp; 25.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place.

A. 27.—We think it very necessary, that an Act of Parliament should be passed to regulate the hours of labour in factories; and we also think that twelve hours' labour is too much for children under twelve or thirteen years of age. It is our opinion, that those who advocate a ten hours' bill, do not consult either the interest of the masters or workpeople.

J. G. HORSFALL &amp; Co.

No. 42.  
Illingworth & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. ILLINGWORTH, MURGATROYD and Co., Bradford and Horton.

A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.

A. 2.—The date of erection of the mill in Bradford 1807, and has been occupied by us since 1830. The date of erection of the mill in Horton 1825, and has been occupied by us since that period.

A. 3.—The power employed is steam.

A. 4.—We have two steam-engines, and the power of them is fifty horses, and we employ all the power ourselves.

A. 5.—Two hundred and twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3  | - | - | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 14 | - | - | 34       |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 16 | - | - | 34       |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 13 | - | - | 30       |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 6  | - | - | 16       |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 2  | - | - | 27       |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 8  | - | - | 16       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES. |         |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s. 6d. | - | - | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4s.     | - | - | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 4s. 6d. | - | - | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 5s. 6d. | - | - | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 6s. 6d. | - | - | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 18s.    | - | - | 7s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 21s.    | - | - | —        |

A. 7



A. 7.—Forty persons; viz.

|                              | FEMALES. |   |   |                     |
|------------------------------|----------|---|---|---------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years of age | -        | - | - | 5, earning 7s.      |
| 16 and under 18              | —        | - | - | 8, earning 7s. 9d.  |
| 18 and under 21              | —        | - | - | 12, earning 8s. 3d. |
| 21 and upwards               | -        | - | - | 15, earning 9s.     |

Yorkshire.

Illingworth & Co.

In a regular week of sixty hours.

Out of two hundred and twenty-one, the total number we employ in the mills, forty of them have their work by the piece and are not required longer than ten hours per day. They are all females upwards of fifteen years of age. We have only four persons out of the two hundred and twenty-one who cannot read, and they are children under twelve years of age.

A. 8.—We have no persons in our employ who are paid by the workpeople.

A. 9.—We have worked no over-time for two years past, and seldom before that period; but when we did so, we always paid the same proportionate wages for the over-time.

A. 10.—Our regular day's work is from six o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening, except Saturdays. We make no difference at different periods of the year.

A. 12.—Our regular day's work on Saturdays is from six o'clock in the morning to half past five in the evening. The time we work less on Saturdays is not made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—The time allowed for dinner is half an hour, between twelve and one o'clock.

A. 14.—The engines stop during dinner-time; the other meals are taken while the work is going on, except by those hands who are paid by the piece.

A. 15.—We make no time up lost from accidents to the machinery; and have paid the workpeople the same amount of wages when accidents have occurred as if they had been working.

A. 16.—We employ a surgeon to attend on cases of accident, and always allow wages until recovery of the individuals who may have been injured.

A. 17.—The whole amount of time is seven days and one half, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—We pay for all the holiday time the same as working days. The time is not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—We impose no fines for absence or irregularity, or to enforce obedience.

A. 20.—We work no more than one set of hands, either adult or children.

A. 21.—We have never employed two sets of children to one set of adult hands. The principal objection to such a practice would be, that a sufficient number of children to carry on the work could not be obtained.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—The nature of the work does not absolutely require children under twelve years of age; but a sufficient number could not be obtained to carry on the work of spinning, in which employment the greatest number of children are engaged, and children from ten to twelve years of age are as well adapted for the work as those who are older.

A. 24.—We work regularly the hours stated in answer to Questions 10 and 12, except the holidays, which are as follows:—New Year's Day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Good Friday, one day; Easter Monday, half a day; Easter Tuesday, half a day; Whit Monday, half a day; Whit Tuesday, half a day; Bradford fair, 17th June, half a day; ditto, 18th June, half a day; ditto, 9th December, half a day; ditto, 10th December, half a day; and Christmas-day: total, seven days and a half during the year.

A. 26.—We are not aware of any, except what is stated before.

A. 27.—We think a legislative enactment the only way to protect children from being overworked, and that ten hours of actual work per day is as long as children from ten to eighteen years of age ought to be employed, but that this reduction of hours ought to take place gradually; that one hour should be specified for dinner; that the half hour for breakfast and half hour for drinking should be left to the mutual agreement of masters and workpeople.

ILLINGWORTH, MURGATROYD & Co.

ANSWERS of JOHN HUTTON, for Messrs. James Johnson and Co., Eccleshill, Bradford.

No. 43.

John Hutton.

A. 1.—Scribbling wool and fulling cloth.

A. 2.—1816.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-two-horse. Employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Seventy-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |    |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|----|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 16 | - | - | -        | 14 | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 9  | - | - | -        | 7  | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 3  | - | - | -        | 4  | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 18 | - | - | -        | 1  | - | - |

A. 7.—One man 3s. 6d., in a regular day of twelve hours.

A. 8.—Thirty.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning in summer, and eight in winter.

A. 12.—We call seventy-two hours labour a week.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 13.



Yorkshire.

John Hutton.

A. 13.—Eight o'clock, twelve, and five; half an hour at eight, one hour at twelve, and half an hour at five.

A. 14.—Slubbers stop.

A. 15.—Paid for the hours they labour.

A. 16.—In some cases we allow maintenance, and let them have work as soon as better.

A. 17.—Six days.

A. 19.—No fine.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; the greater number of hands are employed under twelve years of age.

A. 24.—We have not averaged more than four days per week, for the last three years.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Twelve hours; and it is our opinion that children at eight years of age should be admitted to work as piecers in the woollen manufacture, as they are more suitable than those of ten or twelve.

JOHN HUTTON, for J. Johnson & Co.

No. 44.

J.W. & W. Knowles.

ANSWERS of Messrs. J. W. and W. KNOWLES, Bent Mill, Bradford.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning by throstles.

A. 2.—The factory was built in the year 1799.

A. 3.—Both steam and water-power. The name of stream generally is called Hallasbrook.

A. 4.—Engine twelve-horse power, and water about the same. The whole power is employed for cotton-spinning.

A. 5.—Sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |    |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|----------|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 5 | - | -        | - | 9  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 5 | - | -        | - | 7  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 5 | - | -        | - | 11 |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | — | - | -        | - | 2  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 1 | - | -        | - | 5  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | — | - | -        | - | 3  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 2 | - | -        | - | 6  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are;—

|                       | MALES. |          |   | FEMALES. |   |           |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|----------|---|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 1s. 11d. | - | -        | - | 2s. 2d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s. 3d.  | - | -        | - | 3s. 10½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s.      | - | -        | - | 4s. 8d.   |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | —        | - | -        | - | 6s.       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 6s. 6d.  | - | -        | - | 6s. 9d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —        | - | -        | - | 6s. 6d.   |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 8s.      | - | -        | - | 7s.       |

A. 8.—There are none employed that are paid by the workpeople.

A. 9.—The wages are the same for over-hours.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and ends at half-past seven in the evening.

A. 11.—We are not dependent on water, the steam-engine being capable to turn all the machinery, if required.

A. 12.—Nine hours and a half on Saturday, and the other five days half an hour extra.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner, from twelve to one.

A. 14.—The moving power only stops from twelve to one. The processes are carding, drawing, roving, spinning, &c.

A. 15.—All accidents to the machinery, &c. are made up by running one hour extra each day, except on Saturdays; and they are paid their wages same as if no accident had taken place.

A. 16.—No time is allowed during sickness; but absence from the mill, arising from accidents, have their wages paid.

A. 17.—Seven days during the year.

A. 18.—The holidays are not paid for.

A. 19.—Fines are imposed upon adults; but children are sent home to their parents to be admonished, if they neglect their work, &c.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. And the objections in having more sets of children for adult hands are, they could not be got in this neighbourhood.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes. The processes are throstle spinners and doffers, &c.

A. 24 & 25.—These two questions we are not able to inform you of, as we have not occupied the premises so long.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think sixty-nine hours in a week a fair, reasonable time; twelve hours five days, and nine hours on the Saturday. The reason we have not complied with the present Act now in force, is owing to our factory being situate among the worsted spinners; and they



they, by running longer hours, can afford to give better wages. And we also think, if you recommend less hours than the above, there should be a clause to compel owners of factories to reduce rents; we mean those that are for a lease.

J. W. & W. KNOWLES.

Yorkshire.

J.W.&W.Knowles.

ANSWERS of Messrs. LOCKWOODS and RHODES, Bradford.

No. 45.

Lockwoods &  
Rhodes.

A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn, and weaving worsted stuffs.

A. 2.—1820-1821; built and applied to purpose of spinning; and weaving was begun upwards of three years ago.

A. 3.—Steam power alone.

A. 4.—Sixteen-horse power. A part of the power is let off for weaving.

A. 5.—Seventy-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 7      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 7        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 10       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 10       |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | 10       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 4½d.  | 2s. 7½d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 7½d.  | 4s.       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 11½d. | 4s. 10½d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.       | 5s. 1d.   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s.       | 5s. 6d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 6s. 3d.   | 6s. 8d.   |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s. 4¾d. | 7s. 6d.   |

A. 7.—Twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, earning 4s.        |
| 14 and under 16 years | 2, earning 9s.        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 9, earning 9s. 2¾d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 7, earning 10s. 7¾d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 9, earning 10s. 10½d. |

In a regular week of seventy-three hours and a half.

A. 8.—None employed in that manner in those parts of the mill which we occupy.

A. 9.—Ten hours in over-time are reckoned as one day's wages, which is nearly one fifth in favour of the operative.

A. 10.—Commences at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening. The same throughout the year.

A. 11.—Not applicable to our mill.

A. 12.—The regular work on Saturday is one hour and a half less than the other days, and is not made up in any manner on the other five days of the week.

A. 13.—One half hour is allowed at noon for dinner; and to the weavers is also allowed a quarter of an hour, at eight o'clock in the morning, for breakfast, and the same time in the afternoon, at a quarter past four o'clock, for the afternoon meal. Sometimes four or five persons are required to take dinner half an hour later than the rest, to do jobs which cannot be done when the engine is at work. Reelers, warpers, and maker-up, about ten in number, take their meals at option individually, as their work is not connected with the moving power.

A. 14.—The moving power stops one half hour at noon, for dinner. The drawers, and spinners or piecers, take the other meals whilst at work.

A. 15.—When an ordinary accident occurs to the engine or the machinery, we make up the time lost by working half an hour or an hour over-time at night; and the time so lost is not deducted from the wages, neither are extra wages allowed for time so made up.

A. 16.—If a hand is absent only a few hours during the week, arising from sickness, no abatement is made from the wages. If an accident by coming in contact with machinery is the cause of absence, we provide medical aid, and allow the individual his wages generally. But if a law be made which shall bind the master in this respect, he would be liable to be imposed upon by such absentees.

A. 18.—No deductions are made in wages for holidays, nor is the time made up in any other manner.

A. 19.—We never impose any fines, but the liability to a fine is necessary.

A. 20.—One set of hands only.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of hands at any time. It would be absolutely impracticable to procure two sets of hands.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is seldom resorted to, and always in the most lenient manner. But if the manager had not the power to correct a child, he could have no command over the hands. No instrument of punishment is allowed. It is only the spinners that require such correction.

(APP.—C. 1.)

U

A. 23.



Yorkshire.  
 Lockwoods &  
 Rhodes.

A. 23.—We could not be supplied with a sufficient number of children at the age of twelve years and upwards. The process in which the greatest number of young children are employed, is in piecing up the threads in the spinning frame, as they break. So easy is the labour, that it is only fit for a young child.

| A. 24.—First Quarter. | Second Quarter. | Third Quarter. | Fourth Quarter. |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1830. 76 days.        | 67 days.        | 79 days.       | 76½ days.       |
| 1831. 76 days.        | 74 days.        | 79 days.       | 76½ days.       |
| 1832. 76 days.        | 74 days.        | 78 days.       | 77½ days.       |

There have been thirteen Saturdays in each of these quarters, except in the second quarter of 1830, when the engine stood a week for repairs.

| A. 25.—First Quarter. | Second Quarter. | Third Quarter. | Fourth Quarter. |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1830. 950½ hours.     | 819½ hours.     | 988 hours.     | 956¾ hours.     |
| 1831. 950½ hours.     | 925½ hours.     | 1000½ hours.   | 956¾ hours.     |
| 1832. 950½ hours.     | 925½ hours.     | 975½ hours.    | 969¼ hours.     |

A. 26.—There is more weaving, and less spinning, since that date.

A. 27.—We have no objection for a regulation of factory labour; but it is our deliberate opinion, that a restriction should not reduce the time below the AVERAGE of eleven hours and a half per day. The health of mill hands generally is very good.

LOCKWOODS & RHODES.

No. 46.  
 Margerison &  
 Peckover.

#### ANSWERS of MESSRS. MARGERISON and PECKOVER, Bradford.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn, and manufacture of worsted goods.

A. 2.—Erected in the year 1820.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Forty-horse power. We employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Three hundred and one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 8      | 13       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 11     | 22       |
| 12 and under 14       | 23     | 10       |
| 14 and under 16       | 8      | 41       |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 34       |
| 18 and under 21       | 4      | 37       |
| 21 and upwards        | 21     | 67       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6¾d. | 2s. 4d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 8d.  | 3s. 8½d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 4¼d. | 4s. 6½d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 9¾d. | 4s. 11½d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s.      | 6s. 2d.   |
| 18 and under 21       | 11s. 9d. | 6s. 9½d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s.     | 7s. 5d.   |

A. 7.—One hundred and eighteen persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 12, earning 8s. 9d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 19, earning 8s. 9d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 27, earning 8s. 9d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 60, earning 8s. 9d. |

In a regular week of seventy-three hours and a half.

A. 8.—Three persons; two women and one girl employed in preparing warps for the weavers.

A. 9.—The same per hour as their weekly wages.

A. 10.—We begin at six o'clock in the morning, and end at seven o'clock in the evening. We have no alteration.

A. 12.—We work one hour and a half less on Saturdays than other days. The time is not made up.

A. 13.—Three half hours are allowed per day for weavers, reelers, and warpers, viz. at half after eight, at twelve, and at half after four o'clock. Six children remain in the mill cleaning the machinery during the time the engine stops; they therefore take the half hour as soon as the engine starts again.

A. 14.—The engine stops at twelve o'clock for half an hour for all the workpeople. The drawers, rovers, doffers, spinners, twistors and winders have their breakfasts and drinkings during the time the engine is running.

A. 15.—The time lost is generally made up by working over-hours; it is therefore no loss to either master or the workpeople. We sometimes work half an hour and sometimes an hour per day.

A. 16.—Any of the hands happening any accident in the mill, or on the premises, are attended by a surgeon at our charge, and have their wages the same as if at work.

A. 17.—The holidays are, New Year's Day, one whole day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Good Friday, one whole day; Easter Monday and Tuesday, half a day each; Whit Monday and



and Tuesday, half a day each; summer fair, two half days; winter fair, two half days; and Christmas-day, one whole day.

A. 18.—All the workpeople are paid for the holidays who are working by the day or week, and the time is not made up.

A. 19.—We fine none of the hands excepting the weavers; if they are twenty minutes too late, and cannot give a satisfactory reason, they are fined 2d. If any of the hands are a quarter of a day or more off their work, they are deducted the time according to their wages.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—We never did. Night-work we never approved of.

A. 22.—We don't sanction any, though the overlookers may sometimes strike the children; but we have very few complaints.

A. 23.—As we are partly spinners of low coarse wool, we can employ children under twelve years. The greatest number of children are employed in spinning.

A. 24.—Six days per week. Fifty-two Saturdays per year, or one hundred and fifty-six Saturdays.

A. 25.—We regularly work the spinning twelve hours and a half per day, excepting Saturdays, when we work eleven hours. We occasionally run half an hour and an hour over-time, paying the hands as answered to the 9th question.

A. 26.—This question we don't exactly understand; we are making trifling alterations in the workpeople almost every week.

A. 27.—We should wish a bill to pass for regulating the hours of labour in factories to ten hours per day in winter, and eleven hours per day in summer.

MARGERISON & PECKOVER.

Yorkshire.

Margerison &  
Peckover.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. MILNES and DEWHIRST, Holme Mill, Bradford.

No. 47.

Milnes & Dewhirst.

A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.

A. 2.—1830. Worsted-spinning.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-two-horse; only part. Worsted-spinning.

A. 5.—Forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|----------|---|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 1 | - | -        | 2 |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4 | - | -        | 5 |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 3 | - | -        | 5 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 3 | - | -        | 5 |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 1 | - | -        | 8 |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | — | - | -        | 3 |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 1 | - | -        | 6 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |         |   | FEMALES. |         |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---|----------|---------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s.     | - | -        | 3s.     |  |
| 0 and under 12 years  | -      | 3s. 6d. | - | -        | 3s. 6d. |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s. 6d. | - | -        | 4s. 6d. |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | —       | - | -        | 5s.     |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 12s.    | - | -        | 6s. 6d. |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —       | - | -        | 8s.     |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 30s.    | - | -        | —       |  |

A. 7.—Fifteen persons; viz.

|                       |   |   |   | FEMALES. |                 |  |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|----------|-----------------|--|
| 16 and under 18 years | - | - | - | -        | 7, earning 9s.  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | - | - | -        | 2, earning 11s. |  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | -        | 6, earning 12s. |  |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—We never run over-hours.

A. 10.—At six o'clock, and terminates at seven o'clock.

A. 12.—Yes. We run from six to half past five o'clock.

A. 13.—A quarter of an hour for breakfast, a quarter of an hour for drinking, and half an hour for dinner: six of them take breakfast and drinking a quarter of an hour later, in consequence of having to labour for others while they are getting their meals.

A. 14.—Only for dinner. While the six are engaged, the others are at liberty to sit down to enjoy their meals.

A. 15.—Half an hour per day.

A. 16.—If any accident occurs, we pay the same wages as at work.

A. 17.—Seven days.

A. 18.—Yes. No.

A. 19.—No fines; only deduct for the time absent. Half an hour.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. The labour being so easy, there is no necessity for it.

A. 22.—No. We disdain it.

A. 23.—Yes. As spinners.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 24.



Yorkshire.

Milnes &amp; Dewhirst.

A. 24.—We were not spinners in those years.

A. 26.—Inasmuch as we have taken the mill since.

A. 27.—None. As it would injure the working classes, and ultimately the prosperity of our nation at large.

MILNES &amp; DEWHIRST.

No. 48.

Pearson &amp; Sons.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM PEARSON and Sons, Lesser Dyke, Bradford.

A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.

A. 2.—1815.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-seven-horse power. We employ the whole ourselves.

A. 5.—One hundred and sixty-five persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 1  | - | - | - | 5  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 13 | - | - | - | 18 |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 10 | - | - | - | 27 |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 5  | - | - | - | 25 |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 1  | - | - | - | 17 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 1  | - | - | - | 17 |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 7  | - | - | - | 18 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                   | FEMALES.                 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 2s. 1d.                | - 2s. 1d.                |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 3s. 4d.                | - 3s. 4d.                |
| 12 and under 14       | — 4s. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. | — 4s. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — 5s. 4d.                | — 5s. 4d.                |
| 16 and under 18       | — 6s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. | — 6s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. |
| 18 and under 21       | — 6s. 8d.                | — 6s. 8d.                |
| 21 and upwards        | - 20s. 8d.               | - —                      |

A. 7.—Twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | - 1, earning 9s. 4d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | - 9, earning 9s. 4d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | - 18, earning 9s. 4d. |

In a regular week of sixty hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No; for ten hours and a half over time they receive a full day's wage.

A. 10.—Our day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and ends at seven in the evening. We make no alteration in the hours of work at any period.

A. 12.—Yes; one hour and a half less. The time is not made up in any manner.

A. 13.—We do not allow any time for meals except dinner, and then forty minutes is allowed. Breakfast is generally taken at eight, dinner at twelve, and drinking at four o'clock. We have six boys, who take their dinners after the others: they stay in the mill to clean some parts of the machinery, which cannot be done when the engine is moving.

A. 14.—Yes; during dinner-time.

A. 15.—In case of accident to the engine or machinery, and time lost by all the hands, they are paid their usual wages; the time is afterwards made up by working extra hours, at the rate of half an hour to an hour a day: but when the accident is only partial, the hands that are thrown idle receive their full wages, without making up the lost time in any manner.

A. 16.—When any of the children cannot attend their work from sickness, they are paid part, or the whole of their wages, according to the circumstances of the parents. In case of accident they are always paid full wages; and in either case, if they request it, they are attended by a medical man at our expense.

A. 17.—Seven and a half days: two days at Christmas, two at Easter, one at Whitsuntide, one at each Bradford summer and winter fairs, and half a day on Shrove Tuesday.

A. 18.—All the holidays are paid for as full time, which is not made up in any manner.

A. 19.—Fining for irregularity in attendance is from 1d. to 2d., according to the time lost. To enforce obedience we do not fine; if they will not do their work without punishment, the overlookers are ordered to discharge them.

A. 20, 21, &amp; 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; piecing the yarn in spinning.

A. 24.—Six days in the week, excepting holidays.

A. 26.—None.

WILLIAM PEARSON &amp; Sons.

No. 49.

Rouse &amp; Son.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM ROUSE and Son, No. 1 Mill, Canal Side, Bradford.

A. 1.—Preparing and spinning of worsted yarns, and weaving stuff goods by power.

A. 2.—Erected in 1815; and has been applied to the spinning of worsted yarns and weaving stuff goods by power to the present time.

A. 3.



A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—The engine is forty-horse power. We employ one half; the other half is employed by James Wade, Son, & Co.

Yorkshire.

Rouse & Son.

| A. 5.—One hundred and five persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                    | 4      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years                    | 1      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14                          | 3      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16                          | 3      | 14       |
| 16 and under 18                          | 2      | 11       |
| 18 and under 21                          | 2      | 10       |
| 21 and upwards                           | 16     | 21       |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | 2s. 6d.  | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 3s.      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14                       | 4s.      | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16                       | 4s. 9d.  | 4s. 9d.  |
| 16 and under 18                       | 5s.      | 7s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21                       | 6s. 6d.  | —        |
| 21 and upwards                        | 22s. 6d. | 7s. 6d.  |

| A. 7.—Forty-four persons; viz. | FEMALES.             |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years          | 5, earning 11s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18                | 9, earning 11s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21                | 10, earning 11s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards                 | 20, earning 11s. 6d. |

Power-loom weavers and warpers. In a regular week of seventy-three hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—We pay one-fifth more wages for overtime, than regular hours.

A. 10.—Our day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—Steam power.

A. 12.—Our day's work on Saturdays is less by an hour and a half, than the other five; the engine stops at half past five, instead of seven; there is half an hour run at noon, from half past twelve to one o'clock, towards making up for holidays.

A. 13.—There is no particular time allowed for breakfast and tea for part of our hands, (viz.) spinners, and drawers, and weavers: at twelve o'clock the engine stops half an hour for dinner.

A. 14.—Our engine stops at twelve o'clock at noon, to half past for dinner: those who have their breakfast and tea, while the engine is running, are spinners, drawers, and weavers.

A. 15.—If any accident happens the engine, which does not take long to repair, say one, two, or three days, the time is generally made up by running an hour longer at night; but if the accident takes longer than that time in making good, it is not made up or paid for.

A. 16.—If any of our hands happen a misfortune by the machinery, their wages are paid until they are able to come to their work again; and a recommendation given to our dispensary. If natural sickness, their wages paid to the end of the first week, but not after.

A. 17.—Our regular holidays are two whole days, and eleven half days; besides intermediate holidays; Bishop Blair (3d February) Fast, and Thanksgiving days, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—We allow for New Year's day, Shrove Tuesday, Easter Monday and Tuesday, Whit-Monday and Tuesday, June Fair first and second day, December Fair first and second day, and the day after Christmas day, each of these half a day holiday. On Good Friday and Christmas day, the whole days. Our workpeople are paid for all holidays: there is half an hour run five days in the week, from half past twelve to one o'clock, which is considered to make up for holidays.

A. 19.—If any hands who are paid by the week should be absent without leave, they are abated for the time they are off, from their week's wages. If any of them come an hour after time in the morning, they are sent home till nine o'clock, and a quarter of a day is taken off their wages: those by the piece come at their leisure, so as they can have their day's work done before the engine stops at night.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands, from beginning in the morning, till giving up at night, both children and adults.

A. 21.—We never employed more than one set of children to work the same hours the adults do: we think it quite unnecessary, as their work is not hard labour; they have each a seat to sit down upon, and can sit by five or ten minutes at a time.

A. 22.—We do not allow any of our overlookers to beat the children: several have been turned away from our employment for so doing.

A. 23.—Children from ten to fourteen years old are of more use to us in spinning or piecing, than they are after that age: the greatest number we employ at this age is for spinning and winding bobbins for power looms.

A. 24.—1830 - January 1, 64 days, 13 Saturdays.

|               |    |   |
|---------------|----|---|
| April 1, 65   | 13 | — |
| July 1, 71½   | 13 | — |
| October 1, 68 | 13 | — |

(APP.—C. 1.)

X

1831



Yorkshire.  
Rouse & Son.

|      |   |                |   |               |
|------|---|----------------|---|---------------|
| 1831 | - | January 1, 64  | — | 13 Saturdays. |
|      |   | April 1, 67½   | — | 13            |
|      |   | July 1, 73     | — | 13            |
|      |   | October 1, 52½ | — | 13            |
| 1832 | - | January 1, 61½ | — | 13            |
|      |   | April 1, 59    | — | 13            |
|      |   | July 1, 63     | — | 13            |
|      |   | October 1, 69½ | — | 13            |

A. 25.—1830

|            |      |        |
|------------|------|--------|
| January 1, | 943  | hours. |
| April 1,   | 945½ | —      |
| July 1,    | 1020 | —      |
| October 1, | 980  | —      |

1831

|            |      |        |
|------------|------|--------|
| January 1, | 940½ | hours. |
| April 1,   | 970  | —      |
| July 1,    | 1048 | —      |
| October 1, | 799  | —      |

1832

|            |       |        |
|------------|-------|--------|
| January 1, | 909   | hours. |
| April 1,   | 875½  | —      |
| July 1,    | 930   | —      |
| October 1, | 1005½ | —      |

A. 26.—None whatever.

A. 27.—We are of opinion, that if there was a restriction in the hours of labour, it would be better for both parties, workmen and master; but we are decidedly opposed to a Ten Hours' Bill. We are favourable to a bill for eleven hours' work.

WM. ROUSE &amp; SON.

No. 49.  
Rouse & Son.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM ROUSE &amp; SON, No. 2 Mill, Bradford.

A. 1.—Preparing and spinning of worsted yarns.

A. 2.—Erected in 1824 and 1828, and has been applied to the spinning of worsted yarns to the present time.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—In this mill we have two engines,—one thirty-six and the other forty-horse power, all of which we employ ourselves.

A. 5.—Two hundred and eighty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 13     | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 26     | 45       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 21     | 33       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 8      | 29       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 33       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 33       |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | 28       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.      | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 9d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 3d.  | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.      | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 3d.  | 5s. 9d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 14s. 6d. | 7s. 2d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 27s. 6d. | 7s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Sixty persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1, earning 8s.       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3, earning 8s.       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 15, earning 8s. 3d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 21, earning 9s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 20, earning 10s. 6d. |

These are reelers and warpers; but do not work mill hours.

The regulations in this are the same as in No. 1 Mill; therefore the answers to Questions 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, will be the same, and think a repetition not necessary.

W. ROUSE &amp; SON.

No. 49.  
Rouse & Son.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM ROUSE &amp; SON, No. 3 Mill, Bradford.

A. 1.—Weaving stuff goods by power.

A. 2.—Erected in 1821.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—The engine is sixteen-horse power. We only employ six-horse power; the other is employed by Lockwoods and Rhodes.

A. 5.—Forty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 3        |
| 19 and under 21 —     | —      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 28       |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —       | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 6d. | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s.    | —        |

Yorkshire.

Rouse & Son.

A. 7.—Forty persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 3, earning 13s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 9, earning 13s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 28, earning 13s. 6d. |

Power-loom weavers.

In a regular week of seventy-three hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 24.—This we cannot speak to, as we have not had the premises more than eight months.

A. 25.—Cannot tell.

A. 26.—Cannot tell.

The regulations in this are the same as in No. 1 Mill; therefore the answers to Questions 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 27, will be the same, and think a repetition not necessary.

WM. ROUSE &amp; SON.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM and EDWARD SMITH, Bradford.

No. 50.

W. & E. Smith.

A. 1.—The manufacture of spinning worsted yarns.

A. 2.—We suppose it has been used as a worsted mill sixteen to eighteen years; we have occupied it three years.

A. 3.—The power employed is steam power.

A. 4.—The power of the engine is twelve horse power; we at present employ about nine horse power, and do not let off any part whatever.

A. 5.—Forty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 7        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 9        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 6        |

In all forty-five persons; viz. two overlookers, six preparers, nineteen spinners or piecers, eight bobbin-changers, eight reelers and warpers, one mechanic, and one engineer.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —        | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.  | 3s. 2d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | —        | 4s. 11d. |
| 14 and under 16       | —        | 5s. 6½d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 10s.     | 6s. 2½d. |
| 18 and under 21       | —        | 5s. 9d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 4d. | —        |

A. 7.—Eight persons; viz.

|                              | FEMALES.            |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years of age | 1, earning 7s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21              | 1, earning 9s. 8½d. |
| 21 and upwards               | 6, earning 8s. 5½d. |

In a regular week of twelve hours.

A. 8.—We pay all mill wages ourselves.

A. 9.—Our regular day's work is twelve hours; but if we work over time (which we did previous to November 1830,) we pay the same wages for ten hours of overtime as we did for twelve of usual time; since the above time we have ceased working overhours.

A. 10.—Our workpeople in the mill begin at six o'clock in the morning, and leave their work at seven in the evening, (Saturday excepted, see No. 12.)

A. 11.—Not applicable, being a steam-power mill; but would just observe that we are much inconvenienced for a sufficient supply of cold water in drougthy weather.

A. 12.—The regular working time on Saturdays is from six in the morning to half-past five o'clock in the evening. The one-and-half hours we work less on the Saturdays is certainly made up to us, along with the lost holiday time, by the hands having only half an hour allowed for dinner every day, instead of a whole hour.

A. 13.—We allow (as is usual in our town, with few exceptions,) half an hour for dinner-time, which is from twelve o'clock to half-past twelve o'clock; the breakfast time is at eight o'clock, the afternoon refreshment about four o'clock. All our workpeople take their meals as near as possible at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during the time allowed for dinner, but not for any other meal; this is doubtless an hardship upon the nineteen called spinners in No. 5, because their work is continued and regular, whereas the eight bobbin changers have more ample

(APP.—C. 1.)

leisure



Yorkshire.

W. & E. Smith.

leisure for meals, their work being constantly subject to intervals, at times of considerable duration. Also, the two overlookers, the six preparers, have some leisure for meals, and the reelers and warpers take their own time, being paid by piece-work.

A. 15.—When repairs are obliged to be made and time taken from the working hours, we make up all the lost time by working extra time, a quarter or half an hour over per day until the whole is made up, and the hands are not paid for the extra time. It is the same if we lose time in consequence of a short supply of water in drouthy seasons. But if accidents to the machinery are rectified shortly, and we retain the hands on the premises, the lost time is divided fairly betwixt ourselves and the hands, they working only one half, and we lose the other half.

A. 16.—In case of sickness and absence from the mill not being more than half the week, that is, three days, and returns on the fourth, in this case no abatement is made, but the full wages are paid; if the absence from the mill is longer than three days, then whatever time is lost is abated for; and in case of accidents we invariably pay the wages for the whole time, and furnish them with a medical attendant at our own expence.

A. 17.—New Year's day, half a day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Good Friday, one day; Easter Monday, half a day; Easter Tuesday, half a day; Whit-Monday, half a day; Whit-Tuesday, half a day; Bradford fair, June 17th, half a day; ditto, June 18th, half a day; ditto, December 9th, half a day; ditto, December 10th, half a day; Christmas-day, one day; and the following day, half a day.

A. 18.—We pay wages for all time spent as holidays. The time is certainly made up to us, along with the lost time on Saturdays, by the hands having only half an hour allowed daily for dinner-time, instead of a whole hour, as stated in No. 12.

A. 19.—We do not make use of fines for absence or irregularity for a short time, nor to enforce obedience. If a child should be absent half a day or more, without any sufficient reason, we might abate for it; but this scarcely ever transpires.

A. 20.—We never employ more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children during the labour of one set of adult hands. We think this would only occur if the time was materially lessened, say to ten hours per day, and in this case we should expect some masters would be found who certainly would employ two sets of children, and the almost certain result would be to lessen the time still more, say to seven or eight hours each set; and if this should happen, and of course a corresponding reduction of wages take place, there is no calculating the extent of deprivation and suffering which might ensue, especially to families where the children are numerous, and maintained principally by their own earnings.

A. 22.—Our common practice is to not allow or sanction any corporal punishment; we allow of no weapon whatever. Our usual mode of punishing the refractory is by putting the child to piece a more difficult and tedious half of a frame, if such a one there is; and in case they are incorrigible, we send them home to be corrected by their parents, who will generally return with them after a time; and this has hitherto answered the purpose with very few exceptions.

A. 23.—We do not assert that it is absolutely necessary we should employ children under twelve years of age, although they learn much sooner if taken into the mill at an earlier age than twelve; but we do not know what they must be done with if all under twelve years of age were excluded, and especially we fear that the parents would find a great difficulty in supporting them. It is the common practice of a many parents to bring us their younger children (having others already at the mill,) at the early age of seven or eight years old; but we invariably refuse to listen to them, until they actually threaten to take away the older children, and then we are frequently compelled against our will to take them about nine years old. In the process of piecing or spinning we employ the greatest number of young children.

A. 24.—As far as we can possibly ascertain our machinery has worked as follows:

1st quarter, 1830, twelve weeks and five days make - - 77 days.

Of these thirteen were Saturdays.

2d quarter, eleven whole weeks and ten odd days make 76 days.

Of these twelve were Saturdays.

3d quarter, twelve whole weeks with seven odd days make 78 days.

Of these thirteen were Saturdays.

4th quarter, twelve whole weeks with seven odd days make 78 days.

Of these twelve were Saturdays.

Total 309 days.

As to the working of the number of days in the other years, viz. 1831 and 1832 are the same, except they are one day less in each of the second quarters.

A. 25.—We cannot answer this question as precisely as we could have wished, not having kept a time-book; have come as near as we were able from our book of wages:—

|      |   |                          |   |            |
|------|---|--------------------------|---|------------|
| 1830 | - | 1st quarter, January 1st | - | 924 hours. |
|      |   | 2d quarter, April 1st    | - | 917 hours. |
|      |   | 3d quarter, July 1st     | - | 979 hours. |
|      |   | 4th quarter, October 1st | - | 951 hours. |
| 1831 | - | 1st quarter, January 1st | - | 924 hours. |
|      |   | 2d quarter, April 1st    | - | 905 hours. |
|      |   | 3d quarter, July 1st     | - | 936 hours. |
|      |   | 4th quarter, October 1st | - | 906 hours. |

1832



|      |   |                          |   |            |
|------|---|--------------------------|---|------------|
| 1832 | - | 1st quarter, January 1st | - | 924 hours. |
|      |   | 2d quarter, April 1st    | - | 905 hours. |
|      |   | 3d quarter, July 1st     | - | 936 hours. |
|      |   | 4th quarter, October 1st | - | 936 hours. |

Yorkshire.

W. & E. Smith.

A. 26.—We are not aware that we have made any alteration in conducting our business; only in November, 1830, we ceased to work any over time, as before stated.

A. 27.—The question of the greatest importance appears to us to be, the age at which children ought to be admitted into worsted mills: we have found it to be the greater evil, taking them at too early an age, than the length of time which we work, which is twelve hours per day. The circumstances of the parents are generally such that they are compelled to make use of all the means they have to procure bread for their families; and for this reason we should say admit them at nine years old: if it was otherwise, and the parents could afford it, we should say, do not admit them before ten years old; but we think the evil to be less to take them at nine, and by that means obtain something to eat, than to exclude them until ten years old and have to suffer privation of food. As to the limitation of the hours, we decidedly object to ten per day as too little, as the wages will most assuredly in this case be reduced. We object, on the other hand, to over-working very young children, to the extent of thirteen, fourteen, or fifteen hours per day, as some have done. Our opinion is that eleven and a half hours are quite little enough, : nevertheless, to be on the safe side, we should say eleven hours per day, and should decidedly object to any less. If the time should unfortunately be limited to ten hours per day, we should incline to wish ourselves out of the trade, as it will operate as a considerable bounty to the foreign manufacturer, who already possesses one in the difference of the price at which his workpeople can purchase their *bread*. We beg to state, that our settled conviction is, that a considerable evil in our system is, that the children are obliged to rise so early during the winter season; and we should think that in case the intervals for meals are extended, that most of that time during the winter months, ought to be appropriated so as to allow them more time for repose.

WILLIAM SMITH.

EDWARD SMITH.

## ANSWERS of MATTHEW THOMPSON, Bradford.

No. 51.

Mat. Thompson.

A. 1.—Spinning sheep's wool into worsted yarn.

A. 2.—1801.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Thirty-horse power. One and a half horse power let off for a grinding stone.

| A. 5.—One hundred and six persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                   | —      | 7        |
| 10 and under 12 years                   | 7      | 20       |
| 12 and under 14                         | 6      | 10       |
| 14 and under 16                         | 3      | 12       |
| 16 and under 18                         | 1      | 9        |
| 18 and under 21                         | 2      | 6        |
| 21 and upwards                          | 5      | 18       |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.                  | FEMALES.                |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | —                       | 2s. 7 $\frac{2}{7}$ d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 4s. 9 $\frac{6}{7}$ d.  | 4s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  |
| 12 and under 14                       | 5s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  | 4s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 14 and under 16                       | 5s. 2d.                 | 5s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.  |
| 16 and under 18                       | —                       | 6s. 7d.                 |
| 18 and under 21                       | 15s. 4d.                | 7s. 9d.                 |
| 21 and upwards                        | 23s. 2 $\frac{2}{5}$ d. | —                       |

A. 7.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 2, earning 10s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 18, earning 10s. 3d. |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No. A day's work is then reckoned ten hours.

A. 10.—From six in the morning to seven in the evening.

A. 11.—Not water, but steam power.

A. 12.—Yes, only eleven hours, and not made up at other times.

A. 13.—Half an hour each day for dinner; namely, from twelve to half-past twelve. The mechanics are allowed half an hour for breakfast, from eight in the morning till half-past eight; an hour for dinner, from twelve at noon till one; and half an hour for the afternoon meal, from four to half-past four. The reason of this is prescriptive.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—Time lost by reason of accidents to the machinery never required to be made up; the workpeople paid as though working. Not made up by working extra hours only as over-time.

A. 16.—No allowance made for absence from sickness. In case of any accident, no abatement is made in the wages, and a medical man is provided without any charge to the party hurt.

(APP.—C. 1.)

Y

A. 17.



Yorkshire.  
Matt. Thompson.

A. 17.—Two whole days; eleven half days.

A. 18.—The workpeople are paid for all holidays; no part of the time is required to be made up.

A. 19.—No fine is imposed; but if the children frequently transgress they are discharged from their employment.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never; if it were desirable, children could not generally be procured to do it.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, it does. The greatest number of young children are employed as pieceners at the spinning frames.

|             |   |             |   |   |                                                                         |   |               |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| A. 24.—1830 | - | 1st quarter | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 2d quarter  | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 3d quarter  | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 4th quarter | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
| 1831        | - | 1st quarter | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 2d quarter  | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 3d quarter  | - | - | 5 and 6 days ditto                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 4th quarter | - | - | 5 days in the week                                                      | - | 14 Saturdays. |
| 1832        | - | 1st quarter | - | - | 5 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 2d quarter  | - | - | 5 and 6 days in the week, except one week, when the works were standing | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 3d quarter  | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |
|             |   | 4th quarter | - | - | 6 days in the week                                                      | - | 13 Saturdays. |

|                         |   |      |      |   |      |         |   |     |      |
|-------------------------|---|------|------|---|------|---------|---|-----|------|
| A. 25.—Hours at work in | - | -    | 1830 | - | -    | 1831    | - | -   | 1832 |
| 1st quarter             | - | 943  | -    | - | 943  | -       | - | 769 |      |
| 2d quarter              | - | 893  | -    | - | 918  | -       | - | 746 |      |
| 3d quarter              | - | 955½ | -    | - | 871  | -       | - | 943 |      |
| 4th quarter             | - | 899  | -    | - | 774½ | -       | - | 912 |      |
| Total number of hours   | - | -    | -    | - | -    | 10,567. |   |     |      |

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—The reason for making this calculation, is to show that so many workpeople are dependent upon the children's labour.

In an establishment where 100 children are employed twelve hours and a half per day, there will be dependent upon the quantity of work they perform

|                  |   |                         |   |                 |   |              |
|------------------|---|-------------------------|---|-----------------|---|--------------|
| 14 wool sorters  | - | average amount of wages | - | 22s. per week   | - | 15l. 8s. 0d. |
| 210 wool combers | - | ditto                   | - | 13s. 8½d. ditto | - | 137 1 8      |
| 550 weavers      | - | ditto                   | - | 12s. - ditto    | - | 330 0 0      |
| 6 winders        | - | ditto                   | - | 5s. 9d. ditto   | - | 1 14 6       |
| 23 reelers       | - | ditto                   | - | 8s. 7d. ditto   | - | 9 13 1       |
| 13 warpers       | - | ditto                   | - | 10s. 6d. ditto  | - | 6 16 6       |
|                  |   |                         |   |                 |   | 500 13 9     |

I am of opinion, that some legislative enactment is required to prevent the unnecessary and unreasonable hours which a number of mills in this neighbourhood have occasionally worked.

MATTHEW THOMPSON.

No. 52.  
J. Wade & Co.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES WADE, SON, and Co., Canal Side, Bradford.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarn, and weaving of stuff goods, by power-looms.

A. 2.—Erected in 1815, and applied to the spinning of worsted.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Forty horses' power; half of which is employed by ourselves, and the other half by W. Rouse and Sons.

|                                            |        |          |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| A. 5.—One hundred and thirty persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
| Under 10 years of age                      | 2      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years                      | 6      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14                            | 4      | 13       |
| 14 and under 16                            | 6      | 12       |
| 16 and under 18                            | 1      | 11       |
| 18 and under 21                            | 1      | 13       |
| 21 and upwards                             | 14     | 36       |

|                                       |          |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
| Under 10 years of age                 | 1s. 9d.  | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 3s. 11d. | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14                       | 4s. 7½d. | 4s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16                       | 5s.      | 5s. 11d. |
| 16 and under 18                       | 5s. 6d.  | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21                       | —        | 7s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards                        | 23s. 6d. | 7s. 6d.  |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Fifty persons; viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |                     |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | - | - | - | - | -        | - | - | 5, earning 8s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | - | - | -        | - | - | 12, earning 8s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | — | - | - | - | -        | - | - | 33, earning 10s.    |

Yorkshire

J. Wade & Co

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Our practice is, to pay one-fifth more wages for over time.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—We work one hour and a half less on Saturdays than other days, no part of which is made up.

A. 13.—Thirty minutes are allowed for dinner; the other meals are taken by the piecers whilst at work. Weavers, &c. stop their work at meal times; the hours are, eight in the morning, twelve at noon, and four in the afternoon.

A. 14.—The engine stops thirty minutes for dinner, the rest of the meals are taken by the piecers during work, which is of such a nature as to allow them to do so. Other hands do not leave the room, but stop their work.

A. 15.—We make up part of our lost time occasioned by accidents to the machinery, by working thirty minutes per day over, for which the hands receive no extra wages.

A. 16.—Our practice is to pay the wages (of those who fall sick) to the end of the week. Hands receiving injury by or from the machinery, we pay their full wages till well, and likewise the doctor's bill.

A. 17.—New Year's Day, and Shrove Tuesday afternoons; Good Friday, all day; Easter Monday and Tuesday afternoons; Whit Monday and Tuesday afternoons; June Fair, two afternoons; December Fair, two afternoons; Christmas Day, and the half day following; making in all seven days and a half.

A. 18.—Our workpeople are paid for the whole of the holidays above stated. The engine runs twelve hours and a half per day, for five days in the week; but the half hour per day is generally considered as an equivalent for the time lost in holidays.

A. 19.—We never enforce fines for absence or irregularity; when reproof is ineffectual, they are dismissed.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—Never.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is not sanctioned. If any children are refractory, rather than punish them we send them home.

A. 23.—The nature of our employment for children does not require them to be under twelve years of age, but children at nine or ten years old are equally competent to the work, which is piecing the side of a worsted frame of weft, containing forty-eight spindles.

A. 24.—Our machinery was employed—

Six days in the week, for the first, second, third, and fourth quarters, 1830.

Six days in the week, from Jan. 1, 1831 to Nov. 1, 1831.

Five days in the week, from Nov. 1, 1831 to Jan. 1, 1832.

Five days in the week, from Jan. 1, 1832 to Sept. 21.

Five days and a half in the week, from Sept. 21, 1832 to Oct. 12.

Six days in the week, from Oct. 12, 1832 to Jan. 1, 1833.

| A. 25.— | First Quarter. | Second Quarter. | Third Quarter. | Fourth Quarter. |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1830.   | 943 hours.     | 905½ hours.     | 955½ hours.    | 924½ hours.     |
| 1831.   | 943 hours.     | 905½ hours.     | 955½ hours.    | 812 hours.      |
| 1832.   | 780½ hours.    | 743 hours.      | 799 hours.     | 912½ hours.     |

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We are of opinion that restrictive hours for labour in factories would be beneficial. It would put the grinding and humane master on the same footing, so that one could not run longer hours than the other, as is at present, and has been the case for a long time. We think to work eleven hours per day would not be injurious to the health of the younger children. Would recommend a reasonable quantity of time for meals; but in towns where the hands live near the factories, they do not require so long a time as in the country, where the hands live at a considerable distance from the factory.

JAMES WADE, Son & Co.

#### ANSWERS of CHRISTOPHER WARD, Holdsworth Mill, Canal Side, Bradford.

No. 53.

Christ. Ward.

A. 1.—The preparing and spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—1819.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—The engine is twenty horses' power, of which about two horses is let off for turning purposes in a machine-maker's shop; the rest is used for worsted-spinning.

| A. 5.— | One hundred and five persons; viz. | MALES. |   |   |   | FEMALES. |    |  |  |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------|---|---|---|----------|----|--|--|
|        | Under 10 years of age              | -      | 2 | - | - | -        | 3  |  |  |
|        | 10 and under 12 years              | -      | 8 | - | - | -        | 9  |  |  |
|        | 12 and under 14                    | —      | 4 | - | - | -        | 8  |  |  |
|        | 14 and under 16                    | —      | 5 | - | - | -        | 11 |  |  |
|        | 16 and under 18                    | —      | — | - | - | -        | 14 |  |  |
|        | 18 and under 21                    | —      | 1 | - | - | -        | 18 |  |  |
|        | 21 and upwards                     | -      | 3 | - | - | -        | 19 |  |  |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
Christ. Ward.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.     | 3s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 9d. | 3s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 9d. | 4s. 9d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 6d. | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s.    | 8s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 26s.    | 9s. 9d.  |

A. 7.—One hundred and five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 3s.     | 3, earning 3s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8, earning 3s. 9d. | 9, earning 3s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 4s. 9d. | 8, earning 4s. 9d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5, earning 5s. 6d. | 11, earning 5s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | —                  | 14, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, earning 10s.    | 18, earning 8s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 3, earning 26s.    | 19, earning 9s. 9d. |

A. 8.—None: every description of wages are paid by my clerk; no kind of work is underlet.

A. 9.—All over time is paid for at and after the rate of ten hours a day.

A. 10.—The business of the day commences at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—No answer required.

A. 12.—Saturdays are always one hour and a half shorter than any other day in the week; the engine and workpeople all give up at half past five o'clock, which less time is a loss to the employer.

A. 13.—At twelve o'clock the engine is stopped for the persons employed to have dinner, for which purpose thirty minutes are allowed. There are always three persons remaining, for the purpose of cleaning any part or parts of the machinery where there might be any danger or risk: those so employed have their time for dinner immediately the engine commences.

A. 14.—The engine ceases for dinner only, spinners and drawers take their other meals whilst at work; but it must be understood, the nature of their work is such as will well admit of it, otherwise it would be the employer's interest to do otherwise.

A. 15.—Time lost by accident or otherwise is scarcely ever abated for in the wages, but usually made up by running ten, fifteen, or twenty minutes longer in the evening, as may be deemed most expedient, considering the time lost.

A. 16.—In cases of sickness, the wages are regularly paid to the end of the first week; if longer absent, no wages are paid. In cases of accident, all my hands who may have received any injury are placed under the care of my medical man, his claim satisfied, and the wages are regularly paid, as if at work.

A. 17.—New Year's day and Shrove Tuesday afternoons, Christmas day and half the following day, Good Friday, Easter Monday and Tuesday afternoons, Whit Monday and Tuesday afternoons; June fair, two afternoons; December fair, two afternoons: in all, seven days and a half, besides incidentals.

A. 18.—The days specified in Answer, No. 17, are claimed by the workpeople as their own, they having worked every day thirty minutes, i. e. commencing after dinners at half after twelve o'clock, in lieu of one o'clock, to do away with any stoppages in their wages: so full wages are paid at holidays as at other times.

A. 19.—As to fines for irregularity or non-attendance, none are enforced; when reproof is become of none effect, they are dismissed.

A. 20.—I do not employ more than one set of hands, of any class.

A. 21.—I never have employed more than one set of children to one set of adults; for, in my opinion, the children are as capable of performing their duty as adults are.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments, in every shape, are most strictly forbidden.

A. 23.—I am of opinion, that at ten years of age any class of children, enjoying an average good health, is fully able to perform all that is required; and when they exceed fourteen or fifteen years old, they become less valuable in the spinning department, in which the greatest number is employed.

| A. 24.—                            | 1830:                 | 1831:                  | 1832: |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------|
| January 1st, 64 days, 13 Saturdays | 64 days, 13 Saturdays | 61½ days, 13 Saturdays |       |
| April 1st - 65 — 13                | 67½ — 13              | 59 — 13                |       |
| July 1st - 71½ — 13                | 73 — 13               | 63 — 13                |       |
| October 1st, 68 — 13               | 52½ — 13              | 69½ — 13               |       |

| A. 25.—     | 1830: | 1831: | 1832: |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| January 1st | 943   | 940½  | 909   |
| April 1st   | 945½  | 970   | 875½  |
| July 1st    | 1020  | 1048  | 930   |
| October 1st | 980   | 799   | 1005½ |

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—I am decidedly opposed to a Ten Hours' Bill, but am favourable to an Eleven Hours' Bill. It cannot be denied but there are some who are more eager for this world's good than reason or humanity would deem prudent, therefore on behalf of those whose lot is



is to be under such, I would give my voice for a legislative enactment, to prevent the practicability of such a proceeding.

The total time for the three years does not exceed ten hours and three quarters per day, on the average.

C. WAUD.

Yorkshire.

Christ. Waud.

## ANSWERS of JOHN WOOD, Jun., Bradford.

No. 54.

John Wood.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarns.

A. 2.—No. 1 mill, in the year 1812.

— 2 — 1826.

A. 3.—Steam-power only.

A. 4.—No. 1 steam-engine, 24 horses power } in No. 1 mill.

— 2 — 30 —

— 3 — 80 —

A. 5.—Five hundred and twenty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 15       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 57       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 28     | 115      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 220      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 45       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 21       |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 16       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.      | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.      | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —        | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | 8s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 24s. 6d. | 10s.     |

A. 7.—One hundred and eight persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 37, earning 7s. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 50, earning 8s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 21, earning 9s. |

In a regular week of fifty-eight hours.

Wool sorters work nine to ten hours a day, for five days, and eight hours on Saturday, *in summer*; and seven to eight hours a day, for six days, in winter. Woolcombers work principally at their own houses, and are irregular.—These remarks regarding combers and sorters refer to the *general* practice of the trade.

A. 8.—None at all.

A. 9.—No over-hours are worked.

A. 10.—The mills start at six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—The working time on Saturdays is an hour and a half less than on the other days of the week; and this difference of time is not made up on other days.

A. 13.—Thirty minutes are allowed for breakfast, at eight o'clock, and fifty for dinner, at twelve. All the hands take their meals at one time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops for breakfast and dinner; the drinking, or afternoon meal, is taken between the hours of four and five; and the hands have to watch the machinery and piecen the broken threads whilst taking their food.

A. 15.—The time lost in consequence of accidents to the steam-engine, or repairs of machinery, *is not made up* by the hands working over, when the same is repaired; and *no deduction is made from their wages* on account of the time lost, when such repairs are taking place.A. 16.—When any hand is absent from the mills, in consequence of an *accident* received there, the regular wages are paid. When sick, an allowance is made to mechanics and overlookers of 7s. per week; wool sorters and combers, 2s. 6d.; young women, eighteen and upwards, 2s. 6d.; and the children in spinning rooms receive their usual wages for the week in which they go home sick. In cases of great poverty, the regular wages are continued during illness.

A. 17.—Eight days' holiday throughout the year, at the fairs, Lent, Easter, Whitsuntide, Christmas, &amp;c.

A. 18.—The workpeople are paid their regular wages during holiday times, and no part of the holidays are made up.

A. 19.—No fines exacted. The children under eighteen years of age are allowed one hour per day, *during working hours*, for attending school, where they are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, sewing or needlework, &c. To enforce obedience in the mill, they are sometimes punished, by being deprived of their regular turn at school and kept back at their work.

(APP.—C. 1.)

Z

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

John Wood.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set. The objections to employing more than one set of children are:—1st. That the population could not supply two sets. 2nd. That children might very easily be compelled to work at two different mills. 3rd. That the children could not exist upon a much less rate of wages than they now receive. 4th. That adults might thus be subjected to work the hours of two sets of children, which would be intolerable. 5th. Children would have to commence and terminate their labour, during the winter months especially, at unnatural periods,—leaving their homes in the morning, often in stormy darkness, their parents being in bed; returning in the evening, subject to the same inclemency of weather, hours after they ought to be enjoying the protection and sympathy of their parents' fireside. Pray refer to Table No. 5, to see the force of this objection.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 23.—The nature of the employment requires children under twelve years of age. The principal work of the children is piecing the threads as they break in the process of spinning: this requires a *small* hand; and a nimble performance of it is more aptly acquired from ten to eleven years of age, than if they came to learn later in life. Parents, however, could not support their children at home until twelve years of age.

A. 24.—No irregularity has occurred. Six days' work has been performed, or at least full weekly wages have been paid, during the period. The usual holidays, and some accidental delays, have, of course, occurred; but these have made no difference to the wages of the hands.

A. 25.—Sixty-eight hours and a half per week, except holidays and repairs; or sixty-two hours and a half per week for each child to work, as six hours weekly are allowed them for attending the school. This is done by about sixty additional hands being employed, to enable this number to be always at liberty to attend the school.

A. 26.—The alteration which has taken place since 1830, is in the establishment of the school above alluded to, which commenced in 1832.

A. 27.—Ten hours a day working, which is equal to thirteen hours' occupation, is sufficient for all who are employed in mills; and more than this cannot be performed without positive injury to health.

JOHN WOOD, Jun.

No. 55.

J. Barker & W.  
Musgrave.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN BARKER and WILLIAM MUSGRAVE, at Bramley.

A. 1.—Scribbling and fulling woollen cloth, carding, &amp;c.

A. 2.—March 25th, 1823.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse power; and we employ the whole of it ourselves.

A. 5.—Sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 7        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s. 6d. | 5s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 6d. | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s.     | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 11s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Eight persons, earning 28s., in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—It is the same.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Two hours less.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking: meals for them all at the above times.

A. 14.—The moving power is going on for the use of fulling, during meal times.

A. 15.—No accident as respects machinery as yet.

A. 16.—Not any hands sick or absence from mill, arising from accidents, as yet.

A. 17.—Four holidays, and two half holidays.

A. 18.—Part of the hands paid during holidays, and part not paid.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20, 21 &amp; 22.—No.

A. 32.



A. 23.—Yes; and they are the most suitable for us in the department of piecening carding for the slubbers.

A. 24.—Cannot speak to it.

A. 25.—Cannot speak to it.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—No remarks.

Yorkshire.

J. Barker & W.  
Musgrave.

JOHN BARKER and WILLIAM MUSGROVE.

### ANSWERS of JOHN HALEY, Bramley.

No. 56.  
John Haley.

A. 1.—Spinning woollen yarn, and milling woollen cloths.

A. 2.—In the year 1804.

A. 3.—Steam power is employed.

A. 4.—Steam-engine twenty-two horse-power, and none let to other persons.

A. 5.—Eleven persons; viz. nine males, and two females.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| 21 and upwards | 18s. 0d. | 7s. 0d.  |

A. 7.—Four persons; viz. four males, earning 20s.

In a regular week of sixty-six hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same wages are paid for over-hours, with the addition of meat and drink when those hours are protracted.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—The commencement of the day is the same as other days, but ceases at five o'clock.

A. 13.—From eight o'clock to half-past for breakfast; from twelve to one o'clock for dinner, and from four to half-past for drinking time.

A. 14.—The power continues in operation through the whole day; but the milling department can always be so arranged, that the men employed in that branch have as much time for meals as others.

A. 15.—Hindrances from accidents are generally made up and paid for to the workpeople; but no particular time of working is set apart.

A. 16.—No plan of this kind is adopted.

A. 17.—The feast time two days, and Christmas day.

A. 18.—The holidays above named are not made up. The workmen are not paid for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 24.—As so few persons are employed in this mill, no time is kept but merely in the minds of the master and men until the Saturday, pay-day.

A. 25.—I cannot ascertain, as no time book is kept.

A. 26.—None.

JOHN HALEY.

### ANSWERS of JOHN HALEY, Bramley.

No. 57.  
John Haley.

A. 1.—Woollen cloths, through the processes of scribbling, slubbing, spinning, weaving and milling.

A. 2.—About the year 1816.

A. 3.—Steam power is employed.

A. 4.—One engine twenty-seven horses' power, and one sixteen; and none let to other persons.

A. 5.—Ninety-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 6      | 9        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | 7      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | 12     | 6        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 9        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 26     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 8s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    | —        |

(APP.—C. 1)

A. 7.—



Yorkshire.  
 William Baker.

| A. 7.—Twenty-seven persons, viz. |   |   |   | MALES.           | FEMALES.        |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------|-----------------|
| 12 and under 14 years            | - | - | - | —                | 1, earning 7s.  |
| 14 and under 16                  | — | - | - | —                | 4, earning 9s.  |
| 16 and under 18                  | — | - | - | —                | 7, earning 10s. |
| 21 and upwards                   | - | - | - | 15, earning 25s. | —               |

In a regular week of sixty-six hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No over hours are ever wrought.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening. The time of working may vary half an hour between dinner and drinking time, when daylight is becoming short, in order to enable the persons employed to make up their time.

A. 12.—The time of working ceases at five o'clock in the evening, on which days the half hour for drinking time is not taken, and the dinner time reduced a quarter of an hour; the time is not usually made up; it is not attended to with any precise exactness.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight o'clock to half-past; dinner from twelve to one o'clock; drinking time from four o'clock to half-past. The overlooker generally takes dinner after the others have resumed their work.

A. 14.—The smaller engine always stops during meals; but the larger engine, on account of cloth milling being attached to it, does not stop; but the millers so arrange their work as to have proper time for meals.

A. 15.—If a small hindrance occurs, say for one hour, that time is usually made up; but if more than that it is lost both to master and workmen; the making up of time is paid for in the common way with other time.

A. 16.—No particular rule has been observed relating to this.

A. 17.—The feast time held in July, which continues two days; Christmas day and Whit-Monday are the holidays.

A. 18.—The above holidays are allowed, and rarely made up. It has not been a practice at this mill. I do not remember the time when.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. Children could not be obtained for such a practice.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Children under twelve, from eight to twelve, are better adapted for certain processes. Piecing employs the greatest number of children.

A. 24.—It has not been the practice to keep time so minutely as this question presumes; for having a superabundance of machinery, I can conscientiously aver these works have not wrought more than nine hours and a half each day for several years back.

A. 25.—The above answer will suffice for the present question.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Eleven working hours are long enough; but the time when children ought to commence working, in my opinion, ought not to be determined by the legislature. If committees, composed of medical men, were allowed to decide upon every child whose parents, wished to be employed in factories, it would be far better than fixing one regular age for all. Some children are better capable of work at eight than others at twelve or thirteen.

JOHN HALEY.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES HUDSON, Bramley, near Leeds.

A. 1.—The manufacturing of woollens, and cutting dyewoods.

A. 2.—A very old mill; but burned down in 1829, and rebuilt.

A. 3.—By water. The river Aire.

A. 4.—One wheel ten horse power, used for manufacturing: one wheel eight horse power, used for cutting dye-woods.

| A. 5.—Forty-two persons; viz. |   |   |   | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age         | - | - | - | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years         | - | - | - | 15     | 3        |
| 12 and under 14               | — | - | - | 6      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21               | — | - | - | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards                | - | - | - | 11     | —        |

A. 8.—None; paying all wages myself.

A. 9.—All wages alike for over time, when we make any.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and ends at seven o'clock at night.

A. 11.—That is as it happens, owing to dryness of the seasons.

A. 12.—Two hours less; but not made up.

A. 13.—Take breakfast at seven o'clock, half an hour allowed; dinner at twelve o'clock, one hour allowed; tea at half past four o'clock, half an hour allowed.

A. 14.—It is partially stopped, as far as corder-fillers and piecers; but scribblers work the whole time, but those are generally from fourteen to sixteen years of age.

A. 15.—Make time up partially, according to state of trade; are obliged to pay all wages; the loss is all upon the master; if any extra time, paid in the same ratio.

A. 16.—It depends upon the servant who happens to want that indulgence, but do not consider to be bound to do it.

A. 17.—Three days, and six half-days.

A. 18.—Paid for no holidays; if throng they make over time, and are paid for it.

A. 19.

No. 58.  
 James Hudson.



- A. 19.—No fines; but expect them to keep their time.  
 A. 20.—Only one set of hands.  
 A. 21.—Never: I think one set of children is plenty for one man.  
 A. 22.—More in name than reality.  
 A. 23.—Certainly, in piecing; as at that age they would be too old and too strong, and they would be worth more for other purposes.  
 A. 24.—Cannot say for quarters, but should think five days in a week on an average.  
 A. 25.—That greatly depends on the state of trade—cannot exactly say.  
 A. 26.—No alteration at all, since that time.  
 A. 27.—I think thirteen hours per day, that is, eleven working hours and two hours for meals, would be fair for all parties.

JAMES HUDSON.

Yorkshire.

James Hudson.

ANSWERS of W. WEBSTER, of the Firm of Messrs. Webster, Harrison, and Co.,  
 Allen Brigg Mill, Bramley.

No. 59.  
 W. Webster.

- A. 1.—This mill is employed in scribbling and slubbing, and fulling cloth.  
 A. 2.—Erected and applied to its present purposes in 1830.  
 A. 3.—Moved by steam only.  
 A. 4.—Engine twenty-horse power; and employ the whole ourselves.  
 A. 5.—Forty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 7      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 11     | —        |

- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:
- |                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.      | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 14s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s. 6d. | —        |

- A. 7.—Eight persons, earning 33s. each, in a regular week of sixty-four hours.  
 A. 8.—Eighteen piecers are paid by the slubbers under whom they work.  
 A. 9.—All are paid for over-hours, and receive the same per hour for over-hours as during the regular time.  
 A. 10.—The regular day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, during the summer season; and begins at seven o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock, during the winter season.  
 A. 12.—Saturday less by two hours, and not made up at any other time.  
 A. 13.—Two hours are allowed for the whole to take their meals: taken as follows; from eight to half past, from twelve to one, and from four to half past.  
 A. 14.—The moving power stops during the meal-times.  
 A. 15.—Time lost by reason of accident is lost to us, and to a part of the workpeople, (viz.) those who are paid by the piece.  
 A. 16.—No allowance for lost time, or absence from the mill, during sickness.  
 A. 17.—Christmas day, and half of each day following; half day on Shrove Tuesday; half day on Easter Monday and Tuesday; half day on Whit Monday and Tuesday; the first Monday and Tuesday after the 21st day of August; and half a day on the 5th of November; being three days and six half days, or six whole days in each year.  
 A. 18.—Paid for holidays, and not made up.  
 A. 19.—No fine enforced.  
 A. 20.—One set of adults only.  
 A. 21.—Never employed more than one set of children; always found them willing and able to work when required. Again, rather than employ two sets, would increase the machinery.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment not sanctioned; and should it be discovered, the person so offending is discharged from the premises.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are required for piecers.

A. 24.—January 1st to April 1st, 1830, 1831, and 1832, 5 days each week.

|                 |   |   |    |   |
|-----------------|---|---|----|---|
| To July 1st,    | " | " | 6  | — |
| To October 1st, | " | " | 4½ | — |
| To January 1st, | " | " | 6½ | — |

One Saturday in every week.

| A. 25.—                 | 1830. | 1831.                    | 1832.                    |
|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1st quarter, 780 hours. |       | 2nd. quarter, 780 hours. | 3rd. quarter, 780 hours. |
| 2d                      | 856   | 856                      | 854                      |
| 3d                      | 630   | 628                      | 632                      |
| 4th                     | 934   | 930                      | 933                      |

A. 26.—No alterations since the mill was erected.

A. 27.—Should wish for eleven working hours, and two hours for meals; and children.

W. WEBSTER.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A a



## ANSWERS of WILLIAM ELLIS, Castlefield, near Bingley.

Yorkshire.  
 No. 60.  
 William Ellis.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning.

A. 2.—About 1793.

A. 3.—Water. Upon the river Aire.

A. 4.—Supposed about forty horse power. No part of the power or building let off, or applied to any other purpose.

A. 5.—One hundred and thirty persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | —  | - | - | - | 1  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | —  | - | - | - | 4  |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 4  | - | - | - | 10 |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 4* | - | - | - | 6  |
| 16 and under 18       | — | —  | - | - | - | 10 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | —  | - | - | - | 21 |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 13 | - | - | - | 57 |

A. 6.—The age affords no criterion of the wages paid; ability is the principal test. In my return to the commissioners at Bradford, I have given the name of every person employed, also the age, and the amount of weekly wages each one receives.

A. 7.—None. All weekly wages.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No persons ever do any over-work, but such as are turned twenty-one years of age, who are paid at the same rate as their regular wages. The over-work here alluded to is cleaning and oiling the machinery.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning for all persons. Such as are under eighteen years of age go home to breakfast at eight o'clock, have an hour for dinner, and go home at night at half past seven o'clock. This mill has always been strictly worked agreeably to the different Acts of Parliament passed for the regulation of cotton mills.

A. 11.—We never make up any lost time. An account is kept of time lost, and when it amounts in minutes to half a day, half a day's wages are deducted from each person.

A. 12.—It is less, being according to the Act of Parliament; and is not made up on any of the other five days.

A. 13.—Eight in the morning, and twenty minutes past twelve at noon, agreeably to the Act of Parliament.

A. 14.—The moving power stops at dinner altogether; and at breakfast such parts of the works as are superintended by persons under eighteen years of age.

A. 15.—See answer to No. 11.

A. 16.—If any one is sick, if absent three weeks half wage is paid (and again at the end of the second three weeks) out of a sick fund, raised by a general contribution of the workpeople by a rate, and something is added by the proprietor of the mill. We seldom have any sickness. In the last ten years, the deaths are only about one in one hundred persons employed.

A. 17.—We have the following holidays: Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter Monday, half a day; Easter Tuesday, half a day; Whit Monday, half a day; Whit Tuesday, half a day; Bingley Tide, in August, three days; Christmas, two days. Seven days and a half in the year, for which a deduction is made from the wages, and no part of the time is ever made up by over-work.

A. 19.—We never inflict corporal punishment; our standing rule is to fine; the fines are kept apart, and never come into my hands, but are applied to relieve such of the workpeople as are sick; or if any case of distress exists amongst the poor in the neighbourhood, something is given out of the "fine fund."

A. 20 & 21.—No.

A. 22.—Never. Entirely prohibited. This has been the rule for the last twelve or fifteen years.

A. 23.—I should not be sorry to see female children excluded till they were *ten* or twelve years old. If boys were kept at home beyond nine years of age, I should fear that they would be unmanageable. At present boys can with difficulty find employment. I employ but eight boys in one hundred and thirty workpeople.

A. 24.—Six days a week, with the exception of the holidays, and the time worked short on a Saturday.

A. 26.—No alterations have been made for many years past.

A. 27.—On the 20th of August, 1827, I passed down the valley going from Dieppe to Rouen, in France, between nine and ten o'clock at night, and saw a great many cotton mills lighted up. I called the following day upon a gentleman in Rouen, who was then a partner in three of those mills. He complained of the bad state of the cotton spinning business. My reply was to express my surprise that (if such was the state of the cotton spinning business) they should work night and day; I mentioned what I had seen the night before. His answer was, "We do not work night and day; we begin at six in the morning, and work till ten at night, stopping two hours during the day for meals." I gave full credit to this account. I am at a loss to conceive how the English cotton spinner can compete with the foreigner (the cotton market being equally accessible to both) if he is restricted to ten hours a day. Should the foreigner only continue the practice that prevailed at Rouen in 1827, for two years, he would drive the British spinner out of the foreign market. These observations are intended not to justify the French; they are intended to show, that without care irreparable injury may be done.

\* Boys generally go out to some trade at twelve or thirteen years of age. The difficulty of putting out the sons of poor persons is very much on the increase.



LIST of the Work People employed in the factory of WILLIAM ELLIS, at Castlefield Cotton Mill, near Bingley, Yorkshire, on the 28th March, 1823.

Yorkshire.

William Ellis.

[A. is put for *alive*, on the 8th April, 1833. C. F. means Cross Flats Cottages, belonging to W. Ellis, situated about 400 or 500 yards from the Mill. L. means *living at*. When n.w. is added, the person was working at the said Mill, on the 8th April, 1833.]

| NO. | NAME.                   | AGE<br>ON 8th<br>APRIL,<br>1833. | WHETHER ALIVE OR DEAD ON<br>8th APRIL, 1833.  | IF DEAD, AT WHAT<br>DATE DID THE<br>DEATH HAPPEN. |
|-----|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | John Wild - n.w.        | 51                               | A. L. at Cross Flats, Bingley.                |                                                   |
| 2   | Martha Wild - n.w.      | 22                               | A. L. Ditto.                                  |                                                   |
| 3   | Jane Wild - -           | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                       |                                                   |
| 4   | Mary Baldwin - -        | -                                | - - - -                                       |                                                   |
| 5   | Rebecca Baldwin - n.w.  | 38                               | A. L. Castlefields, near Bingley.             | Died March, 1824, aged 30.                        |
| 6   |                         |                                  |                                               |                                                   |
| 7   | Sarah Baldwin - -       | -                                | A. L. Gilstead, married.                      |                                                   |
| 8   | Betty Duxbury - -       | -                                | A. L. Elwick, ditto.                          |                                                   |
| 9   | Dorothy Duxbury - -     | -                                | - - - -                                       | Died May, 1828, aged 31.                          |
| 10  | Mary Wild - n.w.        | 42                               | A. L. Crow Nest, n <sup>r</sup> Bingley.      |                                                   |
| 11  | Mary Dale - -           | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                       |                                                   |
| 12  | Betty Dale - -          | -                                | A. L. Kightley ditto.                         |                                                   |
| 13  | Rebecca Houghton - -    | -                                | A. L. Micklethwaite, married.                 |                                                   |
| 14  | Rachael Houghton - -    | -                                | A. L. Ditto - ditto.                          |                                                   |
| 15  | Betty Hargreaves - n.w. | 43                               | A. L. Ditto - ditto.                          |                                                   |
| 16  | Mary Lister - -         | -                                | A. L. Bingley - ditto.                        |                                                   |
| 17  | Sarah Lister - -        | -                                | A. L. Cottingley, ditto.                      |                                                   |
| 18  | Ann Lister - -          | -                                | A. L. Bingley, - ditto.                       |                                                   |
| 19  | Betty Lister - n.w.     | 25                               | A. L. Ditto.                                  |                                                   |
| 20  | Mary Lambert - n.w.     | 20                               | A. L. Ditto.                                  |                                                   |
| 21  | Ann Milner - n.w.       | 30                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 22  | Sarah Milner - n.w.     | 38                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 23  | Sarah Sugden - -        | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                       |                                                   |
| 24  | Betty Sugden - -        | -                                | A. L. C. F., keeps her father's house.        |                                                   |
| 25  | Margaret Sugden - n.w.  | 26                               | A. L. C. F., married.                         |                                                   |
| 26  | Esther Whitfield - n.w. | 40                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 27  | William Butterfield - - | -                                | A. L. Bradford, wool sorter.                  |                                                   |
| 28  | Martha Rhodes - -       | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                       |                                                   |
| 29  | Ann Parker - n.w.       | 23                               | A. L. Cophurst, near the mill.                |                                                   |
| 30  | Mary Parker - -         | -                                | - - - -                                       | Died 12th January, 1831, aged 18.                 |
|     | Betty Whaly - -         | -                                | - - - -                                       | Died Nov. 1832, aged 36, leaving 3 children.      |
|     | (Married to Kightley,)  |                                  |                                               |                                                   |
| 31  | Hannah Whaly - -        | -                                | - - - -                                       | Died April, 1824, aged 15.                        |
| 32  | Barbara Tatham - n.w.   | 40                               | A. L. Mucklethwaite.                          |                                                   |
| 33  | Ann Binns - n.w.        | 42                               | A. L. Ditto.                                  |                                                   |
| 34  | Ann Moorhouse - n.w.    | 20                               | A. L. Crow Nest, n <sup>r</sup> Bingley.      |                                                   |
| 35  | Mary Foulds - -         | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                       |                                                   |
| 36  | Ellen Foulds - -        | -                                | A. L. Gilstead, Bingley, mrr <sup>d</sup> .   |                                                   |
| 37  | Sarah Shaw - -          | -                                | A. L. C. F., married.                         |                                                   |
| 38  | John Denby - -          | -                                | A. L. C. F., joiner.                          |                                                   |
| 39  | Mary Barber - -         | -                                | A. L. Micklethwaite, married.                 |                                                   |
| 40  | Stephen Smith - n.w.    | 50                               | A. L. C. F., ditto.                           |                                                   |
| 41  | Mary Smith - -          | -                                | A. L. C. F., dressmaker.                      |                                                   |
| 42  | John Smith - -          | -                                | A. L. C. F., shoemaker.                       |                                                   |
| 43  | John Whaley - n.w.      | 37                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 44  | James Whaley - n.w.     | 31                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 45  | William Whaley - -      | -                                | A. L. C. F., weaver.                          |                                                   |
| 46  | Jane Whaley - n.w.      | 20                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 47  | James Walker - n.w.     | 27                               | A. L. Castlefields.                           |                                                   |
| 48  | Ann Longbottom - n.w.   | 22                               | A. L. Bingley.                                |                                                   |
| 49  | Mary Elsworth - n.w.    | 29                               | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |
| 50  | Thomas Elsworth - -     | -                                | A. L. Kightley, painter.                      |                                                   |
| 51  | Ann Thompson - -        | -                                | A. L. Addingham, near Skipton, married.       |                                                   |
| 52  | Michael Maud - -        | -                                | A. L. Marlow, near Bingley, farmer's servant. |                                                   |
| 53  | Mary Longbottom - n.w.  | 45                               | A. L. Micklethwaite.                          |                                                   |
| 54  | Grace Hebden - -        | -                                | A. L. C. F.                                   |                                                   |

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.  
William Ellis.

| NO. | NAME.                                            | AGE<br>ON 8TH<br>APRIL,<br>1833. | WHETHER ALIVE OR DEAD ON<br>8TH APRIL, 1833. | IF DEAD, AT WHAT<br>DATE DID THE<br>DEATH HAPPEN.                                     |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 55  | Ritta Hebden - n.w.                              | 31                               | A. L. C. F., married, now<br>Newton.         |                                                                                       |
| 56  | Hannah Rhodes - n.w.                             | 41                               | A. L. Bingley.                               |                                                                                       |
| 57  | Betty Rhodes - n.w.                              | 26                               | A. L. Ditto.                                 |                                                                                       |
| 58  | Maria Rhodes -                                   | -                                | A. L. Leeds, married.                        |                                                                                       |
| 59  | Martha Briggs - n.w.                             | 33                               | A. L. Castlefields.                          |                                                                                       |
| 60  | Mary Walbank -                                   | -                                | A. L. Wilsden, near Bingley,<br>married.     |                                                                                       |
| 61  | Ann Walbank -                                    | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 62  | Betty Walbank -                                  | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 63  | Hannah Walbank -                                 | -                                | A. L. near Bingley, married.                 |                                                                                       |
| 64  | Mary Jennings -                                  | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 65  | David Hebden -                                   | -                                | A. L. Baildon, woolcomber.                   |                                                                                       |
| 66  | Sarah Bannister -                                | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 67  | S. Bannister -                                   | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 68  | Hannah Sugden -                                  | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 69  | Robert Whitfield -                               | -                                | A. L. Bradford, wool sorter.                 |                                                                                       |
| 70  | Mary Darby -                                     | -                                | A. L. C. F. dress maker.                     |                                                                                       |
| 71  | Betty Darby -                                    | -                                | A. L. Burnley, Lancashire,<br>house servant. |                                                                                       |
| 72  | Harriott Darby - n.w.                            | 20                               | A. L. C. F.                                  |                                                                                       |
| 73  | William Lister -                                 | -                                | A. L. Bingley, woolcomber.                   |                                                                                       |
| 74  | Betty Greenwood -                                | -                                | - - -                                        | Married at Brad-<br>ford, since dead.                                                 |
| 75  | Lucy Shackleton -                                | -                                | A. L. Morton, near Bingley,<br>married.      |                                                                                       |
| 76  | Bella Shackleton -                               | -                                | - - -                                        | Died August 1832,<br>aged 22.                                                         |
| 77  | Maria Shackleton -                               | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 78  | Jacob Butterfield -                              | -                                | A. L. Marlow, weaver.                        |                                                                                       |
| 79  | Cressy Jennings - n.w.                           | 35                               | A. L. Bingley.                               |                                                                                       |
| 80  | Mercy Hird -                                     | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 81  | Ann Driver -                                     | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 82  | Jane Driver - n.w.                               | 30                               | A. L. Bingley.                               |                                                                                       |
| 83  | John Walker, clerk and<br>traveller to Mr. Ellis | -                                | - - -                                        | Died July 27, 1832,<br>aged 51.                                                       |
| 84  | John Walker, jun. -                              | -                                | A. L. C. F. woolcomber.                      |                                                                                       |
| 85  | Barb. Walker - n.w.                              | 21                               | A. L. C. F. marr <sup>d</sup> , now Smith.   |                                                                                       |
| 86  | Andrew Cowbram -                                 | -                                | A. L. Dubb, near Bingley,<br>woolcomber.     |                                                                                       |
| 87  | Robert Sugden -                                  | -                                | - C. F. -                                    | Died Feb. 8, 1825,<br>aged 77, after hav-<br>ing worked at this<br>mill thirty years. |
| 88  | Thomas Whitfield n.w.                            | 49                               | A. L. C. F. married.                         |                                                                                       |
| 89  | Josh. Firth -                                    | -                                | A. L. Bradford, whitesmith.                  |                                                                                       |
| 90  | John Habbishaw -                                 | -                                | A. L. Shipley, near Bradford,<br>joiner.     |                                                                                       |
| 91  | Jonathan Milner -                                | -                                | A. L. Baildon, near Bradford,<br>whitesmith. |                                                                                       |
| 92  | Jonas Milner -                                   | -                                | A. L. Burnley, Lancashire,<br>whitesmith.    |                                                                                       |
| 93  | Betty Walker - n.w.                              | 25                               | A. L. C. F.                                  |                                                                                       |
| 94  | Jane Whitfield -                                 | -                                | A. L. Otley, married.                        |                                                                                       |
| 95  | Ann Cowbram -                                    | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 96  | Martha Butterfield -                             | -                                | A. L. Micklethwaite, married.                |                                                                                       |
| 97  | Betty Ibbetson -                                 | -                                | A. L. Micklethwaite, married.                |                                                                                       |
| 98  | Mary Cowbram -                                   | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 99  | Ann Butterfield - n.w.                           | 30                               | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 100 | Mary Butterfield -                               | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 101 | Milley Butterfield -                             | -                                | A. L. Castlefields, married.                 |                                                                                       |
| 102 | Fanny Butterfield n.w.                           | 21                               | A. L. Castlefields.                          |                                                                                       |
| 103 | Hannah Wild - n.w.                               | 29                               | A. L. Crownest, Bingley.                     |                                                                                       |
| 104 | Grace Hebden - n.w.                              | 45                               | A. L. Bingley.                               |                                                                                       |
| 105 | Hannah Clark -                                   | -                                | A. L. Manchester, married.                   |                                                                                       |
| 106 | Sarah Waterhouse n.w.                            | 23                               | A. L. C. F.                                  |                                                                                       |
| 107 | Mary Waterhouse n.w.                             | 25                               | A. L. C. F.                                  |                                                                                       |
| 108 | Jane Moorhouse -                                 | -                                | - - -                                        | Died Sept. 1826,<br>aged 22.                                                          |
| 109 | Betty Robinson -                                 | -                                | - - -                                        | Married to Baildon,<br>since dead, aged<br>20, in childbed of<br>her second child.    |
| 110 | Milley Todd -                                    | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 111 | Margaret Lilley - n.w.                           | 26                               | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |
| 112 | Mary Longbottom -                                | -                                | A. L. Bingley, married.                      |                                                                                       |



Total employed 28th March, 1823, one hundred and twelve; of whom there are now (8th April, 1833) working at Castleford mill, forty. Deaths during the ten years, one person and a small fraction in every one hundred and twelve, or one and a fraction each year. I have no books containing the names of the workpeople farther back than 1822; I have therefore taken the ten last years, i. e. from March, 1823, to April 8th, 1833, which I believe to exhibit a fair and just view of the situation of this place as to health, for the thirty years last past, and beg farther to add, that I hereby certify it to be correct and true, and will verify the same on oath at any future time. Dated 8th of June, 1833.

WILLIAM ELLIS.

Yorkshire.

William Ellis.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS WOLRICH STANSFELD, Burley, Leeds.

No. 61.

T. W. Stansfeld

A. 1.—The weaving of worsted goods by machinery.

A. 2.—In 1822 it was first applied to its present purpose.

A. 3.—Both; the stream is a *goit* from one part of the river Aire to another.

A. 4.—The engine is of about thirty-five horse power; the water power, at the best, is about the same.

A. 5.—Six hundred and ten persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 6        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 17     | 19       |
| 12 and under 14       | 45     | 75       |
| 14 and under 16       | 49     | 71       |
| 16 and under 18       | 9      | 78       |
| 18 and under 21       | 6      | 95       |
| 21 and upwards        | 51     | 87       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES.   |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —            | 2, 2s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 1, 3s. 6d.   | —          |
| 14 and under 16       | 2, 5s.       | 1, 6s.     |
| 16 and under 18       | 3, 8s. 10d.  | 1, 6s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, 9s.       | 1, 6s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 43, 21s. 6d. | 6, 6s.     |

The above is the average of the last week.

A. 7.—Five hundred and thirty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                              | FEMALES.                            |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 5s.                      | 6, earning 3s. 3d.                  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 17, earning 4s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.  | 17, earning 3s. 10d.                |
| 12 and under 14       | 44, earning 5s. 2d.                 | 75, earning 4s. 9d.                 |
| 14 and under 16       | 47, earning 5s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. | 68, earning 5s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 6, earning 8s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.   | 76, earning 6s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 4, earning 8s. 11d.                 | 92, earning 7s. 7d.                 |
| 21 and upwards        | 7, earning 20s. 9d.                 | 74, earning 8s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |

In a regular week of sixty-seven hours and three quarters.

The above is the average of the last week.

A. 8.—Six males and four females, sizers.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and seven in the evening. At the Equinoxes, half-past five and half-past six, to save daylight.

A. 11.—The steam engine makes me independent of water power entirely.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturday is two hours and three quarters less than on other week days. The time is not made up at all.

A. 13.—The weavers, and other children, and overlookers, have a quarter of an hour for breakfast, three quarters of an hour for dinner, and a quarter of an hour for drinking; the mechanics, and some few others, have half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking. All the meals commence at the same time; viz. eight, twelve, and four o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during all the meal times.

A. 15.—No lost time is made up. Lost time is not allowed or paid for to the workpeople; it is lost to myself as well as to them.

A. 16.—No time or wage is allowed during sickness, or in consequence of accident, except in some cases; for instance, when occasioned by unusual employment, or where the individuals themselves have not been in some degree to blame; one whole day (Christmas day) and eight half days.

A. 18.—The workpeople at standing wages are paid for the holiday at Christmas, but at no other. The time is not made up.

A. 19.—The weavers are fined one farthing for every minute's delay in making their appearance after the bell rings; so that a weaver coming after five minutes and before ten minutes past six, forfeits one farthing.

(APP.—C. 1.)

B b



Yorkshire.

T. W. Stansfeld.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; I have scarcely ever children sufficient for one complete set.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are necessary for my mill; there would not be sufficient of older ones in the neighbourhood to work all my looms. I should now have about fifty quite unoccupied. Almost all the children are employed in attending the looms.

|                           | DAYS. |    |    | SATURDAYS. |   |   |       | DAYS. |   |    | SATURDAYS. |   |   |       | DAYS. |   |    | SAT. |  |  |
|---------------------------|-------|----|----|------------|---|---|-------|-------|---|----|------------|---|---|-------|-------|---|----|------|--|--|
| A. 24.—1st Quarter, 1830, | 77    | -  | 13 | -          | - | - | 1831, | 77    | - | 13 | -          | - | - | 1832, | 75    | - | 13 |      |  |  |
| 2nd                       | —     | 78 | -  | 13         | - | - | —     | 78    | - | 13 | -          | - | - | —     | 75    | - | 13 |      |  |  |
| 3rd                       | —     | 79 | -  | 13         | - | - | —     | 78    | - | 13 | -          | - | - | —     | 78    | - | 13 |      |  |  |
| 4th                       | —     | 78 | -  | 13         | - | - | —     | 74    | - | 14 | -          | - | - | —     | 78    | - | 13 |      |  |  |
| Total                     | 312   |    |    |            |   |   | 307   |       |   |    |            |   |   | 306   |       |   |    |      |  |  |

|                           |     | HOURS.        |               |   |   | HOURS.    |               |               |   | HOURS. |           |               |               |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------|---------------|---|---|-----------|---------------|---------------|---|--------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| A. 25.—1st Quarter, 1830, | 672 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | -             | - | - | 1831, 866 | $\frac{1}{4}$ | -             | - | -      | 1832, 836 | $\frac{3}{4}$ |               |
| 2nd                       | —   | 882           | $\frac{1}{4}$ | - | - | —         | 860           | -             | - | -      | —         | 842           | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| 3rd                       | —   | 879           | $\frac{1}{4}$ | - | - | —         | 872           | -             | - | -      | —         | 860           |               |
| 4th                       | —   | 891           | $\frac{1}{2}$ | - | - | —         | 834           | $\frac{1}{2}$ | - | -      | —         | 884           |               |
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A. 26.—Before 1832, I frequently made up lost time by working a quarter or half an hour later in the evening.

A. 27.—I think *some* restriction on the hours of labour is desirable.—In addition to the facts which I stated in my answer to the 79th Question, in the former list, as bearing upon the point of health and morals, I beg leave to mention that I have not a person in my employ who has ever broken a single hour of work with me from liquor, with one exception, and that only in one instance.

THOMAS WOLRICH STANSFELD.

No. 62.

Wm. Greenwood.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM GREENWOOD, Calverly-cum-Farsley.

A. 1.—Woollen manufacture, principally custom work.

A. 2.—Erected in 1808, for the scribbling department; before, a fulling mill and corn mill only.

A. 3.—Water power; the river Aire.

A. 4.—Wheel about twenty-six or twenty-eight horse power; part of the power employed for a rasping mill.

A. 5.—Fifty-two persons; viz.

|                        | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |   |    |
|------------------------|--------|----|---|----------|---|----|
| Under ten years of age | -      | 3  | - | -        | - | 5  |
| 10 and under 12 years  | -      | 6  | - | -        | - | 2  |
| 12 and under 14        | —      | 1  | - | -        | - | 10 |
| 14 and under 16        | —      | 1  | - | -        | - | 3  |
| 16 and under 18        | —      | 1  | - | -        | - | 3  |
| 21 and upwards         | -      | 16 | - | -        | - | 1  |

A. 6.—Piecers, from eight to twelve years old, 3s. per week: fullers from thirteen and upwards, 6s.

A. 7.—Slubbers only are paid by the piece; average 25s. per week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—No wages paid by any workmen.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—For the summer season, from March 21st to September 21st, from six to seven o'clock; the remaining part of the year from seven to eight, but this depends on the quantity of work.

A. 11.—This question cannot be answered with any precision for a river mill, in droughty seasons the water is very irregular; sometimes at seven or eight in the morning, and continue till noon, then stand perhaps three or four hours and then work until eight or nine at night if the water holds out, which is seldom the case.

A. 12.—Give over at five o'clock, but half an hour less at noon if busy. No time made up for Saturday.

A. 13.—Breakfast half an hour, at eight o'clock; dinner one hour, at twelve o'clock; drinking half an hour, at four o'clock. Nearly all alike.

A. 14.—No, the power does not stop, but the slubbers stop their machines during meal-times, by which the children are all at liberty. Those who fill the scribbling machines, girls from fifteen to eighteen years old, are engaged during meal times, and the men who work the fulling stocks.

A. 15.—It is not paid for; but part of the lost time is redeemed, if necessary, by working over hours, for which they are paid as other time.

A. 16.—No time allowed, but a supply gotten until the person is restored to health; for accidents, there is generally one or two weeks allowed, or part, according to the case.

A. 17.—Easter, Whitsunday, and Christmas, one day, and frequently one day and a half each; besides, the village feast days where the children live will be two days more.



A. 18.—Not paid for; the whole or part redeemed, if occasion require it.

A. 19.—At small places in the country we know nothing about fines; if they are laid they are seldom acted upon.

A. 20 & 21.—No.

A. 22.—No punishment sanctioned, nor excessive beating allowed; if the children are obstinate they are sent home.

A. 23.—It does; if the children do not learn to piece cardings before either ten or twelve years old they are very seldom able to learn perfectly, and do it with ease to themselves, and that expertness which early habits alone can acquire. It is in the process of piecing cardings that young children are employed.

A. 24.—Days wrought, with over time in 1831, according to the weeks reckoned:

|            | 1831.                     |             | 1832.                     |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| January 3d | - 76 days, 13 Saturdays.  | January 2d  | - 51 days, 13 Saturdays.  |
| April 4th  | - 76 days, 12 Saturdays.  | April 2d    | - 64½ days, 13 Saturdays. |
| July 4th   | - 77 days, 13 Saturdays.  | July 2d     | - 66¾ days, 13 Saturdays. |
| October 3d | - 67¾ days, 13 Saturdays. | October 1st | - 67½ days, 13 Saturdays. |

A. 25.—Hours will be produced if the days be multiplied by thirteen, taking off two hours for the Saturdays.

A. 26.—No, neither since 1830, nor long before that time, in reference to any question here proposed.

A. 27.—What I can say with respect to children's labour in woollen mills is, that no complaint is made that eleven hours are too long; but they are always ready without any solicitation to work half a day or a day over in the week, if necessary, their parents generally allowing that money for themselves. They are rosy and healthy in appearance, and look much better than children that are brought up more delicately. I have never known one instance, that I can recollect during twenty-five years, of any deformity of limbs or the spine occasioned by their labour. Children from seven and a half to nine years old might work as learners half of the day, which would obviate any objection to over working at that age.

WILLIAM GREENWOOD.

Yorkshire.

Wm. Greenwood.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. ROBERTS, ROSS & Co., Sunny-Bank Mill, Calverly-with-Farsley.

No. 63.  
Roberts & Co.

A. 1.—Scribbling and carding wool, and fulling woollen cloth.

A. 2.—January 1831.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty horse. We employ the whole power.

| A. 5.—Seventy-six persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age           | - 3    | - 5      |
| 10 and under 12 years           | - 15   | - 8      |
| 12 and under 14 —               | - 8    | - —      |
| 14 and under 16 —               | - —    | - 8      |
| 16 and under 18 —               | - 2    | - 4      |
| 18 and under 21 —               | - 2    | - 1      |
| 21 and upwards                  | - 20   | - —      |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | - 3s.  | - 3s.    |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - 4s.  | - 4s.    |
| 12 and under 14 —                     | - 6s.  | - —      |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | - —    | - 6s.    |
| 16 and under 18 —                     | - 9s.  | - 6s.    |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | - 14s. | - 8s.    |
| 21 and upwards                        | - 20s. | - —      |

A. 7.—Sixteen males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 25s., in a regular week of twelve hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—Less by three hours, and not made up on other days of the week.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking in the afternoon: the times, eight, twelve, and four o'clock.

A. 14.—The engine stops at noon, to oil or grease the shafts; all the work stops at meal-times, except the fulling-stocks.

A. 15.—Accidents, that stop the machinery for a few hours only, are no loss to the work-people, but to the owners; the time is not made up.

A. 16.—Nothing allowed to the sick: we have had no accidents.

A. 17.—Three holidays and five half-holidays.

A. 18.—Some of the half-holidays are allowed to the children; the time is not always made up.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 19.



Yorkshire.  
—  
Roberts & Co.

A. 19.—If a slubber neglects his work to drink, we always make him pay the children's wages. We have no other fines.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. The only objections we have to two sets of children is, that they could not be found willing to be employed in a mill.

A. 22.—None, knowingly.

A. 23.—Yes. Children above twelve years of age will not do for a scribbling-mill: children between eight and ten years of age are the most useful for piecers.

A. 24.—1831:

| 1st quarter.           | 2d quarter.            | 3d quarter.            | 4th quarter.           |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 50 days, 10 Saturdays. | 70 days, 13 Saturdays. | 75 days, 13 Saturdays. | 70 days, 14 Saturdays. |

1832:

|                        |                        |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 68 days, 13 Saturdays. | 74 days, 13 Saturdays. | 73 days, 13 Saturdays. | 71 days, 13 Saturdays. |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|

1833:

69 days, 13 Saturdays.

| A. 25.—    | 1st quarter. | 2d quarter. | 3d quarter. | 4th quarter.     |
|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1831 - - - | 570          | - - - 801   | - - - 861   | - - - 798 hours. |
| 1832 - - - | 777          | - - - 849   | - - - 837   | - - - 813 —      |
| 1833 - - - | 789 hours.   |             |             |                  |

A. 26.—No alterations in this mill.

A. 27.—An Act “to compel mill-owners to remove the *willies* out of the mill to a place by themselves,” would be the best. All the unhealthiness in a woollen-mill proceeds from the *dust* made by the *willies*.

ROBERTS, ROSS & Co.

#### ANSWERS of BUTTERWORTH & Co., Cartworth.

No. 64.  
Butterworth & Co.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing wool.

A. 2.—1807.

A. 3.—Water-power from the river Holme.

A. 4.—Water-wheel about ten-horse power; we employ the whole of it.

A. 5.—Twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 7      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 9d. | 3s. 9d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.     | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.     | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 10s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Six males, earning 6*l.* 18*s.*

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—The whole are paid by the manager or overlooker.

A. 9.—We don't work over hours.

A. 10.—About six in the morning, and terminate about eight at night, from the 1st of April to the 1st of October, then we begin at day-light in the morning, and work about twelve hours.

A. 11.—We begin about five o'clock in the morning, and run part of our machinery by adults till eight o'clock, then the other part begin, the former partly standing and working alternately as the water enables us to do, but we are about one-third short of water for three or four months in a drouthy season.

A. 12.—About one hour less on Saturdays; but the time is made up again.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, half-past twelve o'clock; other refreshment at five o'clock.

A. 14.—The water-wheel does not always stand during meal times, but sometimes works part of the machinery, which is attended by the overlooker and others while the children get their meals.

A. 15.—Sometimes by working one hour extra, but not generally so; it is frequently a loss to all parties.

A. 16.—No allowance for sickness, but a little for accidents.

A. 17.—Nine days.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays, nor is the time worked up again.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.



- A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No. It would be impossible to find children for such a purpose.  
 A. 22.—We dislike corporal punishment, though sometimes the slubbers think it necessary; we have no regular rule for it.  
 A. 23.—Yes. In piecing the cardings.  
 A. 24.—We have kept no account, therefore we cannot answer this question.  
 A. 25.—No account.  
 A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We are of opinion, that a Ten Hour Act will be an injury to the country at large, and will injure the operative as much as the master, unless wages can be advanced in the same proportion as time is less, which we think impossible in the present state of competition in trade.

We also think, that an Eleven Hour Act will lower the value of mill property, particularly mills worked solely by water, unless sufficient time is allowed by Act of Parliament to work up such time as may be lost through want of water or excess of water; this is a point of great importance, and ought to be well considered before an Act of Parliament is passed.

BUTTERWORTH & Co.

Yorkshire.

Butterworth & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. FARRAR, Low Mill, Holmfirth, Cartworth.

No. 65.

G. & J. H. Farrar.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing of white and coloured wool.

A. 2.—Built in the year of our Lord 1817.

A. 3.—Both.

A. 4.—Power of each, supposed ten horses.

A. 5.—Twenty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 years | 6      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d.    | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 years | 3s. 6d.    | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.        | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s. to 8s. | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.       | —        |

A. 7.—Six males; viz. eighteen and under twenty-one years, one, earning 20s.; twenty-one and upwards, five, earning 21s.; in a regular week of twelve hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-one.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in summer, to eight o'clock at night, including meals; eight o'clock in winter, to ten o'clock at night, including meals.

A. 12.—Always on Saturdays, in winter, give over with the day-light; but in summer, generally at twelve hours' work.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, at half past twelve o'clock; and half an hour for what is called the drinking or afternoon repast, in summer four o'clock, and in winter half past four to five o'clock.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—It is equal loss to all parties, which is not made up.

A. 16.—We very rarely have any sickness.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, and three days at our feast, which is on Monday after Holy Thursday; and half a day, or more, at the Easter Sunday-school feast.

A. 18.—It is not made up, nor paid for.

A. 19.—We have no fines. Our only remedy is, by turning them away.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. We consider that a slubber, who was only to work twelve hours per day, could not afford to pay for two sets of hands, at 3s. 6d. to 4s. per week each; and to reduce the children to 1s. 9d. and 2s., for six hours per day, would cause a general murmur by the parents.

A. 22.—We do not allow the children to be punished, only with a strap, and that sparingly, to keep them out of mischief. It is folly to mention the *billy-rollers*.

A. 23.—Not positively, though about twelve to fourteen years old they are more active; but parents are so anxious for money, that they push their children into the mill as soon as possible.

A. 24.—We have never taken any notice of the days: it depends upon the supply, as ours is from the country, and not our own wool.

A. 25.—We likewise cannot answer this, only as above, viz. question, No. 24.

A. 26.—No.

(APP.—C. 1.)

C c

A. 27.



Yorkshire.

G. &amp; J. H. Farrar.

A. 27.—We have no objections to an Act of Parliament for twelve hours, and to reject children under eleven years old, as by taking off one-sixth of labour, it will likewise take off one-sixth of all, both adult and children's earnings; at the same time, be a serious reduction on mill property.

No children can be more healthy than ours, even if they never entered a mill.

GEORGE & J. H. FARRAR.

ANSWERS of Messrs. HINCHCLIFF and HORNCastle, Cartworth.

No. 66.  
Hinchcliff &  
Horncastle.

A. 1.—Scribbling, spinning, fulling, and finishing of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Built in 1825.

A. 3.—Water and steam. The stream of water is called Ribbleden.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power. We employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Thirty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 5      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 17     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                              | MALES.  |
|------------------------------|---------|
| 10 and under 12 years of age | 4s.     |
| 14 and under 16              | 5s. 4d. |
| 16 and under 18              | 10s.    |
| 21 and upwards               | 18s.    |

A. 7.—Fourteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —                  | 2, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 3s. 6d. | 1, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 1, earning 5s.     | 2, earning 3s. 9d. |
| 18 and under 21       | —                  | 1, earning 6s.     |
|                       |                    | 1, earning 16s.    |
| 21 and upwards        | 4, earning 25s.    | —                  |

In a regular week's work of seventy hours.

A. 8.—Nine; viz. six billey-piecers, two carder layers-on, and one mule-piecer.

A. 9.—It is the same.

A. 10.—The regular day's work begins at six o'clock, A. M., and ends at eight o'clock, P. M., for the workmen paid by the week. We do not interfere with the hours of those who do by piece-work; but they follow nearly the same rules, except in the winter season, when they commence later.

A. 11.—We work the steam when the supply of water is not sufficient.

A. 12.—The working hours on Saturdays are two hours fewer than on other days. The time is not made up on other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, viz., from half past eight to nine; one hour for dinner, viz., from half past twelve to half past one; half an hour for drinking, viz., from half past four to five o'clock, for the weekly men: with the others, we do not interfere, but they adopt the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop. The fulling department requires to be continually working. The finishers and others throw off their straps, except the scribbling engines, (commonly called tummers,) which are attended by an extra hand and the over-looker while the rest are at meals.

A. 15.—If a small time is lost, as it regards weekly men, we are the only losers, no deduction being made; but if half a day or upwards is lost, the same is lost to us and to the workmen, and it never has been made up by extra hours.

A. 16.—We have had no accidents, and have therefore found no rule necessary.

A. 17.—Four whole holidays, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—The men are not paid for lost time in holidays, nor is it made up.

A. 19.—If the men are one hour too late, that time is taken off their wages; but a shorter time is seldom noticed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—We have never found it necessary to try two sets of children, as ours work cheerfully the full time. The children's health and appearance will bear a comparison with those who never work in mills. We find the billey-spinner (or slubber) will earn 31s. in a week of seventy hours, out of which he pays to his piecers and layer-on 11s. for the week. Now, in case such slubber is necessitated to employ two sets of children, we think he must, on a fair calculation, pay 9s. per week to each set, or 7s. per week more than his present payment; and to make up this extra outgo, he must work fifteen hours and three quarters extra time per week, or something more than two hours and a half per day.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned by us, and we believe never inflicted.

A. 23.



A. 23.—Not absolutely so; but we find that for billey-piecers the least children are generally the most expert.

A. 24.—Not keeping a regular time register, we cannot answer Questions 24 & 25 exactly; but we believe that our time averaged nearly full time for the whole of the years 1830 and 1831, and also the first and second quarters of 1832. On the 14th of July, 1832, our works were at a stand on account of a turn-out, and remained so till the 15th of October, on which day part of our men returned to work, but we had not our full complement of hands till January, 1833.

A. 26.—Prior to the turn-out above mentioned in July, 1832, our regular working time was eleven hours and a half per day; but when our hands returned to work, we stipulated for half an hour per day extra time, on account of an advance made by us in wages.

A. 27.—We consider all legislation injurious, unless parliament could legislate for the whole world. If they prohibit young children from working in mills and factories, they deprive the poor widow in numberless instances of all her dependence, except the usual parish allowance, which will amount to taking away one half or upwards of her own and her fatherless children's bread. If they restrict children to ten hours per day, they might as well diminish the time to seven or eight hours, for it will compel the use of two sets of children; and, in order to meet the increased payment, the adult (who works by the pound or piece work, and pays the children,) will be necessitated to work two hours and a half or three hours per day extra. If they stop the moving power after it has run ten or eleven hours, they must either compensate us, or we shall be immense losers, as we stand upon a very high rental, and on a long lease.

HINCHCLIFF & HORNCastle.

Yorkshire.

Hinchcliff &  
Horncastle.

ANSWERS of Messrs. HINCHCLIFF and TAYLOR, Green Lane Bottom, Cartworth.

No. 67.

Hinchcliff & Taylor.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing.

A. 2.—Erected 1809.

A. 3.—Both steam and water. Steam-power three-fourths of the year.

A. 4.—Steam-power, ten horse; water-power not above eight horse.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                              | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years of age | 4      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14              | 3      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16              | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18              | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21              | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards               | 3      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.     | 4s.      |
|                       | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | —       | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 2, earning 18s. |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, earning 18s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, earning 18s. |

In a regular week of seventy hours.—Manager averaging from 2l. to 2l. 5s.

A. 8.—Four slubbers and two layers-on paid by the manager; eight piecers and four layers-on paid by the slubbers.

A. 9.—Not abated for under, nor paid for over hours.

A. 10.—Begins at six and ends at eight, in summer; in winter, begins at eight and ends at nine.

A. 11.—See Question 3.

A. 12.—Saturday, two hours less; not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour to breakfast, one hour to dinner, half an hour drinking.

A. 14.—Stops at all.

A. 15.—Time not made up.

A. 16.—Paid for accidents, but not regular sickness.

A. 17.—Eight.

A. 18.—Not made up at any other time; paid part.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age will piece cardings as well as above.

A. 24 & 25.—No account kept.

A. 26.—Not any.

HINCHCLIFF & TAYLOR.

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH &amp; GEORGE HINCHCLIFF, Cartworth.

No. 68.

J. & G. Hinchcliff.

A. 1.—Woollen, in all its branches.

A. 2.—July and August, 1822; additional part built in 1827.

A. 3.—Steam entirely.

A. 4.—Six horse power, employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Seventy-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 44     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages of males and females are:—

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4s.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6s.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 7s.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 8s.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 10s. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 16s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 1l.  |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—Slubbers, and piecers, and layers-on, about twenty.

A. 9.—We have no over hours.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and eight in the evening, throughout the year.

A. 12.—Two hours less, and not made up in the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at half past eight o'clock in the morning; one hour at noon, at half past twelve; half an hour in the afternoon, at half past four.

A. 14.—No; it runs for the scribblers only, which employs three boys, fourteen years old, who change about to take their meals.

A. 15.—The time is lost to both, not being made up nor paid for.

A. 16.—Nothing allowed for sickness or absence.

A. 17.—About seven days, besides being absent often with their different societies and clubs.

A. 18.—No.

A. 19.—No fines are exacted.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; nor do we think it necessary for the hours of these children we employ, as they all are quite healthy, and not distressed in doing it.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, for piecers, who are principally young ones, at ages before stated.

A. 24.—Six days in the week regularly through every quarter, taking the holidays off, and which are in the two first quarters.

A. 25.—Having no time book regularly, cannot answer exactly.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—If all the mills in the same business worked the same time as within stated, there could be no great evil in them; but have no objections to less time for the labour of children.

J. &amp; G. HINCHCLIFF.

No. 69.

Moorhouse &  
Dickinson.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. MOORHOUSE and DICKINSON, Cartworth.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—Erected in 1808, for the purpose of a woollen mill.

A. 3.—Both.

A. 4.—Ten horse; no power being let off to any other purpose.

A. 5.—Twenty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | 1        |

A. 6.



- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—Piecers, 3s. 6d.; layers-on, 4s. to 5s.  
 A. 7.—Six persons, viz. six males, earning 18s. 6d. In a regular week of seventy hours.  
 A. 8.—Fifteen.  
 A. 9.—Not paid for over hours.  
 A. 10.—Our business always commences at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock in the evening.  
 A. 11.—Supplied by steam.  
 A. 12.—It is less on the Saturdays, but not made up on the other five days.  
 A. 13.—Our people are allowed half an hour at breakfast, an hour at dinner, and half an hour at drinking.  
 A. 14.—Not always. The layer-on is employed while the others are at dinner.  
 A. 15.—Lost to the persons who are paid by piece-work.  
 A. 16.—No.  
 A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, and three about Holy Thursday; half holidays occasionally.  
 A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for any part of their holiday time; the time is not made up at any other time.  
 A. 19.—No fines imposed.  
 A. 20 & 21.—No.  
 A. 22.—No corporal punishments are allowed.  
 A. 23.—Piecing.  
 A. 24.—No account kept.  
 A. 25.—Impossible to tell.  
 A. 26.—No alterations.  
 A. 27.—The men who are employed in this mill are desirous of working longer than ten hours; and individuals, who have been employed here for the last twenty-five years, are of opinion, that it would not be injurious to the health of themselves or their children to work twelve hours per day.

Yorkshire.

Moorhouse &  
Dickinson.

MOORHOUSE &amp; DICKINSON.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. ROBERTS and SANDFORD, Cartworth.

No. 70.

Roberts & Sandford.

A. 1.—It is used for the scribbling, carding, and slubbing of wool; also for the fulling of woollen goods.

A. 2.—Erected in 1824, and applied to its present purpose in 1826.

A. 3.—Water-power, except in time of drought, when we avail ourselves of the agency of a steam-engine to make up the deficiency. This stream is generally called the river Holme.

A. 4.—From fourteen to sixteen horse each, employing the whole ourselves, except an integral part let off to turn two spinning mules.

| A. 5.—Twenty-eight persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age            | 3      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years            | —      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —                | 6      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —                | 3      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —                | 4      | —        |
| 21 and upwards                   | 3      | —        |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are: | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years                | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 years                | 6s.    | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —                    | 6s.    | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —                    | 12s.   | 12s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —                    | 15s.   | 15s.     |
| 21 and upwards                       | 23s.   | —        |

A. 7.—Three persons; viz. males, earning 1l. 3s.

A. 8.—Children, nine in number, from 10 to 14 years of age.

A. 9.—We make no over hours.

A. 10.—At six in the summer months, and from seven to eight in the winter season, because it is difficult and unpleasant to rouse the children from bed before it is light. Our day's work terminates at nine, except Saturdays.

A. 11.—Our time of working is not altered by an irregular supply of water.

(APP.—C. 1.)

D d

A. 12.



Yorkshire.

Roberts & Sandford.

A. 12.—An hour less in summer, and four or five less in winter; not made up at any other time.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight o'clock, their own time; dinner, half past twelve, an hour allowed; drinking, half past four, take their own time.

A. 14.—The going gear does not stop, but the machines are detached from it, except the fulling stocks, which do not stop night nor day; but in this department no children are employed.

A. 15.—We never attempt to make up lost time.

A. 16.—We reserve their places till they are well, and they are generally provided for by being members of friendly societies. There have been no accidents at our mill from the commencement.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, half a day at Easter, and three days at Ascension.

A. 18.—Some are paid, and some are not; the holidays are not made up by working longer hours afterwards.

A. 19.—We impose no fines.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No, because it would be impossible to get a sufficient number of children for that purpose; besides, it is not necessary, woollen mills being so healthful, and the children's task so easy, that they can tire out the adult hands.

A. 22.—We strap them on the hand to make them diligent and attentive, and also to enforce obedience; this we think no undue severity, and is seldom exercised on children above the age of thirteen.

A. 23.—The department in which we employ most children (viz. piecing) is best performed by them from the age of eight to ten, larger children being not near so active; besides, they could not be obtained.

A. 24.—We cannot answer this question, because sometimes there has been a scarcity of work, and have kept no account of the time then lost.

A. 25.—We keep no time-book.

A. 26.—There has been no alterations in the mill, except the introduction of more machinery.

A. 27.—If there be no alternative, but must have an Act of Parliament, we should say twelve hours a day is as little as we would willingly consent to, and is not more than the children are well able to bear in our branch of manufacture without endangering their health.

ROBERTS &amp; SANDFORD.

## ANSWERS of GEORGE CROWTHER &amp; Co. Churwell Mill, Churwell, near Leeds.

No. 71.

Crowther & Co.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Built in 1798, rebuilt in 1803.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Thirty horse. We employ the whole.

A. 5.—One hundred and forty-five persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 3  | - | - | - | 6  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 5  | - | - | - | 3  |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 10 | - | - | - | 2  |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 11 | - | - | - | 10 |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 7  | - | - | - | 12 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 6  | - | - | - | 5  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 44 | - | - | - | 21 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |          |   |   |     |
|-----------------------|---|----------|---|---|-----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 3s.      | - | - | 3s. |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 4s.      | - | - | 4s. |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 5s.      | - | - | 5s. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 6s.      | - | - | 6s. |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 7s.      | - | - | 6s. |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 12s.     | - | - | 6s. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 20s. 8d. | - | - | 6s. |

A. 7.—Sixteen males, twenty-one years and upwards, earning 20s. 9d., in a regular week of sixty-six hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—From six o'clock in the morning to seven o'clock in the evening; same all the year.

A. 12.—Two hours less on Saturdays, which is made up on the other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner at twelve; and half an hour for drinking-time, at half past four. All eat at the same time.

A. 14.—The engine works during meal-times with the fulling stocks, and occasionally, when wanted, with the scribblers also: the latter require the attention of seven children.

A. 15.



A. 15.—If the time lost be short, it is sometimes made up by over hours, and the work-people receive their full week's wages. If the stoppage is a long one, the time is not made up; the workpeople are abated.

A. 16.—We pay our hands only for the time they are at work, but occasionally relieve them when sick; and, if required, procure them admission as in or out patients to the Leeds Infirmary.

|         |                      |   |   |   |   |                      |
|---------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------|
| A. 17.— | Shrovetide           | - | - | - | - | $\frac{1}{2}$ a day. |
|         | Good Friday          | - | - | - | - | 1 day.               |
|         | Easter               | - | - | - | - | 1 day.               |
|         | Whitsuntide          | - | - | - | - | 1 day.               |
|         | Christmas            | - | - | - | - | 2 days.              |
|         | Annual feasts, about | - | - | - | - | $2\frac{1}{2}$ days. |
|         |                      |   |   |   |   | 8 days.              |

A. 18.—Not paid, and not made up, generally.

A. 19.—We exact no fines, and find little or no difficulty from absence or irregularity.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; we should think it quite unnecessary for our hours; say, eleven working hours per day.

A. 22.—Entirely disapproved of, and found unnecessary.

A. 23.—Yes; they are employed in piecing cardings: they are found quite competent to that work, and are more tractable than older children.

|               |             |             |             |             |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| A. 24.— 1830: |             | 1831:       |             | 1832:       |             |
| 1st Quarter   | - 63½ days. | 1st Quarter | - 76½ days. | 1st Quarter | - 65½ days. |
| 2d —          | - 76½ days. | 2d —        | - 74 days.  | 2d —        | - 68½ days. |
| 3d —          | - 67½ days. | 3d —        | - 67½ days. | 3d —        | - 74 days.  |
| 4th —         | - 74½ days. | 4th —       | - 56 days.  | 4th —       | - 67 days.  |

We have no account of the particular days on which we worked in each week.

A. 25.—The above are the days; eleven hours we reckon to the day.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think the less legislative interference in matters of this kind the better; but if the evidence collected by the Commissioners prove the necessity of a law to protect children, we should not object to an Eleven Hours' Bill, provided it be strictly enforced throughout the *United Kingdom*.

Our children are generally very healthy, and very full of play as soon as released from their work.

GEO. CROWTHER & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM ATKINSON and Son, Cleckheaton.

No. 72.  
*Atkinson & Son.*

A. 1.—Worsted spinning, wire drawing, and doubling card teeth.

A. 2.—Unknown. Its application to worsted spinning has been upwards of thirty years.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-two horse. Part of it is let for drawing wire.

|                                         |             |          |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| A. 5.—One hundred and ten persons; viz. | MALES.      | FEMALES. |
| Under 10 years of age                   | - 7 - - -   | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years                   | - 17 - - -  | 10       |
| 12 and under 14                         | — - 5 - - - | 13       |
| 14 and under 16                         | — - 3 - - - | 10       |
| 16 and under 18                         | — - 1 - - - | 5        |
| 18 and under 21                         | — - — - -   | 11       |
| 21 and upwards                          | - 11 - - -  | 12       |

|                                       |                              |          |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.                       | FEMALES. |
| Under 10 years of age                 | - 2s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. - - | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - 2s. 7d. - -                | 2s. 5d.  |
| 12 and under 14                       | — - 3s. 2d. - -              | 3s. 1d.  |
| 14 and under 16                       | — - 5s. - -                  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18                       | — - — - -                    | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21                       | — - — - -                    | 6s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards                        | - 20s. 4d. - -               | 6s. 6d.  |

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. 7.—Nineteen persons; viz. | FEMALES.                   |
| 12 and under 14 years        | - - - - 1, earning 4s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16              | — - - - 3, earning 5s. 8d. |
| 16 and under 18              | — - - - 1, earning 6s. 9d. |
| 18 and under 21              | — - - - 7, earning 6s. 9d. |
| 21 and upwards               | - - - - 7, earning 7s. 7d. |

In a regular week of seventy-five hours.

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

Atkinson & Son.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—With men and children, it is the same, when we have had any occasion to work a day over in a week; but for adults, for night, it is more. We only reckon eight hours' labour for one day.

A. 10.—Six o'clock, and terminates at eight; the hours are regular, excepting two or three weeks before the time of lighting, and two or three weeks after. The reason is this: there being a greater proportion of light in the fore part of the day, we take the advantage, and begin at half past five, and give up at seven o'clock; we thereby lose half an hour from our usual hours.

A. 12.—Yes, by three hours; and it is made up on the other five days, by working from six o'clock to eight.

A. 13.—One hour at noon, and the reelers, twistors, wool-washers, overlookers, and mechanics, half an hour at breakfast, and half an hour at drinking, amounting in number to thirty.

A. 14.—Yes, one hour at dinner-time.

A. 15.—If any accidents happen to any of the moving powers during the day, so that we are obliged to stop the steam-engine, and thereby lose an hour or two, it is made up by working longer at nights by half an hour.

A. 16.—For any accidents that occur in our mill to our hands, it has always been our practice to pay them their wage as usual during their absence, the surgeon for his attendance also.

A. 17.—Eight half holidays, and four whole ones.

A. 18.—Some part of the workpeople are paid for their holiday time, and it is not made up in any way.

A. 19.—If they are a quarter or half an hour too late, two or three times in one week, we send them back whilst a quarter of the day has elapsed, and abate them accordingly.

A. 20.—Not in a general way. We were a few weeks since obliged to work night and day for three or four weeks some part of our machinery, and thereby were compelled to work two sets of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children, and the objections to employing more would be great and numerous. Firstly, It would be utterly impossible to get the sufficient number of hands; this alone is in itself a great objection to such a practice. Secondly, We should have twice the number of hands to learn, which would be attended with great loss to the master.

A. 22.—Yes; as soon as we have them under our authority.

A. 23.—Yes; and they are of the greatest use in the worsted-spinning department at ten years of age: when they arrive at twelve years, and upwards, they are then of little use in the most essential and important branch in the worsted trade. In our opinion, you will find it a most difficult task to legislate betwixt man and master upon the hours of labour, to do justice to both parties, and this is what you ought to do; for you will be aware, that whilst you are legislating upon the hours of labour, you cannot legislate upon the wage that shall be given for that labour; and you can never do this without you can fix the price of the raw material, and the price also of the manufactured article; and this you must acknowledge you cannot do, and is altogether impossible. Here it is, we think, the great difficulty will arise; it would certainly be very desirable to have less labour, and the same wage for that labour, but can this be realised by Act of Parliament? Again, if you enact laws, in order, as you think, to regulate the hours of labour, and thereby to cause trade to be more regular and steady, and not to overstock the markets with goods, we think you will be mistaken; for, in our opinion there will not be any less manufactured, because they that have money will, nay, are erecting mills, and putting down new steam-engines; by this means, on account of their wealth, they can monopolize all, or the greatest part of the trade, and throw into the market as large a quantity of goods as they did before the Bill became a law, and crush down small manufacturers; and not only that, but they will push the market as before, and by so doing depress prices, and consequently the workpeople also. In conclusion, we think there is none so likely to legislate betwixt masters and workpeople as the parents themselves; for we may say, that if they will not look out for the happiness, comfort, and welfare of their own offspring, who can or will do it for them? and we are of opinion they will have it in their power to do this better than any legislature can do; but leave this to your superior judgment. Having filled up more room than you had set apart for this purpose, we must conclude by saying, that whilst you are endeavouring to do good, you must guard against doing a greater evil; to sum up the whole, all we have to say, if you are persuaded it will be for a general good, we should say, pass it; if not, let it alone.

A. 26.—None.

WILLIAM ATKINSON & Son.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN BROOKE and SONS, South Crossland.

No. 73.

Brooke & Sons.

A. 1.—Manufacture of woollen cloth in all its departments.

A. 2.—The first part of it was erected in about 1816-17, and additions have been made to it, more or less, from that time to the present.

A. 3.



A. 3.—Both by steam and water. The stream has no particular name, excepting from the villages through which it runs; viz. Holm Firth Dike, Houley Dike, and so on.

A. 4.—There are two engines,—one of thirty-four horse power, and the other forty horse power; there are three water wheels,—two of thirty horse power each, and one of sixty ditto. We employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Two hundred and sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |    |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|----|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2  | - | - | -        | 2  | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 13 | - | - | -        | 13 | - | - |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 37 | - | - | -        | 12 | - | - |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 38 | - | - | -        | 12 | - | - |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 22 | - | - | -        | 8  | - | - |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 19 | - | - | -        | 2  | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 81 | - | - | -        | —  | - | - |

We have before sent a return to the overseer of our township, of the number of persons employed in our manufactory. The present return merely applies to those working with machinery.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |          |   |   | FEMALES. |          |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|---|----------|----------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 4s.      | - | - | -        | 4s.      | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4s. 8½d. | - | - | -        | 4s.      | - | - |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 5s. 3½d. | - | - | -        | 4s.      | - | - |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 5s. 7d.  | - | - | -        | 4s. 3d.  | - | - |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 8s. 2½d. | - | - | -        | 5s. 4¾d. | - | - |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 13s. 2d. | - | - | -        | 6s.      | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 1l. 1s.  | - | - | -        | —        | - | - |

A. 7.—We have none but adults working by piece work; the number is forty-nine, averaging 24s. 6d. per week, in a regular week of sixty-eight hours.

A. 8.—All the children employed are paid by the workpeople under whom they work.

A. 9.—We don't work over hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning to eight at night. The regular hours are different at the season before we commence, and also at the time we give up, lighting by gas; in which case, we abridge half an hour at dinner-time, and a quarter of an hour at drinking-time, so as to make up, as near as we can, our full working-time by daylight: but it will often happen that the time is not made up by half an hour or an hour; in which case, we make no abatement from the wages of those paid by the week, nor are they expected to make up the lost time at any future period. A departure from our general rule of commencing at six o'clock in the morning, will sometimes arise from our carders overworking the scribblers; in which case, for a length of time together, the slubbers do not commence working until seven o'clock in the morning; and the children employed with them, which constitute the greater part of the younger children employed by us, are still paid their full wages, nor are they expected to make up their times afterwards. An exception to this is our millers, who work night and day; but none but adults are employed, who rest and work alternately, day and night.

A. 11.—Having in our mills both water and steam-power, we are not put to any inconvenience from being short of water.

A. 12.—The hours of working are less on a Saturday than other days, and the time is never made up.

A. 13.—We allow half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half past; one hour at dinner, from twelve to one; and half an hour at drinking, from half past four to five.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop altogether, being connected with the millers' department.

A. 15.—We never make up lost time; but, from the circumstance of having both steam and water-power, we are not much inconvenienced on that account.

A. 16.—As a general rule, no time is allowed on account of absence from sickness; in case of accident, our own medical man attends, at our expence.

A. 17.—Two half days at Easter; the same at Whitsuntide (but if any of the workmen wish, on these occasions, for two whole days, we do not object to it); three days at Houley feast; one day at Christmas besides Christmas day; half a day New-Year's day; and half a day Shrove Tuesday.

A. 18.—Holiday time is not made up; nor do we pay the workpeople when not working for half a day.

A. 19.—We have no fines; if a person does not act properly after being reprimanded a few times, more or less, we discharge him from our employ.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We have not; we fear the wages being divided would be too small. Nor have we found any inconvenience to arise from our present mode.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Our work does not, that we are aware of, absolutely require children under twelve years of age; but a child at twelve might be so tall as to be inconvenienced in the work of piecing, from having to stoop. In piecing, the greatest number of young children are employed.

A. 24 & 25.—We have always run our mill regularly in the years 1830-1-2, according to the principle laid down by the answers to the foregoing questions.

A. 26.—None.

(APP.—C. 1.)

E e

A. 27.

Yorkshire.

Brooke & Sons.



Yorkshire.

Brooke &amp; Sons.

A. 27.—We think, as far as we can judge from our own manufactory, that no Act of Parliament is necessary to regulate the hours of labour. We certainly think it desirable that night-working should be done away with; but how far it would be good policy, even for the interests of the working classes, to restrict the hours of labour to ten, is to us very doubtful, and what we should by no means recommend, except in the case of young children.

JOHN BROOKE.

No. 74.

W. &amp; H. Stables.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. W. W. &amp; H. STABLES, South Crosland.

A. 1.—Woollen goods.

A. 2.—It was erected about the year 1792, for woollen, was afterwards changed to cotton for a few years, and then reverted back to woollen, and has continued in that manufacture for the last twenty years.

A. 3.—We use both water and steam-power; the stream is called Magdalen.

A. 4.—We employ the whole mill ourselves; the steam-engine is thirty-four horses power, and the water wheel is upwards of fifty horse power, when we are well supplied with water.

A. 5.—Two hundred and seventy-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |     |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|-----|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 6   | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 11  | - | -        | 2  |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 12  | - | -        | 3  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 18  | - | -        | 6  |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 15  | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 14  | - | -        | 2  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 161 | - | -        | 15 |  |

A. 6 & 7.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES. |          |   | FEMALES. |          |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|----------|----------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2s. 6d.  | - | -        | 2s. 6d.  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2s. 10d. | - | -        | 2s. 10d. |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s. 6d.  | - | -        | 4s. 6d.  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 7s. 6d.  | - | -        | 5s. 6d.  |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 8s.      | - | -        | 6s. 3d.  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 14s. 4d. | - | -        | 7s.      |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 22s.     | - | -        | 8s. 6d.  |  |

In a regular week of twelve hours per day, except Saturdays.

In drawing out the above two classes, we have made an error in mixing together those who are paid by time and those who are paid by piecework, but have averaged the wages of both.

A. 8.—Piecers, twenty-two; drawers, two; millers, three; teazle cutters, three: total, thirty.

A. 9.—Just the same.

A. 10.—We begin work generally at six o'clock in the morning, and close at eight in the evening, allowing two hours each day for meals and recreations; but in the spring and fall of the year, we sometimes make a variation of half an hour to avoid lighting, but only work the same number of hours.

A. 11.—Having a steam-engine, we run the same number of hours, though the water may become scarce.

A. 12.—On Saturdays we cease to work at five o'clock, and do not make up that loss of time.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, at eight o'clock; an hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock; and half an hour for refreshment, at half past four.

A. 14.—The stocks run at meal-times, but that does not prevent the men from taking their regular refreshment, and frequently part of the scribblers; but the feeders have plenty of time to take their dinners.

A. 15.—We seldom have to make up time lost by accidents; but when that occurs, the workmen are always paid according to the hours they work.

A. 16.—No wages are allowed to hands that are sick, nor from accidents; but to the latter we always pay the medical man, and if deserving, are kind to both descriptions, only not claiming it as a right.

A. 17.—During the course of the whole year, the workmen are allowed five days holidays.

A. 18.—All holidays are deducted from their wages, except the dyers and cartmen.

A. 19.—We have no fines; if they do not behave to our satisfaction, we discharge them.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; our hours being regular, we have found the children quite as competent to perform their slight work, as the adults are to do their more laborious duties.

A. 22.—Slight punishments are allowed, but no severity; and if any severity is practised, they are aware they are liable to dismissal.

A. 23.—We have no process that requires the children to be under twelve; but it would be a great hardship upon those who have numerous families, if none were allowed to earn any thing till they were twelve years old. Young children are principally employed as piecers.

A. 24.



A. 24.—We can give no answer to the enquiries you make about the three years past, as we have kept no account.

A. 25.—The same difficulties prevent us answering this as the preceding question.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—With regard to regulating the hours of factory labour, we are clearly of opinion that it would not be advisable to limit the hours to less than twelve for five days in the week, and nine on Saturdays; less than that would be injurious both to the masters and workmen, particularly to the latter, as the effect must be a reduction of wages, and what is still more important, it would compel the occupiers of mills to increase their machinery, to be able to execute their orders *in a busy time*, so that whenever it happens that a reduction of demand takes place, which is not unfrequent, the workmen would be reduced to six or eight hours, which would be deplorable.

W. W. & H. STABLES.

Yorkshire.

W. & H. Stables.

ANSWERS of Messrs. J. & T. C. WRIGLEY & Co. Dungeon.

No. 75.

Wrigley & Co.

A. 1.—Slubbing, carding, scribbling, milling, and finishing woollen cloths.

A. 2.—Upwards of fifty years in the woollen manufactory.

A. 3.—Water-power alone, from the River Holm.

A. 4.—Power of water-wheel twenty-five horse. We employ the whole power ourselves.

A. 5.—Sixty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 6      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 6      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 4      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 30     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.         | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d.        | 3s. 6d.        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. to 5s. | 3s. 6d. to 4s. |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.            | 4s.            |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s. to 8s.     | —              |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s. to 9s.     | —              |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s. to 13s.   | —              |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 6d.       | —              |

A. 7.—Thirty-seven persons, viz. :—

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 3s. 6d. | 1, earning 3s. 6d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, earning 4s. 6d. | 4, earning 3s. 10½d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 1, earning 4s.     | 3, earning 4s.       |
| 14 and under 16       | 2, earning 7s.     | —                    |
| 16 and under 18       | 1, earning 8s.     | —                    |
| 21 and upwards        | 17, earning 23s.   | —                    |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Fifteen children, from nine to fifteen years of age, employed *and paid by the slubbers*, many of whom *employ their own children*.

A. 9.—Precisely the same.

A. 10.—At six in the morning to eight o'clock at night, in summer; and six o'clock to half past seven o'clock in winter, which is preferred by the workmen.

A. 11.—We are dependent from other mills. We commence and conclude as near our regular time as possible, never before six o'clock in the morning, nor after half past nine at night.

A. 12.—Two hours and a half less on Saturdays, without any deduction of wages, or the time being made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner at twelve o'clock; half an hour for drinking at half past four o'clock. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—Not at all: when a sufficient supply of water, the fulling-stocks go on; and when short of water, we stop to collect the dam. Meal-times always allowed.

A. 15.—In case of excess or want of water, &c. it is a loss to both; sometimes the time is made up, and then they are paid the same rate of wages.

A. 16.—Most of the men provide themselves against sickness by being in one society or another; if not, we assist them. We never had any accident by which the person was kept one day from work.

A. 17.—About eight days.

A. 18.—Men and children employed in the scribbling department, &c. are allowed their holidays.

A. 19.—If more than half an hour behind the time, we deduct in proportion to the lost time and the wages given, no fines being imposed.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

Wrigley &amp; Co.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands employed.

A. 21.—No; we have no children but what are well able to work the time they are employed.

A. 22.—By no means.

A. 23.—The children we employ under twelve years are pieceners, which is an employment they are well able to bear.

A. 24.—The mill has run the regular hours, only in cases of too much or too little water, since we took the mill in 1831.

A. 25.—Sixty-nine hours and a half per week.

A. 26.—No.

J. &amp; T. C. WRIGLEY &amp; Co.

No. 76.

J. Ives.

## ANSWERS of Jo. Ives, Green House, Cumberworth Half.

A. 1.—Scribbling and fulling of woollen plains and kerseymeres.

A. 2.—Erected in 1826, and applied to the above purpose.

A. 3.—Steam-power only.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power; the whole employed by me.

A. 5.—Twelve persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 14s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | —               | 1, earning 14s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 3, earning 20s. | —               |

A. 8.—8, who work as piecers and feeders, whose wages are paid by the engineer, when added, amount to

1, who works as slubber

Total - 9

£1 18 6

A. 9.—We work no over hours.

A. 10.—In summer, we commence at six in the morning and terminate at eight at night, with one hour at noon for the children; in winter, at seven in the morning, and terminate at eight at night.

A. 12.—We work two hours less on the Saturday, which time we do not make up in any way whatever.

A. 13.—At one o'clock the meals are taken, and one hour allowed; all take them at a time.

A. 14.—The fulling miller takes his meals when work is going on; the other process stops.

A. 15.—Loss to both parties: we work no extra hours.

A. 16.—I do not pay wages excepting they work.

A. 17.—Two days at Whitsuntide, two at Christmas, one at Easter.

A. 18.—No pay for holiday time, nor made up at any other time.

A. 19.—I do not enforce fines at all.

A. 20.—I have only one set.

A. 21.—I only employ one set of children for one set of adults.

A. 22.—I do not sanction them at all.

A. 23.—It does, as piecers, feeders, &amp;c.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—I cannot answer these two questions, as I have not an exact account of our lost time.

A. 26.—No alterations.

Jo. Ives.

No. 77.

A. Wilkinson.

## ANSWERS of ABRAHAM WILKINSON, Dalton.

A. 1.—Woollen, scribbling, slubbing, and spinning.

A. 2.—Rebuilt in 1807 and 1808.

A. 3.—Steam and water on the Colne river.

A. 4.



A. 4.—Engine, thirty-five horse, water-wheels, say sixty-five horse.

A. 5.—Twenty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | —        |

Yorkshire.  
A. Wilkinson.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—Males and females, piecers, chiefly under fourteen years of age, three shillings and sixpence per week; engine-feeders, six shillings per week.

A. 7.—Five males, from eighteen years and upwards, slubbers; earning from 17s. to 18s.; in a regular week of sixty-eight hours.

A. 8.—Ten piecers, males and females, chiefly under fourteen years of age, at three shillings and sixpence per week.

A. 9.—The same ratio per hour as their weekly wages.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and eight in the evening throughout the year.

A. 12.—From six o'clock in the morning till five o'clock in the evening during the summer season; in the winter season until four o'clock in the afternoon, and pay the same for Saturdays as the other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour at eight o'clock, one hour at twelve, and half an hour at four o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops half an hour at twelve o'clock at noon, or from half-past twelve to one. The scribbling engine-feeders are employed during meal times, with the exception of the half hour at noon, when the moving power stops, but by our method of feeding the engines, their labour is only about one minute in six.

A. 15.—Complete loss both to me and the workpeople.

A. 16.—No rule; if anything is allowed, it is gratuitously given.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas; half a day Shrovetide; two half days at Easter; one-half day at Whitsuntide, and one day at May fair.

A. 18.—If we are very busy at the holidays, I pay them for over-time, and seldom abate them for holidays at the busy seasons.

A. 19.—No fines, but change them for others as soon as possible.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set of hands, because the children will bear their work equally as well as the adult hands.

A. 22.—My orders are to send the children home if they won't do without beating.

A. 23.—The greatest number in our employ are carding-piecers at the billy, from ten to thirteen years of age; if above thirteen years of age, they are either sent home or employed at work that affords a greater wage.

A. 24.—1830: From January 2d to March 27th, only sixty-four days; from March 27th to July 3d, only sixty-seven days and a half; from July 3d to Sept. 25th, fifty days and a half; from Sept. 25th to December 31st, fourteen weeks, only fifty-five days.

1831: From January 1st to April 1st, thirteen Saturdays, seventy-eight days; from April 1st to July 2d, seventy-six days and a half; from 2d July to October 1st, seventy-eight days; from October 1st, to December 31st, seventy-eight days.

1832: Short of employment, only wrought two-hundred and seventy-two days the whole year.

A. 25.—1830 and 1832 was short of employment.

1831: 1st quarter, one half of the machines, 1001 hours; the other half 884 hours.

|     |   |   |   |   |   |      |   |   |   |     |   |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|-----|---|
| 2d  | — | — | — | — | — | 947  | — | — | — | 836 | — |
| 3d  | — | — | — | — | — | 1001 | — | — | — | 884 | — |
| 4th | — | — | — | — | — | 961  | — | — | — | 848 | — |

A. 26.—None, except the adults having more to labour for the same amount of earnings, on account of the domestic clothier (on which our mill entirely depends) giving a lower price, to enable them to sell with the opulent factory master.

A. 27.—My opinions as to restricting the hours of labour for factory children by steam, water-power, &c., are as follows: the more you shorten the duration of hours in the factories, (I mean where power is applied) the more you enable the industrious and highly valuable domestic clothier to come nearer in competition with the great and opulent factory master, and thereby diminishing the evils of the factory system. The opulent factory master, with his machinery from the agency of steam, water, gas, &c., enables him, with little extra expense, to work his machinery almost day and night when trade is brisk, and during a depression of trade, rather than his machinery should stand, would run them with little or no profits; this I consider most injurious to the domestic clothier. The above considerations, coupled with the cause of humanity, I think warrants the legislature in shortening the duration of labour in woollen factories. Various are the opinions as to the exact number of hours per day; I should suggest sixty-three hours per week, that is, eleven hours for five days, and eight hours for Saturday; I should further suggest, that the above sixty-three hours be performed from a certain time in the morning to a certain time in the evening, and that wherever boys and girls under



Yorkshire.

A. Wilkinson.

twenty years of age are employed, where the first moving power is steam, water, &c., should not be allowed to run more than the above number of hours per week. If the time for May, June, July and August was from or betwixt the hours of four o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock in the evening, it would, I think, enable the mills generally that are turned solely by water-power, to make up their sixty-three hours per week. Where steam is the moving power, it would enable the employer and employed so to arrange together, that the greatest part of the afternoon might occasionally be set apart, either for improvement in reading, needlework, &c., or assisting their parents at home in their domestic concerns; the other eight months, that is, from September to April, betwixt the hours of six in the morning and seven o'clock in the evening. With regard to employing two sets of hands, I am decidedly against; my children, in any employment they are engaged in, will bear their work equally as well as the adults. I have been overlooker of men and children near forty years, and am not aware of a single instance where a child has been deformed in any manner from excessive labour in factories; besides, to employ two sets of hands, one of the two sets would be employed in untimely hours, and the pernicious effects of congregating boys and girls in such a way, would be, instead of a humanity Bill, a Bill to encourage vice and immorality.

ABRAHAM WILKINSON.

No. 77.

H. Wilkinson.

## ANSWERS of HENRY WILKINSON, Bradley Mills, Dalton.

A. 1.—Woollen-scribbling, slubbing.

A. 2.—Rebuilt in 1807 and 1808.

A. 3.—Steam and water, on the Colne river.

A. 4.—Engine thirty-five-horse, water-wheels, say sixty-five-horse, and employ only a part; the other is let to different people for scribbling, slubbing, &amp;c.

A. 5.—Twenty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.        | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.           | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. & 4s. | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s.           | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s.           | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s.          | —        |

Or chiefly employed by piecers, 3s. and 3s. 6d., and feeders from 4s. to 6s.

A. 7.—Slubbers above twenty-one years, from 19s. to 20s. per week.

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Carding-piecers 3s. and 3s. 6d. per week.

A. 9.—The same ratio per hour as their weekly wages.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and eight in the evening.

A. 12.—In summer, from six o'clock in the morning till five in the evening; in winter until four o'clock.

A. 13.—Half an hour at eight o'clock, one hour at twelve, and half an hour at four o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops half an hour at noon; scribbling feeders work during meal times, except the half hour at noon.

A. 15.—Loss both to me and my workpeople.

A. 16.—If any thing is given, it is gratuitously given.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas, half a day Shrove-tide, two half-days at Easter, one day at Whitsuntide, and one day at May fair.

A. 18.—Abate them for holidays, and pay them for over-time; except in some instances I don't abate them.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set.

A. 22.—I give orders for children not to be thrashed.

A. 23.—The greatest number in my employ are carding-piecers at the billy, from nine to thirteen years of age.

A. 24.—1831: From April 1st to July 2d - 73 days, or  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days per week (average.)July 2d to Oct. 1st - 76 — or  $6\frac{1}{2}$  —

Oct. 1st to Dec. 31st - 78 — or 6 —

1832: Short of employment, only wrought 192 days or  $3\frac{3}{4}$  days per week.

A. 26.



A. 26.—None, except the adults having more to labour for the same amount of earnings, on account of the domestic clothier (on which our mill entirely depends) giving a lower price, to enable them to sell with the factory master.

A. 27.—Say sixty-three hours per week for children, &c.

HENRY WILKINSON.

Yorkshire.

H. Wilkinson.

### ANSWERS OF WILLIAM BALMFORTH, Marshall Hall, Elland.

No. 78.

Wm. Balmforth.

A. 1.—Coarse woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Built for a malt kiln; employed as at present in the year 1800.

A. 3.—The power of steam.

A. 4.—Ten-horse power, employed by the owner.

A. 5.—Ten males; viz. two between ten and twelve years of age; five between twelve and fourteen years; and three between fourteen and sixteen years.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       |   | FEMALES.     |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - 5, 3s. 6d. | - | - 4, 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 7, 4s. 6d. | - | - —          |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - —          | - | - 2, 5s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - —          | - | - 12, 6s.    |
| 21 and upwards        | - 3, 18s.    | - | - —          |

A. 7.—Eleven men, from twenty-one to forty years of age; earning from 21s. to 22s. in a regular day's work of twelve hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-one pieceners, paid by the workmen.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Begin at six in the morning, and terminate at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Less on Saturday by two hours; half an hour the other five days.

A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour; dinner, half past twelve; all go at one time.

A. 14.—Stops at a quarter past twelve; none take meals during work.

A. 15.—If business calls for over and above regular wages paid for; loss both theirs and mine.

A. 16.—Half the time allowed.

A. 17.—Easter, two days; Whitsuntide, two; Elland fair, two; 5th of November and Christmas, two.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines nor punishment; if not obedient, employed by other hands.

A. 20.—One set.

A. 21.—Never.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, pieceners for their fathers.

A. 24.—This question cannot answer, not being owner at the time.

A. 25 & 26.—The same.

A. 27.—My workpeople would think it a tax, if less than twelve hours per day.

WILLIAM BALMFORTH.

### ANSWERS OF JOSEPH RUSHFORTH, Elland, near Halifax.

No. 79.

J. Rushforth.

A. 1.—Coarse woollen.

A. 2.—It was burnt down in 1809; rebuilt in 1810.

A. 3.—Water only. River Calder.

A. 4.—About eight-horse power; one half fulling, the other half scribbling.

A. 5.—Nineteen persons are employed in this mill.

A. 6.—Cannot tell. Each spinner is paid by the stone, and they pay the children.

A. 8.—All are paid by the overlooker. I pay him 1s. 1d. per stone of 16lbs., and he pays all wages.

A. 9.—We have no regular time for over-hours; the last year work was so slack that we had little more than half work.

A. 10.—Six in summer, seven in winter, and end at eight in the evening.

A. 11.—It is impossible to say; but in dry weather we have generally more water in the night than in the day, owing to water from the mills which are above us not coming till afternoon.

A. 12.—Generally stop at four o'clock, unless work is very much wanted, but this is seldom the case.

A. 13.—Breakfasts and drinkings are brought to the mill, and the men and children sit down  
(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

J. Rushforth.

down together. They go home to dine from twelve till one; but, as the men spin by the stone, they give over and begin when they like, and as they please, just as they have work, for, as we do country work, we are not always employed.

A. 14.—Generally stop. If they happen to be very busy, they take their meals alternately, but in this respect the men please themselves.

A. 15.—We make up no lost time. It is a loss to master and men; in summer we stand a good deal for water, in winter we stand for back-water, as a corn-mill draws from the same dam.

A. 16.—We seldom have any of the children sick; the men are sometimes ill with staying too long at the beer shops and public-houses, those ruinous nuisances to the working class in the West Riding.

A. 17.—They have holidays at Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, Elland Fair, and various other times that I cannot enumerate; for, the men having become *masters*, by their *unions*, as they call them, take holidays when and as they like.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—One set only.

A. 21.—One set only; but if the Bill now pending passes, we shall be obliged to have two sets, or else we shall lose our custom, and the mill-owner be ruined.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment whatever allowed.

A. 23.—The children are employed in piecing for the spinners.

A. 24 & 25.—Impossible to tell.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—For the consideration of the Factory Committee, I beg to make the following remarks, as occupier of a water-mill on the river Calder. From Nov. 1st to Feb. 14th, we stood sixty hours in back-water. In March, we stood from two to three hours per day in slack water, and this is more or less the case during the summer: and it should be remarked, that in a long drought we have more water in the night than in the day, for, if some of the mills above us draw at six or eight in the morning, the lower the water is the slower it runs, consequently does not reach us till evening. I am sorry to say, if some of our men do earn extra, it does them no good, as they drink and smoke in proportion. I think I may venture to say, that if there are ten thousand children employed in the West-Riding in woollen and worsted mills (not cotton, for they labour in an over-heated atmosphere), you shall take England through, or any other country in the world, and you will not find ten thousand children better *fed*, better *clothed*, or fewer casualties amongst them, than you will in these children in the same class of life. I am an advocate for limiting time, notwithstanding these remarks, as in some mills the children certainly are distressed by being kept too long at work. What I think would give general satisfaction to masters and men would be, to limit the working hours to eleven, as that would not make any alteration in their present wages.

JOSEPH RUSHFORTH.

No. 80.

John Wright.

## ANSWERS of JOHN WRIGHT, Hebble End, Erringden.

A. 1.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 3.—The power employed is water, taken from the river Calder.

A. 4.—The wheel is about ten-horse power, and is entirely occupied by ourselves.

A. 5.—Forty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 9      | 10       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 11     | 9        |

A. 8.—Twelve.

A. 9.—We have no over-hours.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in summer, and seven o'clock in winter; that is, six from March September, and seven from September to March.

A. 11.—We commence working at the same hour in dry seasons as at other times, or nearly so; if half an hour later, we conclude as much later at night.

A. 12.—Our regular day's work on Saturdays is three hours less than on the other days in the week.

A. 13.—We allow about twenty minutes to dinner, from half after twelve to ten minutes to one, when all take their dinner.

A. 14.—The moving power always stops during the time of dinner; at other times it keeps moving, when those at the carding continue at work, it being slight work.

A. 15.—We always pay regular day-wages to those employed by day-work: any time lost is made up by working a little over for five days in the week, and of which no particular account is kept.

A. 16.—We pay the older workmen their usual wages in cases of sickness, they having no over-time. Accidents, we have had none of the kind alluded to.

A. 17.—Six days and a half, and for which they are allowed their full wages.

A. 18.



- A. 18.—They do not work any over-time on account of holidays separately.  
 A. 19.—We have no fines for irregularity; when hands are irregular or disobedient, we dismiss them.  
 A. 20.—We work only one set of hands.  
 A. 21.—We never have.  
 A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishments; dismissal is the only punishment we inflict, and the fear of it generally answers the purpose.  
 A. 23.—The mule-spinning generally employs the most children that are young; the throstles are next.  
 A. 24.—Our mill has worked about three hundred and seven days and a half in the year, for the years stated.  
 A. 25.—Our machinery has been worked, from January to 1st April, two days and a half; from 1st April to 1st July, one day and a half; from 1st July to October, half a day.  
 A. 26.—No alterations.  
 A. 27.—In establishments that are well conducted, there will always be a great difficulty in enforcing the observance of any limitation of the time of working: the younger children are often under the care of their father, and the largeness of his family requires his utmost exertions for their support. The most industrious husbands dread a ten hours' bill.

JOHN WRIGHT.

Yorkshire.  
John Wright.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SCOTT and HUTTON, Eccleshill.

No. 81.  
Scott & Hutton.

- A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn.  
 A. 2.—1820.  
 A. 3.—Steam.  
 A. 4.—Eight-horse; ourselves.  
 A. 5.—Forty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3 | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4 | - | -        | 11 |  |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 3 | - | -        | —  |  |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 1 | - | -        | 3  |  |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | — | - | -        | 6  |  |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | — | - | -        | 2  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 3 | - | -        | 2  |  |

- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—
- |                       | MALES.  |            | FEMALES. |            |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|----------|------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.     | to 3s. 6d. | 3s.      | to 3s. 6d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | to 4s.     | 3s. 6d.  | to 4s.     |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | to 4s.     | —        | —          |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.     | to 5s. 6d. | 4s.      | to 5s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | —          | 5s. 6d.  | to 7s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | —          | 7s.      | to 9s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 13s.    | to 20s.    | 7s.      | to 10s.    |

- A. 7.—Seven persons; viz.
- |                       | FEMALES. |                     |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 3,       | earning 7s. to 10s. |
| 18 and under 21       | 2,       | earning 8s. to 10s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 2,       | earning 8s. to 10s. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

- A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—All over-time is paid at the same rate as the weekly wages.  
 A. 10.—Six in summer, seven in winter; ceases at half after six in summer, and half after seven in winter.  
 A. 12.—Generally some time is made good in the five days, in order to shorten the labour on a Saturday.  
 A. 13.—Breakfast at eight, dinner at twelve, drinking at four to five.  
 A. 14.—At noon, the moving power stops for half an hour; a number of spare hands are kept to relieve others at breakfast and drinking, and in case of any extra labour.  
 A. 15.—All persons are paid for all the time they labour, whether it be at their own employ or assisting in any repair.  
 A. 16.—In some cases there is some allowance.  
 A. 17.—Four days, eight half days, less or more.  
 A. 18.—Nothing is allowed for holidays, and no time is made good for them.  
 A. 19.—No fines are levied for absence, except more than half an hour; in that case, an allowance is made for the time deficient, at the rate of their regular wages.  
 A. 20 & 21.—No.  
 A. 22.—No punishment, but endeavouring to make them understand when they err.

(APP.—C. 1.)

G g

A. 23.



Yorkshire.

Scott & Hutton.

A. 23.—From eight to fourteen years always make the best piecers; at fourteen they begin to be too tall for their employ.

A. 24.—Generally six days, more or less, except on holidays and when the works are repairing.

A. 25.—Nearly seventy-two hours a week, upon an average.

A. 27.—Twelve hours, in our opinion, is not injurious to children's health in our mill, and is sufficient, providing it be made into a law by Act of Parliament; but it is not reasonable for a manufacturer to be fined for things that have been stated some time ago.

SCOTT &amp; HUTTON.

No. 82.

Ingham & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN INGHAM and Co., Farnley.

A. 1.—Scribbling wool, and carding for cloth lists.

A. 2.—Erected long before our occupation.

A. 3.—Steam-power only.

A. 4.—Engine of sixteen-horse power, and no part let off.

A. 5.—Fourteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 5s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.    | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.    | 5s.      |

A. 7.—Three adult males, earning 24s. per week, in a regular day of eleven hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same for over-hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and seven in the evening, and not different.

A. 12.—Two hours less, and not made up.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight o'clock, half an hour allowed; dinner, twelve o'clock, one hour; drinking, four o'clock, half an hour: all at the same time.

A. 14.—Stops at noon.

A. 15.—None made up.

A. 16.—No case.

A. 17.—Four holidays and two half ditto.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for holidays, and the time is not made up.

A. 19.—No fines used.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, piecers.

A. 24.—Six days in each quarter respectively, and consequently one Saturday in each six days.

A. 26.—No.

JOHN INGHAM &amp; Co.

No. 83.

Thomas Mason.

## ANSWERS of THOS. MASON, Gargrave.

A. 1.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 2.—1791.

A. 3.—Water. River Aire.

A. 4.—About twenty-horse. I employ the whole; no part let off.

A. 5.—Thirty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | 9        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1s. 6d.  | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2s.      | 2s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2s. 6d.  | 2s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4s.      | 3s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 6d. | 6s.      |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Nineteen persons ; viz.

|                         | MALES.              | FEMALES.       |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 14 and under 16 years - | 1, earning 5s. 10d. | 1, earning 7s. |
| 16 and under 18 — -     | 1, earning 7s.      | 3, earning 7s. |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | —                   | 2, earning 7s. |
| 21 and upwards - -      | 2, earning 19s. 3d. | 9, earning 8s. |

[In a regular day of twelve hours.

A. 8.—Not any.

A. 9.—No over-hours.

A. 10.—We begin a quarter before six o'clock, and end a quarter after seven.

A. 11.—We depend on five mills above ; in drouthy seasons, we commence running a quarter before six, stop at half past seven till ten or eleven, stop an hour and half at dinner, run till about four, stop an hour, and conclude at eight.

A. 12.—It is ; but made up in the other five days, by the desire of the hands, as above stated, to prevent a deduction of wages.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at half past seven; forty-five minutes at twelve o'clock.

A. 14.—All.

A. 15.—It is, with respect to those by time, but not those by the piece; it is a loss to both ; it is not made up by working extra hours.

A. 16.—We never had any serious accident to detain any one from their work ; during sickness, if by the piece, wages are not allowed, but generally pay the doctor and send them nourishing food.

A. 17.—Five, and two half days.

A. 18.—Not paid, nor made up.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never ; I consider it would be very disadvantageous, both to the master and hands.

A. 22.—Never.

A. 23.—It does not require them. In drawing, keeping bobbins clean, breaking off card-ings.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—I cannot answer these questions correctly.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—My opinion is, that if the Ten Hours Factory Bill takes place, it will injure the hands very materially ; as wages must be reduced *more* than the reduction of time, to recompense the master, and that will cause dissatisfaction among the hands.

THOS. MASON.

Yorkshire.

Thomas Mason.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SHAW, EASTWOOD, and TAYLOR, Bottom Hall Mill, Golcar.

No. 85.  
Shaw & Co.

A. 1.—Scribbling and carding of wool.

A. 2.—The mill was erected about thirty years ago.

A. 3.—Water-power, supplied from the river Colne.

A. 4.—There are two wheels upon the same fall ; the one is about eight-horse power, used for scribbling wool ; and the other about the same power, used for grinding corn, and let to another tenant.

A. 5.—Thirty-five persons ; viz.

|                         | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age - | 3      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years - | 5      | —        |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 2      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 2      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 — -     | —      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards - -      | 7      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                         | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age - | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years - | 3s.    | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 5s.    | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18 — -     | —      | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | —      | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Seven males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 20s. in a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—There are twenty-one males and females employed (who are paid by workpeople) in feeding and piecing.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—In winter, at seven o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight in the evening ; and in summer, as in the next question.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 11.



Yorkshire.  
Shaw & Co.

A. 11.—Solely dependent on supply from other mills. In drougthy seasons, the water is divided between the two mills, the scribbling-mill taking from seven in the morning to seven in the evening; but often subject to stand some hours in the day.

A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturdays, which are not made up on other days.

A. 13.—Never any rule as to meals: so much time taken as the persons think proper.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop during meal-times; five feeders of scribblers continue work, but feed for each other. One child can feed four as well as two.

A. 15.—No regular rule as to accidents, or injuries to machinery, dams, &c., or as to allowances.

A. 16.—No allowance during sickness. Never had any accident.

A. 17.—Four whole days, and three half days.

A. 18.—No payment for holidays. Not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—No fines whatever.

A. 20.—No more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set of children, being sufficient for the working hours.

A. 22.—No punishments whatsoever.

A. 23.—In piecing cardings for the slubber.

A. 24.—Work every day in the week, except Sundays, holidays, scarcity of water, other accidents, and scarcity of employment.

A. 25.—Cannot answer this question.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—In our opinion, the scribbling of wool is a healthy business; and children will bear to work twelve hours, without being subject to any disease arising from such labour.

WM. SHAW.

JAS. EASTWOOD.

WILLIAM TAYLOR.

No. 86.  
Michael Shaw.

#### ANSWERS of MICHAEL SHAW, Lees, Golcar.

A. 1.—Scribbling of wool, and fulling of cloth.

A. 2.—The mill was erected in the year 1808, and has always been employed in the woollen line.

A. 3.—Nothing but water-power is used. The mill is situated upon the river Colne.

A. 5.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s.   | —        |

A. 7.—Seventeen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 6s.     | 1, earning 3s.     |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 6s. 6d. | 1, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14       | —                  | 1, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16       | —                  | 3, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | —                  | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 6, earning 16s.    | —                  |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—All the children under fifteen years of age are paid by the slubbers.

A. 10.—At half past six in the morning (in summer), and leave off work at half past seven o'clock at night, and on the Saturdays at five o'clock.

A. 11.—This we cannot answer.

A. 12.—Yes; and we never expect it being made up.

A. 13.—We allow an hour at noon.

A. 14.—Yes, at noon; and the machines are stopped during the time of breakfast, &c. at the pleasure of the workmen.

A. 15.—When accidents occur of this kind, we never make a practice of having them made up; therefore it is a loss to some of the workpeople as well as to us. We work no extra hours.

A. 19.



Yorkshire.

Michael Shaw.

- A. 19.—We have no fines.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—We could not do with two sets of children; indeed, we could not procure them.  
 A. 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Yes; the work cannot be done without them; they are wanted to piece for the slubbers.  
 A. 24.—Our work is country work: we cannot answer this.  
 A. 25.—We cannot tell.  
 A. 27.—We are favourable to a Bill of eleven hours and a half, or twelve hours, but not less.

MICHAEL SHAW.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. J. J. and E. SHAW, Low Westwood, Golcar.

No. 87.

J. J. & E. Shaw.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, slubbing, and spinning of wool; milling and finishing of woollen cloth.  
 A. 2.—In the year 1805.  
 A. 3.—Water, from the River Colne, and a steam-engine to assist, which is only used when water is scarce.  
 A. 4.—The water-wheel twenty-horse power, employed wholly by ourselves. The engine, which is only occasionally used, is sixteen-horse power.

A. 5.—Fifty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 6      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 4      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 3d.   | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 1d.   | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d.   | 3s. 3½d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 6d.   | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s. 3d.   | 4s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s.      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s. 10d. | —        |

A. 7.—Six persons; viz.

|                              | MALES.          |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21 years of age | 1, earning 27s. |
| 21 and upwards               | 5, earning 28s. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Eight boys, from ten to twelve years of age, and seven girls, from twelve to fifteen years of age; also two adult men.

A. 9.—The pay is the same for over-hours as during the regular hours of work.

A. 10.—The day's work commences at six o'clock in the morning and terminates at eight in the evening; this is our practice all the year round.

A. 11.—Ours is a water-mill, but not dependent on other mills for a supply of water, having a steam-engine which we employ in drougthy seasons. Consequently, we commence work at six o'clock in the morning, and conclude at eight at night, in all seasons of the year.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturdays is less than on the other days of the week, which time is not made up in any of the other five days of the week.

A. 13.—We allow half an hour for breakfast, from eight o'clock to half past eight, and one hour for dinner, from one o'clock to two, and half an hour in the afternoon, from five to half past five.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop during meal-times, in consequence of the shafts in the scribbling and finishing parts of our mill being connected with the shafts in the fulling-mill part, which part cannot stand without injury to the cloths in the process of milling. But none of the men take their meals whilst at work.

A. 15.—No time is made up for accidents to the machinery, or deficiency of water, or injury to the water-course; it is a loss to us and to them; neither is it made up by working extra hours.

A. 16.—No time is allowed on account of sickness, or absence from the mill; if an accident happen to any of the hands employed in the mill, we generally pay the doctor's bill for curing the wounds.

A. 17.—Six days and five half days.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for any of the holiday time, neither do they make up the holidays at any other time.

A. 19.—We never impose any fines.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We have not. Our objection to two sets of children is, that wages could not be afforded to satisfy the parents of the children; neither could two sets of children be procured.

(APP.—C. 1.)

H h

A. 22.



Yorkshire.

J. J. & E. Shaw.

A. 22.—No; merely threatened with dismissal, in case of disobedience, at any age.

A. 23.—No, not absolutely so; the processes in which children are required are piecers for slubbing and spinning wools, and clipping and cleaning teazles for finishing woollen cloths.

A. 24.—Six days in each week, in every week of each quarter of the years 1830, 1831, and 1832, holidays and half holidays excepted, as specified in answer to question No. 17. The number of Saturdays during the same period are one hundred and fifty-seven.

A. 25.—Our machinery has been at work eight hundred and seventy-three hours and a half in each quarter of the years 1830, 1831, and 1832.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We are of opinion that the hours of labour in woollen-mills cannot be better than the number we are working, that is, fourteen hours, commencing at six o'clock in the morning and terminating at eight o'clock in the evening, with an allowance of two hours for meals. Our workpeople also express the same opinion.

J. J. &amp; E. SHAW.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOSEPH and EDWARD SWAINE, Gomersal.

No. 88.

J. & E. Swaine.

A. 1.—The manufacture of wool into cloth, throughout all its processes.

A. 2.—Our mill was built about fifty years since, and intended for a cloth market, which was soon abandoned. From the years 1793 to 1807, it was occupied as a button mill; for the last twenty-six years it has been employed as a woollen mill.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines are employed,—one of thirty-horse power, and one of twenty-six horse power. We let room and power for six hundred and sixty-eight worsted spindles, and for two woollen scribbling and two carding machines; the rest is employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Two hundred and thirty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 9      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 20     | 14       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 21     | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 14     | 5        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 13     | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 96     | 25       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 1½d. | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 3d.  | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 11d. | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 8s. 4d.  | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s. 7d. | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Eighty persons, twenty-one years of age and upwards; viz.

|                           | MALES. | £  | s. |                              | FEMALES. | £  | s. | d. |
|---------------------------|--------|----|----|------------------------------|----------|----|----|----|
| 16 weavers, 16s. per week | 12     | 16 |    | 15 burlers, 5s. 4d. per week | 4        | 2  | 6  |    |
| 4 jenny-spinners, 18s. —  | 3      | 12 |    | 1 handle-setter, 10s. —      | 0        | 10 | 0  |    |
| 2 mule-spinners, 21s. —   | 2      | 2  |    |                              |          |    |    |    |
| 12 slubbers, 25s. —       | 15     | 0  |    |                              |          |    |    |    |
| 30 croppers, 22s. 6d. —   | 33     | 15 |    |                              |          |    |    |    |
| —                         | —      | —  | —  |                              |          |    |    |    |
| 64                        | 67     | 5  | 16 |                              | 4        | 12 | 6  |    |

In a regular week of sixty-seven hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-seven persons; viz. fifteen boys, slubbers' piecers; fourteen girls, ditto; four boys, mule-spinners' ditto; one girl, ditto; and three women, weavers' winders.

A. 9.—The pay for over-hours is the same as during the regular time.

A. 10.—Our work commences at seven o'clock on Monday, and all other days at six, and terminates at half past seven, except on Saturdays, when it closes at five; the short time from six to seven o'clock on Monday morning being made up during the week.

A. 11.—Steam-power.

A. 12.—Our regular day's work is two hours and a half less on Saturdays than other days; during the first five days it is eleven hours and a half per day, and on Saturdays nine and a half.

A. 13.—We allow half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking; the half hour for drinking is not allowed on Saturdays. The hands employed in the dressing of cloth, one hundred and fourteen in number, give up for breakfast at eight o'clock, and at five in the afternoon for drinking; the slubbers, piecers, spinners, and woollyers, sixty-five in number, take the succeeding half hours for breakfasts and drinkings. The object of this division is to relieve the steam-engines during the period the fires are raked and cleaned. The dinner hour is from twelve to one o'clock, during which time the steam-engines stand.

A. 14.



A. 14.—The steam-engines only stop during the dinner hour. The fulling-millers and the engine-feeders take their breakfasts and drinkings whilst at work; the latter, nine in number, having the care of one engine, instead of two, during this period.

A. 15.—Our practice is to pay for the time the hands are employed. We deduct for short time, and pay for over-time.

A. 16.—In cases of absence arising from accident, we continue, according to circumstances, a portion or the whole of the wages, and pay for medical attendance.

A. 17.—One day, Christmas-day; half a day in Christmas week; half a day, Easter Monday; half a day, Easter Tuesday; half a day, Whit Monday; half a day, Gomersall fair; and half a day, Birstal ride.

A. 18.—We do not pay wages for holiday time.

A. 19.—We impose no fines. We do not pay for short time. Our punishment of incorrigible offenders is dismissal.

A. 20.—We only employ one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children; our work is not so laborious, or regularly confining, as to require it.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are unnecessary, and never permitted.

A. 23.—We have only fifteen children under twelve years of age, and they are employed in piecing the cardings for the slubbers, and in attending to the cloth-brushing mills.

A. 24.—We are not in possession of data which enables us to give the time we have worked in each day; but we have for each week in

|                         | 1830.   |     | 1831.   |     | 1832.   |     | 1833.   |
|-------------------------|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|
| Jan. 1st to March 31st, | 71 days | - - | 72 days | - - | 76 days | - - | 78 days |
| April 1st to June 30th, | 72 —    | - - | 78 —    | - - | 74 —    | - - | —       |
| July 1st to Sep. 30th,  | 78 —    | - - | 78 —    | - - | 78 —    | - - | —       |
| Oct. 1st to Dec. 31st,  | 78 —    | - - | 82 —    | - - | 77 —    | - - | —       |

|                     | 1830.     |     | 1831.     |     | 1832.     |     | 1833.     |
|---------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|
| A. 25.—1st quarter, | 753 hours | - - | 811 hours | - - | 846 hours | - - | 865 hours |
| 2nd —               | 752 —     | - - | 871 —     | - - | 817 —     | - - | —         |
| 3rd —               | 906 —     | - - | 839 —     | - - | 872 —     | - - | —         |
| 4th —               | 857 —     | - - | 935 —     | - - | 868 —     | - - | —         |

A. 26.—No alterations have been made in our mill since the year 1829. We are not acquainted with the Questions 5, 6, 7, 8.

A. 27.—We do not consider the interference of parliament necessary for the regulation of the hours of labour in woollen mills; because the work of our children is less, under the regulation of the steam-engine, than of the adults, whose labours they merely assist. The appearance of our children denotes robust health, and this we regard as the best proof that their employment is any thing but injurious. We apprehend an inconvenient interference of the legislature would be met by the encouragement of machinery adapted to the performance of work now done in woollen mills by children, and thus add to our oppressive parish rates.

JOS. & EDW. SWAINE.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN ELLISON, Birkinshaw, Gomersal.

No. 89.

John Ellison.

A. 1.—Scribbling and carding of wool, and spinning of worsted yarn, in about equal portions.

A. 2.—Erected 1790, and employed exclusively as a scribbling and carding mill until 1820, when it was entirely rebuilt, since which time it has been employed as above.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Sixteen-horse. I employ the whole of it myself.

A. 5.—Forty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | - - - | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | - - - | 10       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | - - - | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | - - - | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | - - - | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | - - - | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 9      | - - - | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   |     | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|-----|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d.  | - - | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1s. 6d.  | - - | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s.      | - - | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.      | - - | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | - - | 4s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | - - | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s. 6d. | - - | 7s.      |

A. 7.—I have very few persons in my employ who work by the piece, and those who do are included in the above average, which renders the filling up of this scale unnecessary.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 8.



Yorkshire.

John Ellison.

A. 8.—Twelve piecers; children from nine to twelve years of age, whose average earnings may amount to 1s. 9d. per week.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—At 6 A.M., and terminate at 7 P.M.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturday is eleven hours, being one hour less than on the other days of the week; the time is not made up in any manner, and the workpeople are paid the same rate of wages for this as for any other day.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock, for all hands; twenty minutes for breakfast and drinking, at 8 A.M. and 4 P.M. for the adults. The children take breakfast and drinking at any time the parents please to send it.

A. 14.—The engine always stops during the dinner hour, but at no other meal; during breakfast and drinking the adults leave off work, and the children (with the exception of the twelve woollen piecers, whose wages are paid by the slubbers) take theirs whilst at work.

A. 15.—Time lost by accidents to the machinery, &c. is made up by working over-hours, after the rate of half an hour per day. The workpeople are paid precisely after the same rate for over-hours as for their regular time.

A. 16.—No time is allowed to the hands during sickness as a right. Any loss of time arising from accidents which befall the workpeople at the mill, are made up to them after the rate of their regular wages.

A. 17.—Two regular holidays, and four half holidays.

A. 18.—Two overlookers are paid full wages for all holidays, but no other class. If busy, the holidays are made up by working over-hours as above; if not, it is not made up at all.

A. 19.—The only rule which I have for misconduct of any kind, is dismissal from my employ. I never levied any fine, nor ever shall.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never. The objections are so various that the entire sheet would not contain them. The principal one is, that it would be impossible to obtain two sets of hands.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned, and very rarely practised.

A. 23.—Certainly. The process in which such children are employed, is that of piecers to the woollen and worsted.

A. 24.—As I never kept any time book I cannot say.

A. 25.—For the above reason I cannot answer this question.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I think a bill to regulate the hours of labour in mills, if not carried to excess, would be advantageous to both master and workpeople. I should name eleven hours as the time most beneficial to all parties; and when agitation does not prevail, a considerable majority of the workpeople are in favour of this hour in preference to a ten hour bill.

JOHN ELLISON.

No. 90.

Nussey &amp; Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. R. NUSSEY and Co., Birstal Smithies, Gomersal.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth, principally blankets, in the processes of scribbling, carding, slubbing, and fulling.

A. 2.—1797.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Eighteen-horse power, Bolton & Watt's steam-engine: we employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Forty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |   |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|----------|---|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 1  | - | -        | 3 |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 7  | - | -        | 1 |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 3  | - | -        | 4 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 1  | - | -        | 3 |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | —  | - | -        | 1 |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —  | - | -        | 4 |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 13 | - | -        | 3 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |          |   | FEMALES. |         |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|----------|---------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s.      | - | -        | 3s.     |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s.      | - | -        | 3s.     |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 3s.      | - | -        | 3s.     |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 4s.      | - | -        | 4s. 6d. |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | —        | - | -        | 7s.     |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —        | - | -        | 7s.     |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 20s. 6d. | - | -        | 7s.     |  |

Sixteen males, earning on an average 7s. 5½d. each, and nineteen females, earning 4s. 11½d. each.

A. 7.—Nine males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 27s. (equal to 10s. 4d. each throughout the mill), in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—One mule-piecer and one fuller.

A. 9.—The same per hour.

A. 10.—Begins at seven o'clock on Monday mornings; at six o'clock on all other mornings; terminates at half after seven o'clock, except on Saturdays, when it terminates at five o'clock.

A. 12.



- A. 12.—Less on Saturdays, and the time not made up.
- A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock; half an hour for drinking in the afternoon, at four o'clock.
- A. 14.—Stops at noon, but moves at other times on account of fulling.
- A. 15.—It is generally made up by working half an hour, or a quarter, each evening, as the case may require; but this is a very rare case. Extra time paid for at the regular rate per hour.
- A. 16.—No accident remembered to have taken place. Cases of sickness also exceedingly rare; only two of typhus fever remembered: these were slubbers, who got their own places supplied, and received their wages.
- A. 17.—Three days and seven half-day holidays, besides fast or thanksgiving days.
- A. 18.—Part are paid, part are not paid. Time not made up.
- A. 19.—No fines of any kind.
- A. 20.—No.
- A. 21.—No. The objections would be, loss of time in the change of one set for another, less aptitude to their work, more dissipated and careless, also a serious increase of wages, which the trade could not bear. Hands at a suitable age could not generally be procured.
- A. 22.—Not sanctioned.
- A. 23.—It does; as pieceners of rovings. Children always make the best pieceners when introduced under nine years of age, and it is time for them to go to other employments at twelve.
- A. 24.—No register has been kept.
- A. 25.—Not accurately known, but certainly under the regular time, as before stated. The blanket trade is usually dull from before Christmas to May, when less than the regular time is made, generally not more than four or five days per week: from May to November it is usually brisk, and for one or two months in the year over-time is frequently required, but never exceeding eleven hours per week.
- A. 26.—No alteration has taken place.
- A. 27.—No regulation required, and would be more deprecated by the men than the owners; the children employed not being very numerous, the hours of labour moderate, the work light, and allowed on all hands to be conducive to health.
- If any regulation be necessary on account of other manufactures, we should wish the time to be limited by *hours per week*, and not hours per day; which limit, if the welfare of the country and not the outcry of a faction is to be considered, should not be less than sixty-four hours per week.
- N. B.—No regulation is necessary on another account, namely, the Union among the workmen dictates to us the rate of wages we are to pay, the men we are to employ, and, if they desired it, would dictate the hours also. Our servants are our masters, and the situation of the employer is rendered exceedingly unpleasant.

RICHARD NUSSEY &amp; Co.

Yorkshire.

Nussey &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. RAWSON and SALTMARSHES, Bull Close Lane, Halifax.

No. 91.

Rawson &amp; Saltmarshes.

- A. 1.—Dressing woollen cloth.
- A. 2.—Part erected in 1815 for dressing by hand, and the other part in 1824, when a steam-engine was put up for dressing by machinery.
- A. 3.—Steam-power.
- A. 4.—Twenty-horse power, employed wholly by ourselves.
- A. 5.—Eighty-one persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 6      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 4      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | 14     | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 36     | 7        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 7d.  | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 4d.  | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 4d.  | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s. 9d.  | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 11s. 9d. | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 7d. | 7s.      |
- A. 7.—Fifteen persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES.               |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 2, earning 19s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 13, earning 24s. 6d. |
- In a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.
- A. 8.—The cloth-drawers only, consisting of seven men.
- A. 9.—The same.
- (APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

Rawson & Salt-marshes.

- A. 10.—Begins at six A. M., and terminates at seven P. M.  
 A. 11.—Steam.  
 A. 12.—Less by one hour and a half; not made up in any manner.  
 A. 13.—Breakfast at eight, half an hour; dinner at twelve, one hour; drinking at four, half an hour.  
 A. 14.—Stops during all the meal-times.  
 A. 15.—Trifling accidents while the men are on the premises cause loss to us only, but in serious accidents, where we do not require the attendance of the men for days together, the loss is thrown upon them, or in some cases divided.  
 A. 16.—If sick during only part of a week, no deduction is made from their wages; but in cases of longer sickness, a weekly allowance of six shillings only is paid the men aged twenty-one and upwards. In cases of sickness, arising from accidents at the mill, the full wages are allowed.  
 A. 17.—Christmas-day, Good Friday, Easter, half a day, Whitsuntide, half a day, and the fair three quarters of a day.  
 A. 18.—The workmen paid by time are paid for the whole of the holiday time; but not those who work by the piece.  
 A. 19.—We have no system of fines, and depend upon the overlooker's attention in this matter.  
 A. 20, 21, 22, & 23.—No.  
 A. 24.—Every day except Sundays, unless prevented by accidents or the holidays before mentioned, equal to seventy-seven days and a half per quarter: thirteen Saturdays in each quarter.  
 A. 25.—As above, equal to seven hundred and forty-three hours and a half per quarter.  
 A. 26.—None.

RAWSON &amp; SALTMARSHES.

No. 92.

Watts Wrigley.

## ANSWERS of WATTS WRIGLEY, for Watts Wrigley and Sons, Ovenden, Halifax.

- A. 1.—Spinning of waste silk.  
 A. 2.—May, 1833; but have carried on the above business in other premises for fifteen years. The particulars of some of the answers, and the details of the list, and description of workpeople, generally refer to this mill at present occupied.  
 A. 3.—Steam is the moving power.  
 A. 4.—Forty-five-horse engine, and employ the whole.  
 A. 5.—One hundred and fifty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |    |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|----|--|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 1  | - | - | -        | 1  |  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 11 | - | - | -        | 1  |  |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 9  | - | - | -        | 3  |  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 7  | - | - | -        | 10 |  |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 9  | - | - | -        | 6  |  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 7  | - | - | -        | 8  |  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 77 | - | - | -        | 4  |  |  |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— | MALES. |         |   |   | FEMALES. |         |  |  |
|----------------------------------------|--------|---------|---|---|----------|---------|--|--|
| Under 10 years of age                  | -      | 1s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 1s. 6d. |  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | -      | 2s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 2s. 6d. |  |  |
| 12 and under 14 —                      | -      | 3s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 3s. 6d. |  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —                      | -      | 5s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 5s. 6d. |  |  |
| 16 and under 18 —                      | -      | 7s.     | - | - | -        | 7s.     |  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —                      | -      | 8s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 8s. 6d. |  |  |
| 21 and upwards                         | -      | 21s.    | - | - | -        | 21s.*   |  |  |

| A. 7.—Fifty-four persons; viz. | MALES. |                      |   |                | FEMALES. |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------------------|---|----------------|----------|--|--|--|
| 16 and under 18 years          | -      | 1, earning 24s.      | - | 1, earning 6s. |          |  |  |  |
| 21 and upwards                 | -      | 52, earning 22s. 2d. | - | —              |          |  |  |  |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—The description of persons employed under their parents or other workmen, are piecers only, and at present amount to thirty-two persons.

A. 9.—Whenever the workmen work over-hours, it is an invariable rule in this mill to pay them at the same rate.

A. 10.—The regular hours are the same at all periods of the year. Work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at half past seven in the evening, allowing one hour and forty minutes for meals.

A. 11.—See Answer 3.

\* We have stated as nearly as possible the average weekly wages of such as are paid by time, but in this business, age is no criterion as to the amount of wages, which must in general depend upon the individual capacity and experience of the operative. We would also state, that in the piecing department, which employs the greatest number of children, and includes the greater part of the above table under 21 years of age, that they are paid or kept by their parents.

A. 12.



- A. 12.—The Saturday's day-work is three hours less than other days.
- A. 13.—Twenty minutes are allowed at eight A. M. for breakfast; sixty minutes at noon for dinner; twenty minutes at half past four P. M. for drinking.
- A. 14.—The whole processes stop for one hour at noon, and at breakfast and afternoon drinking the whole processes also stop for forty minutes, except the carding department, which requires six hands to look after it until the return of the workpeople, when the six hands have the same time then allowed them for meals.
- A. 15.—When the work is obstructed by any means, the men have their wages as before.
- A. 16.—In cases of sickness or accident, the men have a brief-club, from which they receive a weekly allowance, in case they do not receive wages; medical aid is found for those who choose to apply. The club exclusively belongs to this mill.
- A. 17.—Christmas-day, one day at Easter, one at Whitsuntide, one at Halifax fair, and the same at Illingworth fair.
- A. 18.—The wages of the workpeople are continued during holidays; upon some few occasions, when a press of business has obliged us to work during the holidays, the workpeople have had double wages.
- A. 19.—No fines are exacted; a repetition of any offence is avoided or punished, by discharging the offender from the premises.
- A. 20 & 21.—No.
- A. 22.—No corporal punishments are allowed, only on the part of parents employing their own children.
- A. 23.—The nature of our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age, and such are not employed, except at the solicitation of parents who work for us. The piecing department requires the greatest number of young hands.
- A. 24.—Our manufacture has been carried on, for the last fifteen years, regularly every day, excepting Sundays and any occasional holidays and breakages.
- A. 25.—See the last answer and Answer 10.
- A. 26.—See Answer 2; with respect to mills formerly occupied, no alterations have taken place since that date.
- A. 27.—See Appendix to the last Return.

WATTS WRIGLEY.

Yorkshire.

Watts Wrigley.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. WHITWORTH and Co., Park Mill, Halifax.

No. 93.

Whitworth & Co.

- A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.
- A. 2.—Erected in 1830 and 1831; set to work in June 1831.
- A. 3.—Steam.
- A. 4.—About eighteen-horse; only employ part of the power; the other part is used for worsted-spinning by the owner of the mill.

A. 5.—Fifty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | 11       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 3d.  | 2s. 10d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3d.  | 3s. 1d.   |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 7d.  | 3s. 7d.   |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.      | 4s. 9d.   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 3s. 4d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —        | 5s. 11½d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s. 6d. | 6s. 1½d.  |

Average per week of seventy-two hours.

- A. 7.—Have no piece-work.
- A. 8.—All paid by the master.
- A. 9.—The same.
- A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at a quarter past seven in the evening. No difference as to beginning and stopping.
- A. 11.—A steam-mill.
- A. 12.—Yes, give over at five o'clock; it is made up on the other five days by working half an hour more than usual, say a quarter of an hour more at dinner time, only allowing three quarters of an hour instead of a whole one for that purpose, and working a quarter of an hour longer at night.
- A. 13.—Three quarters of an hour for dinner time; they all get their dinner at one time; they get their breakfast and tea without stopping.
- (APP.—C. 1.)

A. 14.



Yorkshire.

Whitworth &amp; Co.

A. 14.—Only at dinner time; at the other meal times they are engaged in spinning, &c., but they can sit down at those meal times.

A. 15.—It is made up by working extra hours, and they are not paid for those hours, because, when any accident occurs, which requires the stoppage of the engine, they are sent home.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Three whole days, eleven half days, two quarter days.

A. 18.—They are paid for holiday time; it is not made up.

A. 19.—We strongly urge them to come at the appointed time, and if they frequently fail, they are sent home till quartering time; that is, if they were to come repeatedly a quarter of an hour too late in the morning, they are sent home till nine o'clock, and abated for it.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No, have no occasion; likewise it would be very expensive, unless we gave them less wages, which would not support them.

A. 22.—They are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Not exactly; but children that learn before that time, generally make the best hands; the greatest part of the children are employed in spinning.

A. 24.—Have not kept a regular account, therefore cannot speak to it.

A. 25.—Have only kept a time-book for 1832.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Have no remarks to make.

R. WHITWORTH &amp; Co.

No. 94.

Joseph Wood.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH WOOD, Square Mill, Halifax.

A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn.

A. 2.—Applied to worsted-spinning, January 1832.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twelve-horse. About six-horse employed in spinning worsted, and the other employed in machine-making.

A. 5.—Twenty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.      | 2s. 4d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d.  | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | —        | 3s. 1d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 3s. 7½d. | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —        | 5s. 4d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —        | 6s. 2d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.     | 6s.      |

A. 7.—None paid by piece-work.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at a quarter past seven at night; except on Saturdays, when it begins at six in the morning, and terminates at five at night.

A. 12.—Yes; less on Saturdays, and the time made up by working half an hour longer on the other days.

A. 13.—For dinner three quarters of an hour, and sometimes one hour, from half past twelve to a quarter past one, or half past twelve to half past one when an hour is allowed. All go to their meals at the same time. For breakfast and drinking, no particular time; taken when convenient to the persons themselves.

A. 14.—Stops for dinner only. The nature of the employment is such, as to allow sufficient time for breakfast and drinking while the machinery is running, except in some few cases, and then the person stops the machine a sufficient time.

A. 15.—If the engine stands through accident, or to repair, the workpeople are still paid their regular wages, and the time so lost is made up after, by working over-time, say a quarter or half an hour per day, and no extra wages are given to the workpeople, they having received the wages for the time so lost before.

A. 16.—No accident of any consequence has happened here. If the hands are absent on their own accord, either from sickness or any thing else, they have no wages for the time they are absent.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas, two half days at Easter, two half days at Whitsuntide, and two days at Midsummer.

A. 18.



A. 18.—The hands are paid their full wages for the above holiday time, and it is *not* made up at any other time. If any other holidays are allowed, it is made up by working a quarter or half an hour per day over-time.

A. 19.—We have no fines; those that will not attend pretty regular are dismissed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; it is not necessary in our employment.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are very seldom inflicted. If the children will not be attentive to their work, after being told a few times, they are dismissed. This plan answers better than punishment.

A. 23.—The greatest number of children are employed in what is called spinning; adults indrawing, roving, reeling, warping, &c. The nature of the work does not require them to be actually under twelve years of age, although from ten to fourteen years old are the best adapted for spinning.

A. 24.—Cannot answer this question properly. We work regularly six days per week, excepting holidays, and when accidents occur.

A. 25.—Cannot say exactly; our regular time is seventy-two hours per week.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—I have no objections to an Act of Parliament (provided it be strictly enforced) by which all mills would be obliged to work the same length of time, which, in my opinion, would be a great advantage to the trade generally. At present, those that work the longest, can produce their goods the cheapest, and thus undersell those who work only the regular length of time. As to the hours of labour, say twelve hours for five days, and nine for Saturdays. Time for meals ought to be left between the masters and workpeople, for if the mill be obliged to stop (say) half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking, it will be a great disadvantage to the masters (and little or no advantage to the hands), especially in winter, on account of losing daylight, and the expense of gas, &c.; besides, there is a considerable loss of time in getting all the hands to work after stopping, which would be too often.

JOSEPH WOOD.

Yorkshire.

Joseph Wood.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM and JOHN ETESON, Bilton-with-Harrowgate.

No. 95.

W. & J. Eteson.

A. 1.—Flax and tow spinning.

A. 2.—April 6th, 1798.

A. 3.—Water; on the river Nidd.

A. 4.—Sixteen-horse power, and employ the whole.

A. 5.—Fifty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | 13       |

A. 6.—The amount of wages paid to the several classes above described may be thus stated :—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 11s. 6d.  | 11s.     |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6s. 6d.   | 16s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 24s. 6d.  | 16s. 3d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 9s.       | 24s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4s.       | 10s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —         | 10s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 104s. 1d. | 31s.     |

A. 7.—Seven females, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 44s. 6d., in a regular week of seventy-six hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour for over-hours as during regular time.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock in the morning, terminate at half past seven o'clock in the evening. The hours are different during drouthy seasons, or when an excess of water.

A. 11.—In drouthy seasons our hours are partly dependent on a corn-mill above, according to the length of the drought. In drouthy seasons, begin at five o'clock in the morning, and conclude at eight o'clock in the evening. Stop the moving power from two to three hours during the middle of the day.

A. 12.—Less on a Saturday by two hours, and not made up in any manner.

A. 13.—The moving power does not stop during breakfast; all the hands, except spinners, have time allowed them. The hour is dependent on their friends bringing their meals from a short distance. For dinner, the moving power stands from one half to three fourths of an hour, between twelve and one o'clock. Drinkings same as breakfasts: none at different times to others.

(APP.—C. 1.)

K k

A. 14.



Yorkshire.  
W. & J. Eteson.

A. 14.—During dinner. The spinners only take their breakfasts and drinkings whilst at work.

A. 15.—If the accidents, &c. are serious, the time and wages are void; if trifling, the time is made up by extra hours.

A. 16.—Time allowed during providential sickness, but not wage. For accidents, time allowed and wages paid; also the doctor's bill.

A. 17.—One regular holiday, and five half-holidays.

A. 18.—One regular holiday on Christmas-day; and five half-holidays, on Easter Monday and four fairs: the workpeople paid for the holidays, but the time made up by extra hours.

A. 19.—No fines; but enforce obedience by talking to them. If a hand do not attend within one hour of proper time, such short time taken off the wage in proportion.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never.

A. 22.—As little corporal punishment sanctioned as possible: sometimes a few stripes given with a light strap to children under fourteen years of age, and that will not average more than once per day in the whole mill.

A. 23.—Our work does not require children under twelve years of age, but are obliged to employ them, as we cannot procure a sufficient number of older ones, being in a thinly-inhabited country. The greatest number of young children are employed as doffers, attending roving-cans, learning to spin, or any other light work.

A. 24.—Every day, excepting Sundays and Christmas-days. One Saturday in every week.

A. 25.—No account kept of the hours.

A. 26.—No alterations since January 1830, except twenty-three weeks, only worked five days per week.

A. 27.—The moving power to run eleven hours per day, exclusive of one hour and a half allowed for meals. We think that water-mills ought to be allowed to fetch up the time that is lost by drought or excess of water, by one extra hour per day until the same be redeemed; if otherwise, the property will be reduced in value. Neither do we think it right that Government should limit the time of adults and mechanical power; but children ought to be protected.

WM. & JNO. ETESON.

No. 96.  
J. & J. Greenwood.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN and JAMES GREENWOOD, Bridge House, Haworth.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted for the manufacture of stuffs.

A. 2.—We cannot state the correct time of their erection, but believe it to be about forty-one years ago.

A. 3.—Water; name of the stream, Worth.

A. 4.—Equal to a sixteen-horse power.

A. 5.—Sixty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14       | 7      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 8        |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | 11       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —       | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 3d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.     | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s.    | 7s. 6d.  |

A. 7 & 8.—None.

A. 9.—The pay is the same, excepting three cases of adults, to whom we allow  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour more.

A. 10.—We commence at six o'clock in the morning, and close at eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—When water is plentiful, we are not dependent on a supply from other mills, but in drouthy seasons, if we commence at our usual hour, we are frequently obliged to stop by seven o'clock, and are not able to run again for two or three hours.

A. 12.—Occasionally; when done, made up on the former days, at the discretion of the workpeople.

A. 13.—No particular time is allowed, except an hour for dinner; the parents or friends bring the other meals when they think proper.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop during any of the meal-times but dinner; the spinners



spinners assist each other, and the warpers and reelers give up their work until they have got their meals comfortably.

A. 15.—Sometimes it is allowed, and paid for to the workpeople; at other times it is made up by their own wishes, by working extra hours, and paid for at their regular rate of wages.

A. 16.—In some cases we allow them part of their wages.

A. 17.—Eight regular whole days of holiday, and three half days.

A. 18.—If any half-holiday is made up, it is at the request of the workpeople, by running a quarter of an hour or more, at their own discretion, each day, till the time is completed.

A. 19.—Ten or fifteen minutes are allowed them to get to their work, and if not there by that time, and exceed more than an hour during the week, they are fined at the rate of their wages.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, in the process of spinning.

A. 24.—We cannot answer this question correctly.

A. 25.—We are at a loss to answer this accurately.

A. 26.—Not any.

JOHN & JAS. GREENWOOD.

Yorkshire.

J. & J. Greenwood.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM GREENWOOD, Jun., Oxenhope, Haworth.

No. 97.

Wm. Greenwood,  
Jun.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted for the manufacture of stuffs.

A. 2.—Cannot state the exact time of its erection, but conclude about twenty-seven years; it has been always used for spinning worsted.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—The power of the engine is eight horses, none of which is let off to others, or employed for any other purpose.

A. 5.—Twenty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s.      | 2s. 4d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3d.  | 3s. 4½d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 4½d. | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 4d.  | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —        | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —        | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 13s. 8d. | —        |

A. 7.—Four females, earning 8s., in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—When the days are of sufficient length, the hour of commencing is six o'clock in the morning, and close in the evening at seven; but, as the days shorten, we commence as soon as we can see to work, our practice being not to light up the mill in the morning.

A. 12.—It being left to the choice of the overlookers and children, they generally stop work earlier on the Saturday, making up the deficiency when they think proper, but most frequently on the Thursdays and Fridays previous.

A. 13.—No particular time is allowed except an hour at noon; the parents or friends of the children bring their breakfast and afternoon tea when they think proper.

A. 14.—Only at the dinner hour. The processes are drawing, roving, spinning, and winding.

A. 15.—If the accident causes a stoppage of more than a day, the time is not made up by working extra hours, consequently the people, not being employed, receive no wages; but if under that time, it is made up by extra hours at the rate of an hour per day; the people being paid their regular wages, it is no loss to them.

A. 16.—Have no particular time allowed; my general plan is to pay the surgeon, to assist them according to their circumstances, and to get them to work as soon as able.

A. 17.—The regular holidays are Christmas, the two fairs held at Haworth, each holiday two days, and one day each at Shrovetide, Easter and Whitsuntide.

A. 18.—The people are not paid for any part of their holiday time, nor is that time made up at any other time.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—No.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 21.



Yorkshire.  
W. Greenwood,  
Jun.

- A. 21.—No; as we work but twelve hours per day, do not consider it necessary.  
A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned; my request to the overlookers is that if the children do not reform after sufficient telling and warning, they may be sent home.  
A. 23.—The greatest number of children are employed in the spinning department, and those under twelve years of age are of as much use as many that are older.  
A. 24.—To this and the following question, I cannot give a proper answer. It has been our custom to keep a time-paper in the mill, which, when filled and examined, if found correct, has been destroyed, not expecting it would ever be wanted.  
A. 26.—None that I am aware of.

WM. GREENWOOD, Jun.

No. 98.  
Jonas Hird.

### ANSWERS of JONAS HIRD, Royd House Mill, Haworth.

- A. 1.—Worsted-spinning.  
A. 2.—Cannot state the date of its erection; but the application to its present purpose, 1810.  
A. 3.—Both, the water being a collection of springs.  
A. 4.—The engine is six-horse power; the water power very small, never exceeding one-horse power.  
A. 5.—Twenty-four persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 5      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 2        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s.    | 7s.      |
- A. 7.—None employed by piece-work.  
A. 8.—None.  
A. 9.—The pay for over-hours the same as the regular time.  
A. 10.—During the summer, begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening; during the winter, begins at daylight, and works the same hours.  
A. 12.—No regular distinction.  
A. 13.—One hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.  
A. 14.—Stops dinner hour.  
A. 15.—In accidents which occur to the moving power, half the time allowed to work-people; the rest made up by extra hours; paid for the same as regular work.  
A. 16.—No allowance for sickness; but in case of accidents, generally allowed their wages.  
A. 17.—Five whole days and three half days.  
A. 18.—The whole of the holidays paid for, and made up by extra time, at a quarter of an hour per day.  
A. 19.—No fine imposed; but if more than a quarter of an hour too late, an abatement in proportion to their earnings.  
A. 20.—No more than one set.  
A. 21.—Never.  
A. 22.—No corporal punishment sanctioned or allowed.  
A. 23.—It does. The greatest number are employed in taking off bobbins when full, and replacing them with empty ones.  
A. 24.—No regular account having been kept, I cannot answer correctly this question.  
A. 25.—Nor this, from the same reason.  
A. 26.—None.  
A. 27.—As an individual, I object to a regulation by Act of Parliament, thinking the parents of the children and owners of mills should each make their own contract.

JONAS HIRD.

No. 99.  
Naylor & Cockill.

### ANSWERS of Messrs. NAYLOR and COCKILL, Beek Lane Mill, Heckmondwike.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and spinning blanket and carpet yarn; with one fulling stock to scour the greasy yarn.  
A. 2.—Cannot inform you the time of its erection. Has been employed in the same way for ten or twelve years.

A. 3.



A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—From ten to twelve-horse power.

A. 5.—Thirty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 6s.    |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.   |

A. 7.—Ten persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                   | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 1, earning 4s. 6d.       | —              |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, earning 8s.           | —              |
| 16 and under 18       | —                        | 2, earning 8s. |
| 18 and under 21       | —                        | 1, earning 8s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 5 spinners, earning 26s. | —              |

In a regular day of twelve hours.

A. 8.—Four young women, hankers; fifteen pieceners for billy-spinners.

A. 9.—It is the same per hour for over-hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and six o'clock at night.

A. 12.—One hour sooner, and not made up in any manner on the other five days.

A. 13.—Eight o'clock in the morning, for breakfast; twelve o'clock, dinner; four o'clock afternoon drinking.

A. 14.—Stop till eating dinner, breakfast, and drinking.

A. 15.—When we have plenty of work, we make as much lost time up as possible by over-hours. The day-men have their wages, and if they work over-hours on this occasion, are paid for it.

A. 16.—We endeavour to get one in the place of a sick person till they recover.

A. 17.—About three days at Christmas; two half days at Easter; two half days at Whitsuntide.

A. 18.—Those paid by the week have no deduction.

A. 19.—Have never exacted any fine.

A. 20.—Not more than one set.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set.

A. 22.—Not at all.

A. 23.—It does not; but children under that age will do. Entirely pieceners for the billy-spinners and slubbers.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—Cannot tell.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—Eleven hours per day.

NAYLOR &amp; COCKILL.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN BURNLEY and Co., Der Mill, Heckmondwike.

No. 100.  
Burnley & Co.

A. 1.—Scribbling and spinning wool for blankets.

A. 2.—About forty years ago.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-two-horse power; no part let off.

A. 5.—Fifty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 7        |
| 21 and upwards        | 17     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 9s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s. 6d. |

A. (APP.—C. 1.)

L 1

A. 7.



Yorkshire.  
Burnley & Co.

## A. 7.—Forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.               | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 1, earning 2s. 6d. | - —                  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 7, earning 3s.     | - 4, earning 3s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 6, earning 3s.     | - 5, earning 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 1, earning 3s. 6d. | - —                  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - —                  | - 8, earning 7s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - 15, earning 21s.   | - —                  |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

## A. 8.—None.

## A. 9.—We pay no over-hours, nor make any abatements.

## A. 10.—At six in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, the whole of the year, when we have work.

## A. 12.—We stop at five o'clock on the Saturday, making two hours less, which is not made up at all.

## A. 13.—Breakfast at eight o'clock, and half an hour allowed; dinner, twelve o'clock, and one hour allowed; drinking, four o'clock, and half an hour allowed.

## A. 14.—The engine stops during dinner hour, but runs during breakfast and drinking. We have eight girls, who lay wool on to the scribblers three or four times during a meal time, which occupies from half a minute to a minute each time.

## A. 15.—We make up no time from accidents to the machinery, paying by the piece.

## A. 16.—When any one is sick, we pay them no wages; but get another in their place, until they recover.

## A. 17.—At Christmas one holiday and two half holidays, and New-Year's day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; in June, one day, and in July, half a day.

## A. 18.—We pay no wages for holiday time, except to those who have weekly wages; holidays are not made up at any time.

## A. 19.—We have no fines; if they do not attend properly to their work, we send them away, and get others in their place.

## A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

## A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children. It would be impossible to get half a set of children above what we now employ; consequently, we could not run more than the time allowed for one set.

## A. 22.—If any man was known to strike a child, he would be turned away from his work.

## A. 23.—We have only one child under ten years of age; he is a piecer.

## A. 24.—From Christmas to June, we have seldom more than half work; the other part of the year we have generally sixty-four hours in a week's work. For a month or six weeks, we have sometimes wrought seventy hours in a week.

## A. 26.—None.

## A. 27.—We think factory labour will be best left open. The children in our line are not at any time overwrought; and we, who are little more than half employed during one half of the year, would think ourselves extremely ill used if we could not run our machinery twelve hours per day, when we can have work, during the other part of the year.

JOHN BURNLEY & Co.

No. 101.  
Sykes & Royle.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SYKES and ROYLE, Stubbing Mill, Heckmondwike.

## A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing and spinning.

## A. 2.—Erected about the year 1785, for the manufacture of blankets.

## A. 3.—Steam.

## A. 4.—Eighteen-horse power. We employ the whole for country work.

## A. 5.—Fifty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 3    | - 2      |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 10   | - 5      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 4    | - 3      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 3    | - 2      |
| 21 and upwards        | - 22   | - 2      |

## A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are 18s. 6d. per week to four male adults.

## A. 7.—Fifty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 3, earning 3s. 9d.  | - 2, earning 3s. 9d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 10, earning 3s. 9d. | - 5, earning 3s. 9d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 4, earning 5s. 3d.  | - 3, earning 5s. 3d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 3, earning 6s.      | - 2, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 2, earning 9s.      | - —                  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - —                   | - 2, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - 16, earning 22s.    | - —                  |

In a regular week of seventy-eight hours.

A. 29.



- A. 8.—Twenty-four males and females from nine years to twelve.  
 A. 9.—We pay the same for over-hours as regular time.  
 A. 10.—If we are fully employed, we begin at six in the morning, and give over at seven in the evening; we begin always at one time.  
 A. 12.—We work two hours less on Saturdays, and if fully employed, we gain the two hours in the five days previous.  
 A. 13.—Breakfast eight o'clock, half an hour allowed; half after twelve, dinner, one hour; five o'clock, drinking, half an hour; all at one time.  
 A. 14.—The moving power stops for all the meal times.  
 A. 15.—No lost time made up.  
 A. 16.—In case of sickness, those who are paid by the week have their weekly wages paid them.  
 A. 18.—Those who are paid by the week have their wages paid for holidays, nor is any time made up.  
 A. 19.—No fines, nor any rules respecting this question.  
 A. 20.—Only one set.  
 A. 22.—No punishment allowed.  
 A. 23.—Twenty-four, from 9 to 12 years of age, for piecing cardings for the slubbers.  
 A. 24.—Cannot positively answer, but I should think not above four days a week.  
 A. 26.—None.

SYKES &amp; ROYLE.

Yorkshire.

Sykes & Royle.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HINCHLIFFE, Thirsting, Honley.

No. 102.

Thos. Hinchliffe.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing wool.  
 A. 2.—Erected 1790, and has been alternately occupied and empty; it is now in a very poor condition, wanting to be made entirely over again.  
 A. 3.—Steam and water; perhaps a quarter of the year supplied by Thirsting springs, &c.  
 A. 4.—Three-horse.

A. 5.—Eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 8s.    | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s.    | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 8s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.   | —        |

- A. 9.—We have no over-time, or of course it must be the same.  
 A. 10.—At six in the morning to eight in the evening, varying, as the days shorten, to seven in the morning.  
 A. 12.—Less, and not made up in any way.  
 A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour, at eight; dinner, one hour, at twelve; drinking, half an hour, at half past four or five.  
 A. 14.—Yes, sometimes; and other times the scribblers have to run at meal times when one is employed in laying on.  
 A. 15.—Lost to them and to me.  
 A. 16.—Nothing of the kind.  
 A. 17.—Half a day at Shrovetide, one day at Easter, and one day at Whitsuntide, three days at Honley feast, and three days at Christmas.  
 A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for any of their lost time, nor is it made up in any other way.  
 A. 19.—No fine imposed.  
 A. 21.—We have no such practice.  
 A. 22.—Not sanctioned.  
 A. 23.—Piecing at the billy.

THOMAS HINCHLIFFE.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. TITUS and JAMES GAUKRAGER, New Bridge, Heptonstall.

No. 103.

T. & J. Gaukrager.

- A. 1.—Cotton throstle twist.  
 A. 2.—Cannot answer that question correctly.  
 A. 3.—The power is water, upon a stream called Hebden.  
 (APP.—C. 1.)

A. 4.



Yorkshire.

T. & J. Gaukrager.

A. 4.—The power of the wheel about fifteen-horse, and none let off.

A. 5.—Sixty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 7        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | 16       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.  | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 9d.  | 4s. 9d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s.      | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 11s. 6d. | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s.     | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.               | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | —                    | 2, earning 11s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, earning 16s. 11d. | —                   |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None of that description.

A. 9.—The same for over-hours as regular work.

A. 10.—Our rule is to begin at six o'clock, and terminate at half past seven; and any alteration is caused by the supply of water.

A. 11.—Not dependent upon any other mill, but have only room for a small lodge; and in drouthy seasons we begin sooner and terminate later, in order to make up our regular time for each day.

A. 12.—Our time for working on Saturday is nine hours and a half, and we work half an hour over each day to make it up.

A. 13.—The time allowed for meals is, twenty minutes for breakfast, stopping at eight o'clock, and forty minutes for dinner, stopping at one o'clock; no persons taking meals at different times, except from their own choice.

A. 14.—The moving power stops regularly during all the meal times.

A. 15.—The lost time we make up generally by working half an hour or an hour each day; but sometimes we do not make it up, and then we take off the workpeople's wages in proportion to the time lost.

A. 16.—For time lost to persons by reason of accidents we generally pay, but for time lost by sickness we do not pay.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas, and several others, which are not certain; for they are regulated by fairs, Shrove and Whitsuntides, and other pastimes: when most of them want a holiday, they take it.

A. 18.—We pay them for two days at Christmas, and for all others we stop the wage, or it is made good by working over-time.

A. 19.—We have no rules, farther than not paying for time lost; our rule is, no work no pay.

A. 20.—We have about twenty persons working in the night: they begin at half past seven at night, and leave off at six in the morning, allowing half an hour for dinner at one o'clock.

A. 21.—We never have tried the experiment, but think it would be a great hardship upon the parents, many of whom are very poor, and could not well spare one half of the children's wages.

A. 22.—We superintend our own concern, and do not sanction or inflict corporal punishment at any age or for any crime.

A. 23.—Children from ten to sixteen are the best adapted for our work; and the greatest number we have are employed in throstle-tenting.

A. 24.—We do not keep a regular time-book, and cannot possibly answer this question.

A. 25.—Cannot answer this question, for the reason stated above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—In our humble opinion, the poor will be very great sufferers if Lord Ashley's Bill should pass into a law, for it cannot be expected that the same wages can be given to them; and also, that it will be ruinous to all little spinners, by reducing their profits so that they will in a short time become bankrupt; and that will enable the rich spinners to monopolise their trade; for they can enlarge their concerns, and take the poor person's trade into their own hands: neither can we tell what is to become of leaseholders for a long term at rack-rents.

TITUS GAUKRAGER.

JAMES GAUKRAGER.



ANSWERS of Messrs. JAMES and TITUS GAUKRAGER, Lords Holme, Heptonstall.

Yorkshire.

No. 103.

J. & T. Gaukrager.

A. 1.—Cotton throstle twist.

A. 2.—Built thirty years ago, but we have only occupied about nine months.

A. 3.—The power is water, upon a stream called Hebden.

A. 4.—The power of the wheel about five-horse, and none let off.

A. 5.—Twenty-one persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---|----------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 1 | - | -        | 2 | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | — | - | -        | 2 | - |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | — | - | -        | 1 | - |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 1 | - | -        | 2 | - |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | — | - | -        | 3 | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 3 | - | -        | 6 | - |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |         |   | FEMALES. |         |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---|----------|---------|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2s. 6d. | - | -        | 2s. 6d. | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | —       | - | -        | 3s.     | - |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | —       | - | -        | 4s.     | - |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 4s. 6d. | - | -        | 4s. 6d. | - |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | —       | - | -        | 6s. 6d. | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 17s.    | - | -        | 6s. 6d. | - |

A. 7.—One male, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 15s., in a regular week's work of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None of that description.

A. 9.—The same for over-hours as regular work.

A. 10.—Our rule is to begin at six o'clock and terminate at half past seven, and any alteration is caused by the supply of water.

A. 11.—Not dependent upon any other mill, but have only a small lodge, and in drouthy seasons we begin sooner and terminate later, in order to make up our regular time for each day.

A. 12.—Our time of working on Saturday is nine hours and a half, and we work half an hour over each day to make it up.

A. 13.—The time allowed for meals is, twenty minutes for breakfast, stopping at eight o'clock, and forty minutes for dinner, stopping at one o'clock; no persons taking meals at different times, except from their own choice.

A. 14.—The moving power stops regularly during all the meal-times.

A. 15.—The lost time we make up generally by half an hour or an hour over per day; but sometimes we do not make it up, and then we take off the workpeople's wages in proportion to the time lost.

A. 16.—For time lost to persons by reason of accidents we generally pay, but for time lost by reason of sickness we do not pay.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas: for any other time lost they either make it good or are bated for it, according as they wish best; but it is often made good by working over-time.

A. 18.—It is often made up by working one hour each day over-time.

A. 19.—We have no rules farther than not paying them for time lost: our rule is, no work no pay.

A. 21.—We never have tried the experiment, but consider it would be a great hardship upon the parents, many of whom are very poor, and could not well spare one half of their wages.

A. 22.—We superintend our own concerns, and neither sanction nor inflict corporal punishments at any age or for any crime.

A. 23.—Children from ten to sixteen years of age are the best adapted for our work, and the greatest number we have are employed in throstle-tenting.

A. 24.—We do not keep a regular time-book, and only having run about nine months, we cannot, nor do we see any use in attempting to answer this question.

A. 25.—This question we cannot answer, for reasons stated above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—In our opinion, the poor will be very great sufferers if Lord Ashley's Bill should pass into a law, for it cannot be expected that the same wages can be given them; and also that it will be ruinous to all little spinners, by reducing them so that they will in a short time become bankrupt, and that will enable the rich spinners to monopolize their trade; for they can enlarge their concerns, and take the little spinners' trade into their own hands: neither can we tell what is to become of leaseholders at rack rents.

TITUS GAUKRAGER.  
JAMES GAUKRAGER.



Yorkshire.

Hodgson & Gill.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. HODGSON and GILL, Lee.

A. 1.—Heavy fustians.

A. 2.—May 1st, 1832.

A. 3.—Water power; river Ebdon.

A. 4.—Four-horse power; employ the whole.

A. 5.—Twenty-six persons; viz.

|                              | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —            | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —            | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards               | 13     | 5        |

A. 6.—Two men, receiving 18s. a week.

A. 7.—Eleven men, earning 12s. each, in a regular week's work of sixty hours.

A. 8.—Eight females and five males.

A. 9.—The eleven males upwards of twenty-one years work in the night, and the eight females and five males work in the day, consequently we never work any over-hours.

A. 10.—The day-workers commence at eight in the morning, and give over at eight at night, when the night-workers commence.

A. 11.—We are not much short of water.

A. 12.—It is one hour less, but is not made up at any other time.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed for dinner, which is taken at half-past twelve o'clock, and half an hour in the afternoon: they all take their meals at once.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during all meal-times.

A. 15.—As we work night and day, we never make up any time lost by accidents.

A. 16.—Half a day or a day is nothing said of, if they are unavoidably absent.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas, two days at Whitsuntide, and a few half days besides.

A. 18.—They are paid for their holiday times, but the time is not made up.

A. 19.—As their wage depends upon themselves attending, we have no rules to enforce it.

A. 20.—Answered before.

A. 21.—We have no children to assist the adult hands.

A. 22.—We have had no corporal punishment since we commenced.

A. 23.—No.

A. 24.—We only commenced on the 1st of May, 1832.

A. 25.—See the answer of the 24th Question.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We think there is no necessity for altering the hours of labour, and we believe the workpeople would be the last persons to support such a measure.

HODGSON &amp; GILL.

No. 105.

Marshall & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. MARSHALL and Co., Holbeck.

A. 1.—Flax spinning; viz. heckling, carding, preparing, spinning, reeling, and drying.

A. 2.—There are five principal buildings; viz. mill A, erected in 1788; B, in 1795; C, in 1816; D, in 1825; and E, in 1830; all of which have been employed from their commencement for the present purposes.

A. 3.—Steam power only.

A. 4.—Two hundred and sixty-six horse power, in five engines; all employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—One thousand two hundred and forty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 9      | 6        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 31     | 66       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 111    | 174      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 74     | 162      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 42     | 158      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 37     | 147      |
| 21 and upwards        | 153    | 73       |

Of the above there are 20 under eleven years old, and they work only half time; their wages are here stated as for sixty-nine hours.

A. 6.



Yorkshire.

Marshall &amp; Co.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                         | MALES.   | FEMALES.  |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age - | 3s.      | 3s.       |
| 10 and under 12 years - | 3s. 4d.  | 3s. 1d.   |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 3s. 7½d. | 3s. 7½d.  |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 4s. 4½d. | 4s. 7½d.  |
| 16 and under 18 — -     | 6s. 11d. | 5s. 5½d.  |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | 11s. 9d. | 5s. 10½d. |
| 21 and upwards -        | 20s. 1d. | 6s. 0½d.  |

A. 7.—Ninety-nine persons; viz.

|                                 | FEMALES.            |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years - - - - - | 2, earning 4s. 10d. |
| 16 and under 18 — - - - -       | 11, earning 6s. 7d. |
| 18 and under 21 — - - - -       | 22, earning 7s. 3d. |
| 12 and upwards - - - - -        | 64, earning 7s. 7d. |

In a regular week's work of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—None are so employed.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Our regular day's work in summer begins fifteen minutes before six, and terminates a few minutes before seven, for five days, and on Saturday, commencing at the same time, terminates at five; in winter it commences at six, terminating about fifteen minutes past seven for five days, and when daylight ends, on Saturday. There is no other variation in our regular hours except such as may arise from holidays or other casualties.

A. 11.—Not a water mill.

A. 12.—In summer the regular day's work on Saturday is ten hours, and on other days eleven hours and forty-eight minutes; making an average of eleven hours and a half per day. In winter the day's work on Saturday varies, the shortest being about eight hours and a half.

A. 13.—For breakfast, fifteen minutes, beginning at eight A. M.; dinner, one hour, twelve at noon; drinking (or tea), ten minutes, four P. M.: on Saturday, no drinking. About thirty or forty men and boys dine at one, instead of twelve, being employed from twelve to one in cleaning the machines whilst they are not working. The mechanics, and others employed in repairing and cleaning the machinery, have half an hour, or about that, for each drinking and breakfast.

A. 14.—The moving power does stop during all the meal-times.

A. 15.—When there is a loss of time, either from accidents to the machinery, from holidays, or from working short time, as in winter, when from want of light the Saturday's work is only eight hours and a half, our present rule is, not to work over-time, but to pay wages in proportion to the number of hours worked; the workpeople being entitled to full wages for sixty-nine hours of work. When we deviate from this rule, it is to recover not more than three or four hours of lost time, and generally at the rate of about ten minutes per day. Suppose, for instance, eight hours of time lost by having worked only sixty-one hours in some one week, we should pay for that week during which it was lost, five days and a half's wages, (that is, wages for two hours and a quarter more than the time worked,) and after that return to the usual six days' wages, making up the two and a quarter out of eight hours lost time, by working for each of the next three weeks sixty-nine hours and three quarters, or seven minutes per day over-time. In this case, the regular day's work would be extended to five minutes past seven for five days, and to five minutes past five on the Saturday.

A. 16.—Nearly all the men in our mill join in subscribing to a sick club, from which they receive during sickness 8s. per week to the extent of twelve weeks, and we allow them 2s. per week, in addition to this, during the same time. In case of accidents, the rule is, to allow the usual wages for two weeks: this rule is deviated from under peculiar circumstances.

A. 17.—They have eleven regular half holidays in the year, and one whole holiday.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for holiday time; that time is not, in general, worked up, or only in part, as explained in answer to Question 15.

A. 19.—If any of the workpeople are more than a quarter of an hour too late, they have their wages reduced in proportion to the time lost. If the irregularity be repeated twice within the week, and amounts to ten minutes each time, their wages are reduced 3d. for each of two weeks; a continuance of the irregularity subjects them to a permanent reduction of wages. To enforce obedience, each of the principal overlookers has the power of fining or dismissal.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—To a small extent we have employed some of the youngest children at half time; our manner of doing it, and opinion of the plan, we have stated in answer to Question 10 of the former queries.

A. 22.—All corporal punishments are forbidden.



Yorkshire.

Marshall & Co.

A. 23.—It does not. We employ the greatest number of children in heckling and spinning. At present the numbers are in the former two hundred and twenty, in the latter two hundred and twelve, under fifteen years old.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—

|                           | 1830.                            |                           |               |                | 1831.        |             |               |                | 1832.        |             |               |                |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
|                           | No. of days the Mill has worked. | Satur-days amongst these. | Hours worked. | Hours per Day. | Days worked. | Satur-days. | Hours worked. | Hours per day. | Days worked. | Satur-days. | Hours worked. | Hours per day. |
|                           |                                  |                           | H. M.         | H. M.          |              |             | H. M.         | H. M.          |              |             | H. M.         | H. M.          |
| Jan. 1st, to Mar. 31st -  | 77                               | 13                        | 924 55        | 12 1           | 77           | 13          | 884 —         | 11 29          | 77           | 13          | 850 50        | 11 3           |
| April 1st, to June 30th - | 78                               | 13                        | 950 50        | 12 11          | 78           | 13          | 916 25        | 11 45          | 77           | 13          | 863 25        | 11 13          |
| July 1st, to Sept. 30th - | 79                               | 13                        | 955 —         | 12 5           | 78           | 13          | 914 —         | 11 43          | 77           | 13          | 868 —         | 11 16          |
| Oct. 1st, to Dec. 31st -  | 78                               | 12                        | 943 50        | 12 6           | 79           | 14          | 905 40        | 11 28          | 75           | 13          | 840 45        | 11 12          |
| Total Year -              | 312                              | 51                        | 3,774 35      | 12 6           | 312          | 53          | 3,620 5       | 11 36          | 306          | 52          | 3,423 —       | 11 11          |

A. 26.—With respect to Questions 10, 12, 13, 14, & 15,—before January, 1831, our regular time was seventy-two hours per week, or twelve hours per day; the time allowed for dinner was forty minutes; the moving power did not stop for any other meal except dinner, part of the workpeople taking their breakfast and drinking whilst at their work, and the remainder having the same time for these meals as at present: thus the time at which the work began and ended was nearly the same as at present. Previously to 1832, our custom was to work up the time lost by holidays.

A. 27.—In our reply to 79 of former Queries, we have given our opinion on this subject.

MARSHALL &amp; Co.

No. 106.  
William Russum.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM RUSSUM, for John Wood and Sons, Potterdale Mill,  
Holbeck, Leeds.

A. 1.—Manufacture of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Date of erection, July 9th, 1823. Not been applied to any other purpose.

A. 3.—One steam-engine.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse power. We employ the whole.

A. 5.—Sixty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1 - - -  | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 9 - - -  | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3 - - -  | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5 - - -  | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4 - - -  | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3 - - -  | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 22 - - - | 4        |

N.B. The above number is only those dependent upon the engine working, and does not comprise weavers, burlers, dyers, &c., who can work when the engine is standing.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. - - -       | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 4d. - - -   | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 8d. - - -   | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s. 4½d. - - -  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s. 6d. - - -   | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9s. - - -       | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 11d. - - - | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Only nine persons, namely, the slubbers and the spinners, earning 26s. in a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 8.—Six piecers to the weft-spinners, whose ages are:—three males, at eleven years; one ditto, at twelve years; one ditto, at thirteen years; and one female, at fourteen years; all paid 4s. per week of sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 9.—Yes; the same.

A. 10.



A. 10.—In summer, from six to seven; in winter, from eight to five; but varies according to trade being flat or brisk.

A. 12.—We always stop at five on Saturdays, instead of seven; and the loss is not made up in any manner.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock; and half an hour for tea, at half past four o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop, but all the machinery stops, except the stocks for milling cloth.

A. 15.—If any accident was to happen to any part of the machinery, the men would have to be out of work until it was repaired; consequently, it would be lost both to us and them.

A. 16.—No time allowed.

A. 17.—Two days, and three half days.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for holidays, nor are the holidays made up for at any other time.

A. 19.—If the workpeople come ten minutes past the time, nothing is stopped; if fifteen minutes past, half an hour is stopped; if forty minutes past, half an hour is stopped; but if forty-five minutes past, one hour is stopped.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—We never employed more than one set. We have no objections to such a practice.

A. 22.—No overlooker, or any other person, is allowed to inflict any corporal punishment upon any one.

A. 23.—The nature of piecing for the slubbers requires young children, as they have not to stoop to their work; but, in our opinion, parents ought not to send their children to work under ten or eleven years of age. The processes in which the greatest number of young children are employed, are piecing for the slubbers and the spinners.

A. 24 & 25.—We cannot answer these two questions exactly; but, to answer them as near as we can, we should say sixty-four hours and a half per week, for about six months, in summer; and from forty-five to sixty hours per week, the remaining six months, in winter.

A. 26.—No.

WILLIAM RUSSUM, for John Wood & Sons.

Yorkshire.

William Russum.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. TITLEY, TATHAMS, and WALKER, Holbeck.

No. 107.

Titley & Co.

A. 1.—Spinning of tow and heckling of flax.

A. 2.—It was applied to its present purpose in the beginning of the year 1827, is fire-proof, and was never used for any other purpose.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—One steam-engine of twenty-six horse power, entirely employed by us.

A. 5.—One hundred and ninety-eight persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |   |    |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|---|----|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | 4  | - | - | —  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | 24 | - | - | 3  |
| 12 and under 14       | — | - | 31 | - | - | 3  |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | 16 | - | - | 11 |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | 2  | - | - | 15 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | 3  | - | - | 16 |
| 21 and upwards        | — | - | 48 | - | - | 22 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.      | FEMALES.   |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 2s. 8½d.  | - —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 2s. 11½d. | - 3s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | - 3s. 5½d.  | - 3s. 8½d. |
| 14 and under 16       | - 4s. 4½d.  | - 4s. 7½d. |
| 16 and under 18       | - 5s. 6d.   | - 5s. 7d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | - 10s. 8d.  | - 5s. 7½d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - 20s. 1d.  | - 5s. 8½d. |

A. 7.—Twenty-four persons; viz.

|                | MALES.                 | FEMALES.              |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 21 and upwards | - 17, earning 17s. 3d. | - 7, earning 7s. 1½d. |

A. 8.—None; the whole are paid by us.

A. 9.—They are paid for over-time after precisely the same rate of wages.

(APP.—C. 1.)

N n

A. 10.



Yorkshire.

Titley & Co.

A. 10.—It is the same both in summer and winter; viz. from six to seven, except at the beginning of spring and autumn, when we begin later and work later, previous to our commencing and giving over lighting in a morning.

A. 11.—We have no water power.

A. 12.—We give over on Saturdays at five o'clock in summer, and at four in winter, as we never light on that day in the evening, but the time is made up on other days, by their having only forty minutes for dinner instead of sixty.

A. 13.—For breakfast one part of the hands have fifteen minutes and others thirty minutes; for dinner the whole have forty minutes; and for drinkings the whole have fifteen minutes. The hour for breakfast is eight, dinner twelve, and drinking a quarter past four and the whole take their meals at the same time, except seven or eight oilers and sweepers who work while the others get their dinners, and have their dinner-time allowed afterwards.

A. 14.—The moving-power stops during every meal.

A. 15.—The time lost by accidents to the machinery, when of such a nature as to send the hands home, is afterwards worked up at the rate of about half an hour per day, they, the hands, having previously been paid their full wages at the end of the week the accident might happen.

A. 16.—No wages are paid to sick hands off work, except occasionally as a present or gift, but in case of accidents in our employ (unless through carelessness or wilfulness), they are allowed their wages until they are well, and return to their employment.

A. 17.—Twelve half days and one whole day during the year.

A. 18.—All holiday time is worked up.

A. 19.—The hands are deducted the proportion of wages for the time they are absent, but unless they are ten minutes too late more than once during the week no notice is taken of it.

A. 20.—We only work one set.

A. 21.—We have not, and we think the practice would be very objectionable, as a sufficient number of hands could not be got to supply all the mills, and it would be a very strong temptation to parents to send their children to one mill for the first part of the day, and to the other for the second; and also to the masters to work the adult population too long hours; and would be very injurious to trade by over production, consequently overstocking the market with goods, and at those times throwing great numbers out of work.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment has been out of fashion some time.

A. 23.—We employ children under twelve years of age for screwers, with a few for other purposes.

A. 24.—Our mill has been at work six days every week during 1830, 1831, and 1832, with the exception of the holidays above-mentioned, and some reform meetings, and the election.

A. 26.—We do not understand this question.

A. 27.—We consider eleven hours per day, or sixty-four hours per week, would be the least objectionable to all parties concerned, both as regards masters and servants, and we think the hands would obtain the same wages for that time as they have been paid for longer, and that should be divided as follows: to commence at six o'clock in the morning, stop at eight, with half an hour for breakfast; again at twelve for dinner, one hour being allowed; again at a quarter past four for drinking, with the allowance of another half hour; and finally to stop at seven, except on Saturdays, at half-past four, without the allowance for drinking.

TITLEY, TATHAMS, & WALKER.

No. 108.  
G. & J. Hirst.

ANSWERS of Messrs. GEORGE and JOHN HIRST, Digley Mill, Holme.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erection 1817, application 1818.

A. 3.—Both.

A. 4.—Power of engine and wheel twelve-horse each. We employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s.    | 4s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 15s.   | —        |

Yorkshire.

G. & J. Hirst.

A. 7.—Three persons, twenty-one years of age and upwards; viz. two males, earning 31s., and one female, earning 22s., in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Four slubbers, six machine-feeders, and eight piecers.

A. 9.—Same.

A. 10.—From March to October, begins at six o'clock, and ends at nine; from September to April, begins at half past seven, and ends at half past eight.

A. 11.—When short of water, we employ the steam-engine.

A. 12.—Less in winter, but not in summer, and made up by half an hour on the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinkings.

A. 14.—No; only the machines, on account of the fulling stocks.

A. 15.—It is lost to both, and not made up.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Six holidays and seven half-holidays.

A. 18.—Those are paid for the half-holidays that work by time, and not made up.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—No; only one set.

A. 21 & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; in piecing.

A. 24.—Cannot ascertain.

A. 25.—We kept no time.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We could like twelve hours to be the standard for labour per day, and ten for Saturdays.

GEORGE &amp; JOHN HIRST.

## ANSWERS of GEORGE BEAUMONT, Woodbottom, Honley.

No. 109.

Geo. Beaumont.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, fulling, and finishing woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected in 1792, for the purpose of scribbling, carding, and fulling; and, in about ten years after, for slubbing; and, twenty-three years after, an addition was made for finishing.

A. 3.—The power employed is steam, with the exception of fulling, which is turned by water, called Mag Dike.

A. 4.—The engine is twelve-horse, and the wheel is nine-horse power; and none let off to other purposes.

A. 5.—Forty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 9      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 4      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 15     | 2        |

A. 6.—The amount of wages paid to the several classes above described, may be thus stated :—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 10s. 6d. | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 30s.     | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 39s.     | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 67s. 6d. | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 48s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 220s.    | 15s.     |

A. 7.—Four males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 19s. per week in a regular day's work of eleven hours and a half.

A. 8.—Six piecers and three layers-on are paid by the workpeople.

A. 9.—We do not work over-hours.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 10.



Yorkshire.

Geo. Beaumont.

A. 10.—Commences at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at half past seven at night, excepting Saturdays, when it terminates at five o'clock in the afternoon.

A. 11.—Not dependent on other mills.

A. 12.—Yes, two hours and a half, and not made up any other way.

A. 13.—A quarter of an hour at breakfast, commencing at eight o'clock in the morning; an hour at dinner, commencing at half past twelve at noon; a quarter of an hour for afternoon drinking, commencing at five o'clock; and all take their meals together.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—If the machinery stop in the middle of the day, by reason of accidents, &c., for an hour or so, it is lost to the master; but if it stop for a day or more, lost to both, and not made up any other way.

A. 16.—If it comes under half a day, we do not make abatements; but if for a longer period, no time is allowed.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, half a day Shrovetide, two days at Easter, two days at Whitsuntide, and three days at Honley feast, in September.

A. 18.—No; nor is it made up at any other time.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; we think such a practice objectionable, because there are scarcely two who do their work alike.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, in piecing to the billies, and laying on wool to the scribblers and carders, and watching the knives used in finishing.

A. 24.—Have not kept an account.

A. 26.—No, not to our recollection, excepting an advance of wages.

A. 27.—I am of opinion that the children in our mill are not injured at all by working eleven hours and a half per day; and, if there must be a reduction in time, there must also, of course, be a reduction in the wages.

GEORGE BEAUMONT.

No. 110.  
Brook & Brothers.

## ANSWERS of MESSRS. JONAS BROOK and Brothers, Meltham Mills, Honley.

A. 1.—Cotton and silk.

A. 2.—A small part has been erected forty years; the rest at different times.

A. 3.—Both steam and water; name of the stream Greave Dike.

A. 4.—Three engines, one fifty, one twenty-six, and one eight-horse power, employed entirely with our own work; water-wheels used occasionally; at such times less steam-power used.

A. 5.—Six hundred and twenty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |     |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|----------|-----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 8  | - | -        | 5   |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 21 | - | -        | 48  |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 26 | - | -        | 56  |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 21 | - | -        | 58  |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 13 | - | -        | 50  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 11 | - | -        | 88  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 75 | - | -        | 143 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |                 |   | FEMALES. |                 |  |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------|---|----------|-----------------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s.             | - | -        | 3s.             |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s. 1½d.        | - | -        | 3s. 1½d.        |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 4s.             | - | -        | 4s.             |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 4s. 9d.         | - | -        | 4s. 9d.         |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 7s. 6d. to 12s. | - | -        | 7s. 6d. to 10s. |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 7s. 6d. to 16s. | - | -        | 7s. 6d. to 10s. |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 16s. to 30s.    | - | -        | 7s. 6d. to 10s. |  |

Twenty-one and upwards, average 21s.

A. 7.—Eight persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES. |   |                     |
|-----------------------|----------|---|---------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | -        | - | 3, earning 4s. 1½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -        | - | 4, earning 4s. 2d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -        | - | 1, earning 4s. 7d.  |

In a regular week of sixty-seven hours and a half.

A. 8.—Fourteen females, thirty-three males, paid according to the sixth Question.

A. 9.—It is, except to mechanics, who have two hours a day allowed.

A. 10.—Commences at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates a quarter before eight o'clock at night.

A. 11.



A. 11.—We are not dependent on any other mill, having sufficient steam-power, nor are we affected as to time of working by drouthy seasons.

A. 12.—Nine hours on a Saturday, and no time made up on any other day for it.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and quarter of an hour for tea; breakfast, half-past eight o'clock to nine; dinner, from one to two o'clock; and tea from five to quarter past.

A. 14.—All the moving powers stop.

A. 15.—When the lost time amounts to no more than one day, it is worked up at the rate of half an hour or an hour per day, at the daily wages; if it exceeds a day, it is not worked up, but is lost to us and to them.

A. 16.—We have no rule in regard to time lost by accidents; they rarely occur; we in some cases make an allowance during sickness.

A. 17.—Six days, and sometimes seven in the year.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for any holidays, nor is any part of the lost time made up.

A. 19.—The bell rings a quarter of an hour before work begins, and five minutes (after it is begun) are allowed before any fines are inflicted. We have fines for various offences and irregularity; an account is kept of the fines, which last year amounted to 12*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*, of which 4*l.* 4*s.* was paid to the Huddersfield Infirmary, on account of the workpeople.

A. 20.—We do not work two sets of hands.

A. 21.—We have not; our work does not require it.

A. 22.—We do not allow any corporal punishment to be inflicted on the children; if they do not mind their work, they are sometimes sent home half a day, or a day, or dismissed altogether.

A. 23.—It does; in the silk mill, throstle-spinning, and mule-spinning, the greatest number of children are employed.

A. 24.—We work sixty-seven hours and a half per week without variation, except one room, which occasionally works an hour over-time, with hands above eighteen years of age.

A. 25.—See above.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—We approve of the regulation of hours of factory labour, and from our experience, and careful observation of its effects, we are of opinion, that twelve hours in a well-regulated and cleanly mill is not injurious to the health of children.

We take leave to observe, that the law allowing beer shops has a most injurious effect on the morals of the labouring people in this neighbourhood.

JONAS BROOK & Brothers.

Yorkshire.

Brook & Brothers.

#### ANSWERS of JOSHUA ROBINSON, Smithy Place, Honley.

No. 111.

J. Robinson.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and fulling; it is no factory, neither am I a manufacturer, but work the mill for the country domestic manufacturers; there is no spinning or weaving carried on at this mill.

A. 2.—I believe it was erected in the year 1791.

A. 3.—By water, and in a drought partly by steam. The river Holme, if it deserves the name of a river; the stream is small, and I am not far from its rise.

A. 4.—The engine turns seven-horse power in case of drought; I consider the power of water about twelve-horse; when a regular supply of water, I employ the whole for country work or domestic manufactures.

A. 5.—Eighteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | —        |

A. 6.—We have no standing weekly wages.

A. 7.—Seventeen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                             | FEMALES.                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —                                  | 1, earning 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1, earning 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> | 3, earning 10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> |
| 12 and under 14       | 1, earning 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> | 1, earning 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>  |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, earning 5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> | 1, earning 5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>  |
| 16 and under 18       | 1, earning 7 <i>s.</i>             | —                                   |
| 18 and under 21       | 2, earning 15 <i>s.</i>            | 1, earning 6 <i>s.</i>              |
| 21 and upwards        | 5, earning 15 <i>s.</i>            | —                                   |

A. 8.—The children are provided by the slubbers and engineer, and paid by them.

A. 9.—I employ none by the week, but by the piece.

(APP.—C. 1.)

O o

A. 10.



Yorkshire.

J. Robinson.

- A. 10.—I have no stated hours; they begin at pleasure; they work by the piece.  
 A. 11.—If water fails, we assist with the engine.  
 A. 12.—Less, and not made up.  
 A. 13.—I have no specified time, nor do I confine them to any given time.  
 A. 14.—Stop at meal-times.  
 A. 15.—Not made up loss to them and to me as they work by the piece.  
 A. 16.—If it is of any continuance, I am obliged to supply the place as it obliges three or four more to stop work.  
 A. 17.—As many as they think proper, for they never ask the question.  
 A. 18.—Not paid for nor made up.  
 A. 19.—No fines.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No, nor do I think it necessary in a domestic mill, as they are not strictly confined only in factories; no children are healthier on earth, or look better than children that work in domestic mills; I believe that parents would not send their children for half a day, and receive half a day's wage; it might be very different in a cotton factory, where they are worked in a high temperature of heat, and are constantly inhaling the flyings of the cotton with every breath they draw; if I had small children, and under necessity, I would rather send them to a woollen domestic mill for double the hours of that of a cotton factory; neither worsted or flax is so healthy as the woollen; this is a fact, which cannot be denied with truth.  
 A. 22.—They are neither approved of, nor allowed of by me.  
 A. 23.—From nine to twelve years of age will suit us all employed in the scribbling, or as pieceners.  
 A. 24.—I am no manufacturer, and cannot answer the question, as I never take down any lost time.  
 A. 25.—Cannot answer this, as we never keep account of time.  
 A. 26.—No.

JOSHUA ROBINSON.

No. 112.  
Shaw & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. DAVID SHAW, Son, and Co., Crossley Mill, Honley.

- A. 1.—Woollen manufacture.  
 A. 2.—We cannot tell the date of its erection; it has been in our possession since the year 1819.  
 A. 3.—Both. The water power is produced by a branch of the river Colne.  
 A. 4.—The engine is twenty-four horse power; and the water four; we never employ more than twenty-three horses' power at one time. We let off none.  
 A. 5.—Forty-seven persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 7      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20     | —        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4s.       | 4s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.       | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.       | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s. 10½d. | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s. 8d.   | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 20s. 4d.  | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 9d.  | —        |
- A. 7.—Six males, earning 24s. in a regular week of sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 8.—Nineteen males, and nine females.  
 A. 9.—Yes.  
 A. 10.—It commences at half past five o'clock (in those seasons of the year when the workpeople can see at that time), and terminates at half past seven. During the other part of the year, the time of commencing is six, and of terminating eight o'clock; the reasons of the alteration are, to prevent the expence of lighting, the danger of fire, and to suit the convenience of the workpeople.  
 A. 11.—We are not at all dependent upon a supply of water, as we have steam power, which is used in a scarcity of water.  
 A. 12.—The day's work for Saturdays is three hours shorter than on other days of the week. The time is not made up in any way.  
 A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from half past eight to nine o'clock; an hour for dinner, from twelve to one; half an hour to tea, from half past four to five. All are at liberty to take their meals at the above times.  
 A. 14.—It stops during the hour at noon, and runs during the other meal-times, for the convenience



convenience of the fulling department alone; during which time the men are not required to work, as that department can be safely left for so short a time.

A. 15.—We make up no time lost by accidents to the machinery. When they occur, the time is lost to us and to the workpeople.

A. 16.—No time is allowed to persons detained at home by sickness or accidents. In cases of accidents the doctor's bills are paid, and the families are relieved, if needy, in cases both of sickness and accidents.

A. 17.—They have two days at Christmas; sometimes one, and occasionally two days at Whitsuntide; two half days on the 14th and 15th of May; and three days in September, besides several other days and half days during the year, which are regulated by circumstances.

A. 18.—No workpeople are paid for holidays, but overlookers; and are not required to make up the time.

A. 19.—We have no fines for non-attendance or disobedience, &c. except for swearing, which fines are given to such of the workpeople as are sick. All persons absenting themselves from work for the purpose of drinking are invariably dismissed.

A. 20.—We never work more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—No. See no very weighty objections to such a practice, except the loss to the parents, as their wages must necessarily be reduced.

A. 22.—No; they are, and always have been, strictly prohibited.

A. 23.—No, not necessarily. The greatest number of young children is employed in the slubbing department as piecers.

A. 24.—We have run six days in the week from 1st January, 1830, to the present time, with the exception of lost time by accidents and holidays, of which we have kept no account whatever; but, according to the best of our recollection, are according to Answer 17.

A. 25.—We cannot by any means answer this question correctly, as we have kept no account whatever.

A. 26.—We have answered the above questions according to the state of things at the present time.

A. 27.—We think that a time bill, which restricts the hours of labour to less than twelve per day, will be injurious to the interests of both manufacturers and operatives, and will operate as a bounty upon foreign manufacturers, who can work their machinery to any length of time they please.

DAVID SHAW, Son & Co.

#### ANSWERS of MESSRS. DAVID SHAW, Son, and Co., Neiley Factory or Mill, Honley.

A. 1.—Woollen manufacture.

A. 2.—It was erected in the year 1825, and applied to its present purpose in October 1831.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—The engine is forty-horses' power; we do not let off any part thereof, neither do we employ the whole of the power, as the engine is not fully loaded.

A. 5.—One hundred and fifty five persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 1  | - | - | - | 1 |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 6  | - | - | - | 7 |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 20 | - | - | - | 4 |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 13 | - | - | - | 5 |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 9  | - | - | - | 6 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 9  | - | - | - | — |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 74 | - | - | - | — |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |                        |   |   |                        |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 4s.                    | - | - | 4s.                    |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 4s. 8d.                | - | - | 4s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 5s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. | - | - | 4s. 6d.                |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 6s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. | - | - | 5s. 1d.                |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 8s. 5d.                | - | - | 5s. 6d.                |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 14s. 6d.               | - | - | —                      |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 21s.                   | - | - | —                      |

A. 7.—Fifty-two males, earning 24s. 4d. in a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-five males; nineteen females.

A. 9.—Yes.

*The Answers from No. 9. to No. 27. inclusive are the same as in Number 112.*

DAVID SHAW, Son, & Co.

#### ANSWERS of MESSRS. THOMAS and JOHN FOSTER, Horbury.

A. 1.—Worsted.

A. 2.—Erected in 1792, applied to its present purpose in 1814.

A. 3.—By steam.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 4.

Yorkshire.

Shaw & Co.

No. 113.

T. & J. Foster.



Yorkshire.

T. & J. Foster.

A. 4.—Fourteen horse engine. We employ the whole.

A. 5.—Forty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 3        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | —       | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Three females, eighteen and under twenty-one years of age, earning 7s. in a regular week's work of seventy hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock, and terminate at seven.

A. 12.—Only ten hours on Saturday, and not made up.

A. 13.—The engine does not stop, except from twelve to one o'clock. The men and children are allowed sufficient time for breakfast and drinkings. Breakfast hours at eight o'clock, drinking hours at four.

A. 15.—If we are busy, we work half an hour later; if not, we deduct the lost time.

A. 16.—We do not give wages during sickness. In case of accident, we pay the doctor.

A. 17.—Two holidays and five half holidays.

A. 18.—They are not paid for any part of the holidays; sometimes they are made up by working half an hour later.

A. 19.—We do not impose any fines; if they are not regular, we dismiss them.

A. 20 &amp; 21.—No.

A. 22.—The corporal punishment is very slight. If they won't attend to their work, we dismiss them.

A. 23.—No; the greatest number of children are piecers.

A. 24.—We have not taken particulars.

A. 25.—Cannot say.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Our children are very healthy; we, therefore, cannot see why they should not work twelve hours for the five days, and ten for Saturday. If the time be decreased, we shall be compelled to lower their wages proportionally.

THOMAS &amp; JOHN FOSTER.

No. 114.

Foster & Co.

ANSWERS of MESSRS. JOSIAH FOSTER, WILLIAM FOSTER, and GEORGE FOSTER, Horbury.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth, worsted, and lambs'-wool yarn.

A. 2.—About 1791.

A. 3.—By steam only.

A. 4.—Power of the engine, twenty horse. Two horse power let to a manufacturer of lambs'-wool yarn.

A. 5.—One hundred and ten persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 21     | 7        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 29     | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | 13       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 27     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       |   |               |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | — | about 2s. 9d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | — | 3s.           |
| 16 and under 18 —     | — | 5s. 6d.       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | — | 6s.           |
| 21 and upwards        | — | 26s.          |

A. 7.—Twenty-seven males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 26s. in a regular week's work of eleven hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour.

A. 10.



A. 10.—From six in the morning to seven in the evening; half an hour allowed for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinkings.

A. 12.—The day's work is one hour and a half less, without any deductions from the wages stated.

A. 13.—Half an hour at eight in the morning, one hour at noon, and half an hour at four.

A. 14.—The moving power stops one hour at noon. The children do not work during the other meals, unless their victuals are not ready at the proper times.

A. 15.—Lost time is deducted from their wages, if the time exceeds a quarter of a day; at some times, lost time is made up by working extra hours.

A. 16.—What we consider good characters, we pay their wages in sickness and accidents.

A. 17.—About eight days in the year, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—We pay no wages on the holidays.

A. 19.—If the children are much beyond the proper time of attendance, without any just cause, they are generally sent home for the half day.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—We never employ more than one set of children to one set of adult hands. If such a practice was enforced, we could not obtain the required number of children, there not being a sufficient number in the neighbourhood.

A. 22.—If the children cannot be governed without corporal punishment, they are dismissed from our service.

A. 23.—The nature of our work does require the employment of children from ten to fourteen years. The greatest number of children are employed in pieceners of cardings and worsted, —very easy employ.

A. 24.—We cannot correctly reply to this question. We never work longer hours than stated in Question 10.

A. 25.—Answer in Question 24.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—It has always been the opinion of our family, and our father before us, that eleven hours per day was quite sufficient. We never at any time had any complaints from the workpeople, complaining of the length of time; viz. sixty-four hours and a half' work per week.

JOSIAH FOSTER.

WILLIAM FOSTER.

GEORGE FOSTER.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN RACE and Co., Dudfleet Mill, Horbury.

No. 115.  
Race & Co.

A. 1.—Woollen cloths and lambswool yarn.

A. 2.—1792, ditto, or forty-one years since.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse power; part let off for dressing cloth.

A. 5.—Forty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 8      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 14     | —        |

A. 6.—From 2s. 6d. to 7s., according to age, &c.

A. 7.—All paid by piecework, except boys and girls; namely, slubbers 23s. per week, mule-spinners 30s. per week, cloth-miller and boy 25s. per week. In a regular week's work of sixty-four hours in summer, and sixty-three in winter, including two hours each day for taking meals.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same proportion, over and above, is paid for over-hours; or should they work six days and a half per week, they are paid for six days and a half, and so on, in greater or lesser proportion.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening, except on Saturdays, when it terminates at five o'clock in summer, and at four o'clock in winter, without any abatement in wages.

A. 11.—Steam only.

A. 12.—Two hours less on Saturdays in summer, and three less in winter, without any abatement; neither is it made up in the five days.

A. 13.—Breakfasts and drinkings half an hour each, dinners one hour; taken at eight, twelve, and four o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop during meal-times; the machinery and all the hands stop, except the fulling stocks and cloth-dressing machines. If these were to stand during meal-times, it would materially injure the trade.

(APP.—C. 1.)

P p

A. 15.



Yorkshire.

Race &amp; Co.

A. 15.—When we work over-hours, the hands are paid over for that proportion. Lost time, by accidents or otherwise, is lost both to them and us.

A. 16.—Temporary sickness, no deduction; for accidents we pay doctors' bills. We are happy to have to say, in the course of forty years only one boy lost a hand.

A. 17.—Ten days; namely, Christmas, three days; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Holy Thursday, half a day; Easter, two days; Whitsuntide, three days; July 5th, half a day; November 12th, half a day.

A. 18.—Whole day's holiday deducted from the weekly wages; half day's holiday is eight hours' work, and paid as a whole day.

A. 19.—We have none, as they seldom vary more than ten or twenty minutes, and not noticed.

A. 20.—Only one set; more is not necessary.

A. 21.—Never. We consider two sets of hands quite unnecessary, because they are not at all oppressed; and with us would be impracticable, because hands could not be got; and were it possible in some places to get them, the double quantity would be to learn, and could only expect half wages, which would neither answer for the hands nor their employers.

A. 22.—No punishment sanctioned, except a moderate correction.

A. 23.—It does: the greatest number, under twelve years of age, are employed in piecing cardings. We prefer taking children from seven to eight years of age to those at nine or ten years of age, because they sooner learn, and are not so stubborn.

A. 24 & 25.—We cannot answer, not having made minutes. In slack time of trade, we cannot run the mill sometimes more than three or four days per week; at other times, when busy, we make what we term six days and a half and seven days per week, and pay for half a day or a day over per week.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—Having occupied this mill upwards of forty years, we are decidedly of opinion that no legislative enactment is necessary for the woollen manufactory, inasmuch as the health of children working in woollen manufactories, which have come under our notice, is not in the least impaired.

JOHN RACE &amp; Co.

No. 116.

Gaunt &amp; Thompson.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. GAUNT and THOMPSON, Woodbottom.

A. 1.—Scribbling, cording, slubbing, and fulling of wool.

A. 2.—1790.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-horse power; no part let off to any other purpose.

A. 5.—Eighty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 9      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 12     | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 29     | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.        | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.        | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. to 6s. | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.        | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 10s.       | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —          | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s.       | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Eleven men, slubbers, earning 25s. 6d., in a regular week's work of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Not any.

A. 9.—It is.

A. 10.—In summer, six o'clock, and terminates at seven o'clock; in winter, seven o'clock, and terminates at eight o'clock.

A. 12.—It is two hours less, and not made up in any manner.

A. 13.—Breakfast half an hour, from eight o'clock to half-past eight; dinner, from twelve o'clock to one; drinking, from four o'clock to half past: all take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—No; fullers and scribbling-fillers.

A. 15.—Not made up; the workpeople not paid for it; it is lost to us and to them; it is not made up by working extra hours.

A. 16.—There is, according to circumstances and the necessity of the parties.

A. 17.—Four whole days, and ten half days.

A. 18.—No wages paid for the holidays, nor made up.

A. 19.—We have no fines; we have never imposed any.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.



A. 21.—No; we should altogether object to such a practice.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—It does, for piecing cardings.

A. 24.—1830, January 1st to March 31st, - 78 $\frac{1}{4}$  days, - 13 Saturdays.

April 1st to June 30th, - 75 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

July 1st to September 30th - 77 — - 13 —

October 1st to December 31st, 76 — - 13 —

1831, January 1st to March 31st, - 79 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

April 1st to June 30th, - 73 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

July 1st to September 30th, - 74 — - 13 —

October 1st to December 31st, 54 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

1832, January 1st to March 31st, - 66 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

April 1st to June 30th, - 79 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

July 1st to September 30th, - 83 $\frac{1}{2}$  — - 13 —

October 1st to December 31st, 88 $\frac{1}{4}$  — - 13 —

A. 25.— 1830. 1831. 1832.

January 1st, 991 $\frac{1}{4}$  hours. January 1st, 1004 $\frac{1}{4}$  hours. January 1st, 835 $\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

April 1st, - 952 $\frac{1}{4}$  April 1st, - 926 $\frac{1}{4}$  April 1st, - 1004 $\frac{1}{4}$

July 1st, - 975 July 1st, - 936 July 1st, - 1059 $\frac{1}{2}$

October 1st, 962 October 1st, 679 $\frac{1}{4}$  October 1st, 1121 $\frac{1}{4}$

A. 26.—Not any.

A. 27.—We have none to offer on this question; but are fully persuaded, that if all the mills and factories were conducted in the same manner they are in this neighbourhood, there would be no necessity for any legislative enactment.

GAUNT & THOMPSON.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH CHAPMAN, Messrs. Bilton and Co.'s Mill, Horton.

No. 117.  
Joseph Chapman.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarns.

A. 2.—It was erected in 1820, and has been employed as a worsted mill since that period, with the exception of one end thereof, which has been used as a corn-mill.

A. 3.—It is carried by steam power.

A. 4.—The engine is calculated at forty horses' power. I employ, say twenty-one; Mr. John Aked has one floor employed in the same way, and will take seven horses' power; the remaining part of the power is employed by the corn-mill, when occupied.

A. 5.—Eighty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 11     | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 12       |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | 18       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 9d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 8d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 2d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 10d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s. 6d. | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 1l. 4s. | 6s. 3d.  |

A. 7.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 6, earning 8s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 14, earning 10s.   |

A. 8.—One female, who assists the person employed in making up the yarn.

A. 9.—Always as much; and sometimes they are allowed more per hour for over-time than the usual rate of wages.

A. 10.—They commence at six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at seven o'clock in the evening, except on Saturday, when they close at half-past five o'clock.

A. 12.—On Saturdays the mill runs but eleven hours, and the time lost is made up in the manner as explained in answer to Query 18.

A. 13.—Half an hour for dinner, from twelve until half-past twelve o'clock, and have none who take their meal at a different time.

A. 14.—The engine only stops at noon for half an hour; the other meals are taken by the overlookers, preparers, and spinners, as they happen to be brought them, and are taken upon seats provided for that purpose near their work.

A. 15.—In case of accidents to the engine or machinery, the hands are paid the same as if they were at work, and the time lost is made up by running extra hours until it is regained.

(APP.—C. 1.)

Half



Yorkshire.

Joseph Chapman.

Half an hour per day over time has been my practice, and the hands have not been paid for that extra time, having been paid before.

A. 16.—In case of accident, the surgeon who attends them is paid by myself, and some allowance has been made on those occasions.

A. 17.—They have two whole days of holiday and eleven half days during the year, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—One day in the year, viz. Christmas-day, is given as a holiday, and the six days and a half, together with the short time on Saturdays, is made up by running half an hour per day over twelve hours a day, which makes the seventy-three hours and a half per week.

A. 19.—Of late I have instituted fines among the warpers and reelers, with respect to turning off their work of a proper count or number, and for attending too late, which might stay some of the proceedings of the mill; and with respect to the children, half an hour elapses before any deduction is made for coming too late.

A. 20.—I have but one set of hands employed throughout the mill.

A. 21.—I have not employed more than one set of children or adults, and they have attended the required hours of labour.

A. 22.—I have forbade my overlookers to inflict any punishment upon those whom they superintend; and if they have serious cause of complaint, they are required to make it known to me.

A. 23.—It does not require them to be under twelve years of age; but those from ten to twelve are best adapted to piecing at the spinning frames, and the greatest number of children are employed in this process.

A. 24.—Not having kept a note of time lost, the accidents and stoppages, I find it impossible to answer this query in the way required, and can only state, in general terms, that my mode of working has been as is stated in Queries 10, 12, 13, 14, & 15.

A. 25.—I answer this in the preceding.

A. 26.—None whatever.

A. 27.—I have no remark to make except what might appear to arise from interested motives, and therefore leave the result of the question of factory labour to the wisdom of Parliament.

JOSEPH CHAPMAN.

No. 118.

Rand &amp; Sons.

## ANSWERS of JOHN RAND and Sons, Horton.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—It was erected between the months of January and September, 1803.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—We run two engines, one of thirty and the other of twenty-horse power; we employ the whole power ourselves.

A. 5.—Two hundred and fifty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 9        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 16     | 20       |
| 12 and under 14       | 11     | 28       |
| 14 and under 16       | 8      | 30       |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | 27       |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 21       |
| 21 and upwards        | 15     | 58       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.       | 2s. 4½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 2d.   | 3s. 9½d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 3½d.  | 4s. 5d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 10½d. | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s.       | 5s. 11d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s. 8d.  | 7s. 1d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 9d.  | 8s. 3d.  |

We suppose the average for an individual of the respective ages is meant.

A. 7.—Forty-three persons: viz.

|                       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 6        |
| 18 and under 21       | 13       |
| 21 and upwards        | 24       |

In a regular week's work of fifty-eight hours.

We have none but females employed in this way; the average amount of their weekly earnings is 8s. 4d. for an individual; we have not entered any separate earnings in the scale which is furnished, because they are not at all governed by the age of the individual, but by her capacity; the employment of these females is to reel the yarn from the bobbin into the skein, and those who do it with the most ease and dexterity, have the most valuable work intrusted to them; very frequently a young woman of eighteen or nineteen will earn more than one of forty.

A. 8.



Yorkshire.

*Rand & Sons.*

A. 8.—All the persons employed in our mill are invariably paid by a clerk from the counting house, or by one of the firm.

A. 9.—We make this difference in favour of the hands; we pay them a day's wages for ten hours of over-time, whereas the regular day is twelve hours and twenty minutes.

A. 10.—Our regular time for beginning the day's work is the same throughout the year; viz. from six in the morning to seven in the evening, except on Saturday, when we begin at six, and close at half-past five. Those who are paid by piece-work, are not regulated by this rule; they generally make ten hours per day during five days, and eight on Saturday.

A. 11.—We only employ steam power.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturday is ten hours and fifty minutes, that is, from six to half past five; this is considered a regular day along with the rest, nor is the deficiency made up at any other time.

A. 13.—No particular time is allowed for any meal except dinner, for which we allow forty minutes, and which is taken at twelve o'clock; the breakfast hour is at eight in the morning, and the drinking hour at four; the two meals are taken in the mill; all the hands take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops only forty minutes during dinner time: all those hands who are employed in preparing the wool for the spinning process, and those who have to attend to the spinning-frames, take the other meals whilst at work.

A. 15.—We make up the lost time by working extra hours, at the rate of an hour per day; sometimes at the rate of half an hour per day; the hands are not paid for that extra time.

A. 16.—We have frequently paid our hands their wages during a time of sickness; but we should say that our regular practice is to pay them wages only for the time during which they are actually at work.

|                       |              |                  |                         |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday | - half a day | - Bradford fair, | 17th June, half a day.  |
| Good Friday           | - one day    | - ditto          | 18th ditto, half a day. |
| Easter Monday         | - half a day | - ditto          | 9th Dec. half a day.    |
| Easter Tuesday        | - half a day | - ditto          | 10th ditto, half a day. |
| Whit-Monday           | - half a day | - Christmas-day  | - one day.              |
| Whit-Tuesday          | - half a day | - ditto          | 26th Dec. half a day.   |
| New-year's day        | - half a day | - ditto          | 27th ditto, half a day. |

A. 18.—The holidays which are allowed to the hands are not made up at any other time; the mill is either closed on the occasion, or if the hands work during the time, they receive wage for it in addition to the regular week's wage.

A. 19.—We have no particular rules with regard to fines; we look to the overlooker to preserve regularity and enforce obedience in his room; and therefore it is generally left to his own discretion when and to what amount to impose the fine.

A. 20.—We have only one set.

A. 21.—This we have never done.

A. 22.—They are strictly forbid.

A. 23.—The only circumstance that would render it necessary, would be our not being able to get a sufficient number above that age; the only employment of young children in our mill is to attend to the spinning-frames.

A. 24 & 25.—It is quite impossible for us to answer these questions with any degree of accuracy, as we have never kept a time account.

A. 26.—We are not aware of any alterations that have taken place since that time.

A. 27.—We think it very desirable that there should be some act of the legislature to regulate the hours of labour in factories; it would be a benefit to society, inasmuch as it would lead to the employment of a much greater number of the working population, and, we think, without any reduction of wages, because, as this increase in the number of hands would be required to produce the present amount of manufacture within the same given time, it would maintain wages at their present level, the amount of labour in the market would be the same, but the demand for it would be increased; it would be a measure highly beneficial to the child, both in a physical and moral point of view; it would compel the generality of the mill-owners to adopt that course which many are willing and wishful to pursue; viz. to allow the hands sufficient time for meals and recreation, and for evening instruction; we would add, that we think ten hours per day quite enough for a child to work, and quite as much as is compatible with the above objects.

JOHN RAND and SONS.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT STABLES ACKROYD, Horton, near Bradford.

No. 119.

*R. S. Ackroyd.*

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—The year 1820.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—The power of the engine is sixteen horses, no part being relet.

(APP.—C. 1.)

Q q

A. 5.



Yorkshire.  
R. S. Ackroyd.

| A. 5.—Seventy persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|---|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age       | - | 1      | - | - | -        | 3  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years       | - | 5      | - | - | -        | 11 |  |
| 12 and under 14             | — | 6      | - | - | -        | 11 |  |
| 14 and under 16             | — | 4      | - | - | -        | 9  |  |
| 16 and under 18             | — | 1      | - | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 18 and under 21             | — | —      | - | - | -        | 7  |  |
| 21 and upwards              | - | 4      | - | - | -        | 4  |  |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |          |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------|---|---|----------|----------|--|
| Under 10 years of age                 | - | —      | - | - | -        | 3s.      |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - | —      | - | - | -        | 3s. 8d.  |  |
| 12 and under 14                       | — | —      | - | - | -        | 4s. 3d.  |  |
| 14 and under 16                       | — | —      | - | - | -        | 4s. 11d. |  |
| 16 and under 18                       | — | —      | - | - | -        | 5s. 8d.  |  |
| 18 and under 21                       | — | —      | - | - | -        | 6s. 3d.  |  |
| 21 and upwards                        | - | 23s.   | - | - | -        | 6s. 6d.  |  |

| A. 7.—Eleven persons, viz. |   | MALES.                |   |   | FEMALES. |                      |  |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|---|----------|----------------------|--|
| 14 and under 16 years      | - | —                     | - | - | -        | 1, earning 8s. 10½d. |  |
| 16 and under 18            | — | 1, earning 11s. 11½d. | - | - | -        | 1, earning 10s. 6d.  |  |
| 18 and under 21            | — | —                     | - | - | -        | 5, earning 10s. 9½d. |  |
| 21 and upwards             | - | 1, earning 16s. 2d.   | - | - | -        | 2, earning 11s. 1½d. |  |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The pay is after the same rate per day, the hours being eleven instead of twelve and a half.

A. 10.—At six o'clock A.M. and terminates at seven P.M.

A. 11.—Not a water-mill.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturday is eleven hours, no time being made up on that account.

A. 13.—The engine stops at twelve o'clock at noon, half an hour being allowed for dinner; the other meals are got when the engine is at work; those under the appellation of preparers stop that portion of work they attend, and the spinners help one another during meal-times; they get their meals when brought them, which do not come punctually.

A. 14.—Already answered, 13th.

A. 15.—The time lost by reason of accidents is sometimes partially, and at others wholly made up, whether or not the hands receive their wages as usual: they (the misfortunes) will not exceed two days and a half a year.

A. 16.—All those hands who have had an accident from the machinery have had their wages, and the medical man paid during their absence, but they have been of a very trivial kind.

A. 17.—Two regular entire, and nine others.

A. 18.—The workpeople are paid for them without their being made up.

A. 19.—The fines have hitherto ended in threats, none being put in execution.

A. 20.—One only.

A. 21.—I have never employed more than one set of hands, that is, children. The consequence would, in my opinion, be ruinous; we should do too much work; in fact, without the hours were very short, we should want a change of adults, they being tired as well as the children.

A. 22.—All are liable, but the punishments are very trivial, preferring to send them home to their parents, rather than exercise severity.

A. 23.—The nature of the work requires children from eleven to fifteen years of age, in preference to any other, they being employed in spinning.

A. 24 & 25.—The machinery is regularly kept at work twelve hours and a half; never varying, except the making of not more than two or three days over in the year, and that during the summer season.

A. 26.—There have not been, nor are at the present, any alterations systematically; the numbers have gradually increased.

A. 27.—Would rather do less work with the same machinery.

ROBERT STABLES ACKROYD.

No. 120.]  
Turner & Co.

#### ANSWERS of TURNER, MITCHELL, & Co., Horton.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarn, and weaving stuff goods, by power.

A. 2.—Erected about the year 1817; and, with the exception of one room for weaving stuffs, has been employed solely in spinning worsted yarns.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-four horse power; employed by ourselves; twenty-five of it for spinning worsted yarns, and the remainder for weaving stuffs.

A. 5.



A. 5.—One hundred and seventy-six persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 8        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 16       |
| 12 and under 14       | 8      | 23       |
| 14 and under 16       | 9      | 18       |
| 16 and under 18       | 5      | 21       |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | 22       |
| 21 and upwards        | 15     | 13       |

Yorkshire.  
Turner & Co.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 10d. | 2s. 10½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 7½d. | 3s. 7d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 4d.  | 4s. 4½d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 8d.  | 5s. 6d.   |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s. 10d. | 8s. 6d.   |
| 18 and under 21       | 14s.     | 10s. 4d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 1l. 5s.  | 11s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Seventy-seven persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 3, earning 5s. 6d.   |
| 14 and under 16       | 10, earning 6s. 3d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 19, earning 8s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 25, earning 10s. 2d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 22, earning 10s. 1d. |

In a regular week of seventy-five hours.

The above are warpers, reelers, and power-loom weavers:—work performed all by females.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—We pay one twenty-fourth more wages for over than for regular time.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, without variation.

A. 12.—One hour and a half less on Saturdays, and not made up in any way after.

A. 13.—No time allowed for breakfast, or tea in the afternoon; half an hour allowed for dinner: all the mill hands dine at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power only stops, as before stated, during dinner; because, in a worsted-spinning mill, most of the hands have a good deal of leisure time between piecing threads, &c.; but if that were not the case, the spare hands, and those children who are generally sent with the breakfast, &c., are ready to step in to supply; the latter being wishful to be learning while the others get their meals. And, with regard to the power weavers, each individual can stop their respective loom at the time their meals are brought.

A. 15.—Since the commencement of 1830, we have only lost about thirty-six hours by accidents, and that has been made up by running three hours per week extra, till regained.

A. 16.—In cases of absence, from sickness and accidents, we allow them full wages during that time.

A. 17.—Three whole days, and thirteen half days, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—They are paid full wages for all holidays, and the time is not made up afterwards.

A. 19.—We have no fixed rules with respect to fining for absence or irregularity; but if any of our hands should absent themselves six hours, without giving a satisfactory explanation, we make an abatement in the wages equal to the time lost.

A. 20.—We only work one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We never employed more than one set of children or adults. The objections to such a practice, in our opinion, are numerous:—first, the litigation would be endless; if any damaged or imperfect work should be done, each set would blame the other. Second, the incompetency of one or the other would be challenged. Third, if the hours were sixteen per day, the hands would have to rise earlier and go home later. Fourth, the adults would, if worked against two sets of children, have too much work. Fifth, the extra expences attendant on two sets, during winter, would be no inconsiderable enhancement to the price of the goods. Sixth, another consideration (and not the least) is, that masters would have their care and anxiety considerably increased; besides, at the present time, two sets could not be obtained.

A. 22.—We don't allow the overlookers to inflict corporal punishment; but our order is, that if any of the hands should be disobedient, they must discharge them.

A. 23.—Not necessarily so; but children of that age are considered quite capable of performing a certain description of light work, viz., piecing of threads, and a great proportion are so employed.

| A. 24.— | 1830.                 | 1831.                 | 1832.                 |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|         | 1st quarter, 75 days. | 1st quarter, 75 days. | 1st quarter, 76 days. |
|         | 2d " 75 "             | 2d " 75 "             | 2d " 76 "             |
|         | 3d " 77 "             | 3d " 77 "             | 3d " 77 "             |
|         | 4th " 75 "            | 4th " 75 "            | 4th " 75 "            |

| A. 25.— | 1830.                   | 1831.                   | 1832.                    |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|         | 1st quarter, 918 hours. | 1st quarter, 918 hours. | 1st quarter, 930½ hours. |
|         | 2d " 918 "              | 2d " 918 "              | 2d " 930½ "              |
|         | 3d " 943 "              | 3d " 943 "              | 3d " 943 "               |
|         | 4th " 918 "             | 4th " 918 "             | 4th " 918 "              |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 26.



Yorkshire.

Turner &amp; Co.

A. 26.—No alteration since 1830, excepting those with reference to Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8.

A. 27.—As regards an Act of Parliament for shortening the time of Infantine Labour in Factories, we think there is a necessity for one and our opinion is, that an Eleven Hours' Bill for five days, and proportionally less on Saturdays, would probably give most satisfaction to the country. We think it would be advisable not to curtail the time all at once, but at different intervals, say half an hour every three months till reduced to eleven, then it would not cause such confusion among hands that are not working in the factory, but dependant on those who are; and the proportion of the former to the latter are as five to one.

TURNER, MITCHELL, &amp; Co.

No. 121.

Butterfield &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. BUTTERFIELD &amp; Co., Howarth.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarns.

A. 2.—About the year 1800.

A. 3.—Water only. Sun Beck.

A. 4.—About ten-horse power. We employ the whole.

A. 5.—Forty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 6        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3d. | 3s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 3d. | 4s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 3d. | 5s. 3d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 6s. 9d. | 6s. 9d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Three persons: viz.

|                       | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 1, earning 9s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 2, earning 13s.    |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Not any.

A. 9.—The same per hour for over-hours.

A. 10.—Excepting in drouthy times, at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 11.—In a drouthy time, we are entirely dependant: from seven to eleven o'clock in the morning, and from three to eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight o'clock, which is taken during work; one hour at noon for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; tea, five o'clock, same as breakfast.

A. 14.—It stops from twelve to one o'clock at noon.

A. 15.—By defect or excess of water, one hour and a half, and sometimes two hours, are run more than the usual time, excepting on a Saturday. If the lost time cannot be made up, it is lost both to the workpeople and ourselves.

A. 16.—We pay them the same as if at work, and their doctor's bill besides.

A. 17.—One holiday and six half holidays.

A. 18.—Not any part of the holiday-time paid for, unless the lost time is made up, as in Question 15.

A. 19.—For the first offence we fine them for the exact time they are too late; for the second time, double it; and the third time turn them away.

A. 20, 21, &amp; 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; the greatest number of young children under twelve years we employ in piecing.

A. 24.—Six days in every week, in each quarter of the years 1830-1-2.

A. 25.—Nine hundred and thirty-six hours in each quarter.

A. 26.—None.

BUTTERFIELD &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of HENRY BROOK &amp; SONS, Huddersfield.

No. 122.

Brook &amp; Sons.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Fourteen years ago.

A. 3.



A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Forty horses. Only in the owners' use or employ.

A. 5.—Two hundred and eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 12     | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 22     | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 10     | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | 4      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21       | 6      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 125    | 10       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d.   | 3s. 6d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.       | 3s. 8d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s. 4d.   | 4s. 10½d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s. 2d.   | 5s. 9d.   |
| 16 and under 18       | 9s. 9d.   | 5s. 9d.   |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s. 6d.  | 6s.       |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 10d. | 6s.       |

A. 7.—Eighty-six males; viz.

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 2, earning 14s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 2, earning 14s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 82, earning 20s. 3d. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Fourteen piecers are paid 3s. 6d. per week (billies), and ten at 5s. (mules.)

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and ends at eight in the evening. At the beginning and ending of working by gas-light, we generally shorten the meal-times, to avoid working after dark or before daylight; but only for a week or two.

A. 12.—On Saturdays the work ceases at five o'clock, and the deficiency is not made up at any other time.

A. 13.—Breakfast at eight o'clock, and half an hour allowed; dinner, half past twelve, one hour allowed; and drinking, five o'clock, half an hour allowed. All the hands get their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The engine does not stop at all from six in the morning till eight at night. All the processes stand at meal-times, except fulling.

A. 15.—In case of lost time from accidents, or otherwise, the time lost is deducted for, at the same rate as the hands are paid at respectively.

A. 16.—Not generally.

A. 17.—Two and seven half holidays,—five days and a half.

A. 18.—Holidays are deducted for, except to overlookers.

A. 19.—We have no fines for absence; but where the parties cannot give a sufficient reason for being absent, they are generally discharged.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. The only objection to such a practice might arise from a difficulty in obtaining the requisite number.

A. 22.—They certainly are not forbidden; nor, to the extent to which they have been carried here, do we consider it desirable. We never have known them exceed a stroke from a light strap, which few parents would not inflict for a less cause.

A. 23.—No; should they be so employed, it would be as piecers.

A. 24.—This cannot be answered but generally; viz. every day, excepting Sundays and the holidays, for which see Question 17.

A. 25.—Unanswerable.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We consider that, if the legislature will interfere in the management or regulation of factories, that it might do so, without much inconvenience, by limiting the hours of labour for children (under eighteen years) to twelve, and also that these hours shall be between five in the morning to seven at night, or between six and eight. We are further of opinion, that children under ten years of age should not be worked at all in factories.

HENRY BROOK & SONS.

# ANSWERS of JOHN CUMMINS, Bradley Spout, Huddersfield.

No. 123.  
John Cummins.

A. 1.—Silk and cotton twisting, and warp making.

A. 2.—1825, erected; 1829, present purpose.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-five horse power. Employ part.  
(APP.—C. 1.) R r

A. 5.



Yorkshire.  
John Cummins.

| A. 5.—Twenty-nine persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years           | 1      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14                 | 2      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16                 | —      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18                 | 1      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21                 | 2      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards                  | 4      | 4        |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14                       | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 18 and under 21                       | 12s.   | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards                        | 18s.   | 6s.      |

| A. 7.—Eight persons; viz. | MALES.          | FEMALES.        |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21           | 3, earning 12s. | 1, earning 12s. |
| 21 and upwards            | 4, earning 18s. | —               |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Seven piecers, paid by persons employed by me.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, until eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—Yes, by three hours; time not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half-past; dinner one hour, from half-past twelve to half-past one; tea half an hour, from five to half-past five.

A. 14.—Moving power stops during meal-times.

A. 15.—Until lately the lost time was made up by abridging the time allowed for meals; I, however, found it difficult to get the hands to work up the lost time, therefore have discontinued the practice.

A. 16.—If any hands fall sick, whatever time is lost they are deducted accordingly.

A. 17.—Two whole days, and one half day.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays; time not made up.

A. 19.—If I find the hands repeatedly negligent, they are discharged.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; I consider the major part of my hands (that is, the younger and female part) capable of performing their allotted labour without a set of relief hands; I beg leave to be understood, as far as regards my work, which is light; and when tired of standing they sit down.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; winding silk and cotton.

A. 24 & 25.—Cannot answer, not having a time-book.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—None to make.

JOHN CUMMINS.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM FIRTH, Newtown, Huddersfield.

No 124.  
William Firth.

A. 1.—Cloth-dressing.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-horse; part of power. The other part by Norris, Sykes, and Fisher; same branch.

| A. 5.—Seventy persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years       | 2      | —        |
| 12 and under 14             | 5      | —        |
| 14 and under 16             | 10     | —        |
| 16 and under 18             | 6      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21             | 6      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards              | 32     | 6        |

| A. 7.—Seventy persons; viz. | MALES.                                                   | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 10 and under 12 years       | 2, earning 5s.                                           | —              |
| 12 and under 14             | { 4, earning 5s.<br>1, earning 6s. }                     | —              |
| 14 and under 16             | { 6, earning 5s.<br>7, earning 6s. }                     | —              |
| 16 and under 18             | { 1, earning 12s.<br>2, earning 15s.<br>2, earning 6s. } | 2, earning 8s. |
| 18 and under 21             | 6, earning 17s.                                          | 1, earning 8s. |
| 21 and upwards              | { 29, earning 21s.<br>1, earning 14s. }                  | 6, earning 8s. |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.



- A. 9.—Just the same.  
 A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock, and terminates at eight.  
 A. 12.—From six to five o'clock included, with the other days in the week.  
 A. 13.—Eight o'clock, half an hour; half-past twelve to half-past one; and from five to half-past. No persons take their meals at any other time.  
 A. 14.—The moving power stops during all the meal-times.  
 A. 15.—Made up with extra hours, if work comes in.  
 A. 16.—Till they get well.  
 A. 17.—Sometimes more, and sometimes less, according to work at those times.  
 A. 18.—Time at work.  
 A. 19.—Half an hour wage for half an hour too late, and so on.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No, nor requires none.  
 A. 23.—No.

WILLIAM FIRTH.

Yorkshire.

William Firth.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN FISHER &amp; Co., Chapel Hill, Huddersfield.

No. 125.

Fisher &amp; Co.

- A. 1.—Throwing silk.  
 A. 2.—Application to its present purpose about two years.  
 A. 3.—Steam power only.  
 A. 4.—The steam-engine is about twenty-horse power, part of which is let off to W. W. and H. Stables, for cloth-manufacturing purposes.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 27       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | 19       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 24       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 19       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, 2s. 4d. | 27, 2s. 5d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5, 3s. 1d. | 19, 2s. 9d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4, 4s. 3d. | 21, 3s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1, 3s.     | 16, 4s. 4d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —          | 2, 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 3, 25s.    | 2, 7s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Fourteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | —               | 3, earning 6s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —               | 3, earning 8s. 3d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —               | 3, earning 7s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 5, earning 18s. | —                  |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

- A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—It is the same.  
 A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock, A. M. and terminates at eight, P. M. No alteration.  
 A. 11.—See answer to No. 3.  
 A. 12.—The regular day's work on seventh day (Saturday) is from six o'clock, A. M. to five o'clock, P. M. The difference of time is not made up on any other day or days.  
 A. 13.—For breakfast half an hour, from eight to half-past eight o'clock; dinner, one hour, from twelve to one o'clock; afternoon meal, half an hour, from five to half-past five o'clock. All have the same time set apart for taking their meals.  
 A. 14.—The moving power stops only during the hour of dinner; but we employ no work-people during the other two half hours allotted for meals.  
 A. 15.—We rarely make up any lost time. We do not pay the workpeople, generally, when prevented from working: the time that may be lost from accidents, or other causes, is lost both to ourselves and to the workpeople.  
 A. 16.—Answered in No. 15.  
 A. 17.—Our workpeople have generally one regular holiday and four half holidays in the year.  
 A. 18.—Answered in No. 15.  
 A. 19.—We mostly deduct the wages for the time any may improperly absent themselves from their work. We have no established fines for any irregularities.  
 A. 20.—We do not at this mill.  
 A. 21.—We have not been accustomed to employ more than one set of children during the work of the same set of adult hands: we never thought it necessary, and consider that more real disadvantages would arise from such a practice than any probable good.  
 A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned by us, and are expressly forbidden.  
 A. 23.—Yes, it does. The greatest number of young children are employed in simply tying the ends of silk that break in the winding of them.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 24.



Yorkshire.

Fisher &amp; Co.

A. 24 & 25.—In reply to these we must refer to the answers Nos. 10 & 12, which state our regular times for working, and in which we cannot recollect any variation during the years quoted; excepting unavoidable accidents or holidays, of which we have no particular account kept for every distinct quarter of a year.

A. 26.—We do not remember any material alterations since we commenced working silk at this mill.

JOHN FISHER &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS HAIGH, Colne Bridge, Huddersfield.

No. 126.  
Thomas Haigh.

A. 1.—Cotton-carding, spinning and doubling, by frames and jennies.

A. 2.—1816; always employed as above.

A. 3.—Water-power, on the river Colne.

A. 4.—The power of the wheels may be about twenty-six horse; no power employed for any other purpose.

A. 5.—One hundred and sixty-two persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                        |   |    |   |   |    |
|------------------------|---|----|---|---|----|
| Under ten years of age | - | 5  | - | - | 9  |
| 10 and under 12 years  | - | 11 | - | - | 27 |
| 12 and under 14        | — | 16 | - | - | 12 |
| 14 and under 16        | — | 11 | - | - | 14 |
| 16 and under 18        | — | 6  | - | - | 14 |
| 18 and under 21        | — | 5  | - | - | 9  |
| 21 and upwards         | - | 17 | - | - | 6  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |                    |   |   |                    |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 2s.                | - | - | 2s.                |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 3s. to 3s. 6d.     | - | - | 3s. to 3s. 6d.     |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. | - | - | 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 7s.                | - | - | 6s.                |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 9s.                | - | - | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 24s.               | - | - | —                  |

A. 7.—Thirty persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |                  |   |   |                               |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | - | —                | - | - | 1, earning 7s.                |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 2, earning 20s.  | - | - | 3, earning 6s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 5, earning 27s.  | - | - | 5, earning 11s.               |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 13, earning 31s. | - | - | 1, earning 25s.               |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Forty children are employed and have their wages paid by the spinners and rovers, as piecers and winders.

A. 9.—If any over-hours are worked, (which seldom happens,) the children are paid nearly double wages.

A. 10.—Six in the morning, terminates at half past seven in the evening.

A. 11.—Exceedingly irregular; sometimes we are not able to make more than six, eight, or ten hours in drouthy seasons; sometimes attend fifteen hours.

A. 12.—Yes; less by three hours, and not made up in any way.

A. 13.—From eight to half-past for breakfast, from twelve to one for dinner: no persons take their meals at different times from the others.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during the whole of meal-times, except on very particular occasions, and in that case, those hands go off an hour later.

A. 15.—In case of accidents to the machinery, scarcity or excess of water, not exceeding two days, the lost time is made up by working half an hour a day extra time: any additional loss is borne jointly by the owner and workmen.

A. 16.—No allowance for sickness; all accidents caused by the mill, wages paid during absence all surgical attendance also.

A. 17.—New Year's-day; half a day on Shrove Tuesday; Easter Monday and Tuesday, whole days; Whitsunday, one day; Christmas-day, and the day after Christmas-day: in all, six days and a half; and some few half days given, for which the men are paid.

A. 18.—No part of the holiday time paid for, nor made up in any way.

A. 19.—No fining enforced for irregularity; but a dismissal, after a proper reprimand, if not attended to.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—Slight corporal punishments are allowed; but a discharge from the mill is the general course adopted for bad conduct.

A. 23.—The nature of the work requires children under twelve years, and are chiefly employed at the doubling and winding frames.

A. 24.—This question cannot be answered, on account of excess and scarcity of water.

A. 25.—No answer, as above.

A. 26.



A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—In my opinion, the wages of the labourer will be diminished in proportion to the diminution of the hours of his labour.

THOMAS HAIGH.

Yorkshire.

Thomas Haigh.

ANSWERS of Messrs. BENJAMIN CARTER, T. KILNER, and B. BUTTERWORTH & SONS, Huddersfield.

No. 127.  
Kilner & Son.

A. 1.—Part machine shop.

A. 3.—Steam-engine.

A. 4.—Ten-horse-engine, and part let off for finishing woollen cloths.

A. 5.—Sixteen persons; viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   |   | MALES. |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | - | - | - | 3      |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | - | - | - | 2      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | - | - | - | - | 3      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | - | - | - | - | 5      |
| 21 and upwards —      | - | - | - | - | - | 3      |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       |   |   |   |   |   | MALES. |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | - | - | - | 5s.    |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | - | - | - | 5s.    |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | - | - | - | - | 7s.    |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | - | - | - | - | 9s.    |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | - | 14s.   |

A. 9.—The wages for working over-hours the same per hour as during the regular time.

A. 10.—The day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock at night.

A. 12.—The day's work on a Saturday is one hour and a quarter less than on the other days of the week, and is not made up afterwards.

A. 13.—Half an hour allowed for the breakfast, and one hour for the dinner, and half an hour for the drinking.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during the whole of the meal-times.

A. 15.—It is as the master thinks proper.

A. 17.—Five days in a year for holidays, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—Part paid for and part not.

A. 19.—The fining for absence or irregularity is the same as the master gives for time worked; and a quarter of an hour allowed before the fines are imposed.

A. 20.—No more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—No more than one set of children.

A. 22.—Not practised.

A. 23.—It does not require the children to be under twelve years of age.

BENJ. CARTER, T. KILNER, B. BUTTERWORTH & SONS.

ANSWERS of JOSIAH LOCKWOOD, Upperhead Row, Huddersfield.

No. 128.  
Josiah Lockwood.

A. 1.—Fancy goods made of cotton and wool.

A. 2.—Erected in 1825; 1827 and 1828 finished.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Forty-horse power; three-horse power let to Messrs. North and Johnson; not in my premises; they find their own room.

A. 5.—Two hundred and eleven persons; viz.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 13 | - | - | - | 4      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 34 | - | - | - | 12     | 12       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 16 | - | - | - | 14     | 14       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 4  | - | - | - | 5      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | 28 | - | - | - | 12     | 12       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | —  | - | - | - | 10     | 10       |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 56 | - | - | - | 3      | 3        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—Males, nineteen, at 23s. 3d.

A. 7.—One hundred and ninety-two persons; viz.

|                       |   |             |          |   |             | MALES.  | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|----------|---|-------------|---------|---------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 13, earning | 2s. 3d.  | - | 4, earning  | 2s. 3d. | 4, earning 2s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 34, earning | 2s. 9d.  | - | 12, earning | 2s. 9d. | 12, earning 2s. 9d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 16, earning | 4s. 3d.  | - | 14, earning | 4s. 3d. | 14, earning 4s. 3d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 4, earning  | 6s. 3d.  | - | 5, earning  | 6s. 3d. | 5, earning 6s. 3d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | 28, earning | 7s. 6d.  | - | 12, earning | 7s. 6d. | 12, earning 7s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | —           | —        | - | 10, earning | 8s.     | 10, earning 8s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 37, earning | 20s. 6d. | - | 3, earning  | 9s.     | 3, earning 9s.      |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

(APP.—C. 1.)

S 6

A. 8.



Yorkshire.

Josiah Lockwood.

- A. 8.—Ninety-four children, pieceners, for slubber-spinners and twisters.  
 A. 9.—Over-hours paid for in proportion to weekly wages.  
 A. 10.—From six o'clock in the morning to half-past seven at night; an hour and a half off for meals.  
 A. 11.—By steam only.  
 A. 12.—From six o'clock in the morning to five o'clock in the afternoon; no time made up in the other five days for Saturday.  
 A. 13.—One meal-time only; that is, half-past eight o'clock to nine; half-past twelve o'clock to one; half-past four to five.  
 A. 14.—Moving power stops at one time for all, three times a day, stated above.  
 A. 15.—Should we lose time by an accident, when busy, gain it by one hour per day, and paid for accordingly; should we not be busy, it is omitted, and the hands lose it.  
 A. 16.—To good workmen, full wages and half wages; and men not deserving, have nothing allowed.  
 A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; May 14th and 15th, our fair, two days; Whitsuntide, two half days; Christmas, two days.  
 A. 18.—No wages paid for holidays; the time is made up if we are busy.  
 A. 19.—No fines at all; not particular to quarter of an hour.  
 A. 20.—No; one set only.  
 A. 21.—Never, nor should not like to do.  
 A. 22.—No punishment is allowed, nor has not been for upwards of three years. The rule is, if a child will not do the work without punishment, they are discharged.  
 A. 23.—No part of my works requires children under twelve years of age; the reason of children under twelve being employed, is the application of their parents, and coming with the older children, till they will not stay at home to be idle, and take half work with the rest.  
 A. 24.—Every day, except holidays or a misfortune; we have not run more these last three years than five days per week at an average.  
 A. 25.—Seven hundred and eighty hours each quarter is the extent.  
 A. 26.—None.  
 A. 27.—For my own part I think twelve hours per day neither too much nor too little. The sooner the factory question is decided the better; it was never intended to do the working class good.

JOSIAH LOCKWOOD.

No. 129.  
John North.

## ANSWERS of JOHN NORTH, Manager for N. P. and H. Nathan, Bradley Spout, Huddersfield.

- A. 1.—Cotton and woollen.  
 A. 2.—1825. Our work commenced 1832.  
 A. 3.—Steam only.  
 A. 4.—The power of the engine, thirty-four-horse. Only occupy part.  
 A. 5.—Fifty-three persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | 7        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | 6        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | 7        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
- A. 7.—Fifty-three persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 5s.     | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 5s.     | 4, earning 5s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 2, earning 7s.     | 6, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 7s.     | 7, earning 7s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | 3, earning 7s. 6d. | 6, earning 7s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 10, earning 18s.   | 6, earning 7s. 6d. |
- A. 8.—Six children above twelve years.  
 A. 9.—Our hands all work by the piece.  
 A. 10.—Begin at six in the morning, and close at eight at night. In the spring and autumn, when daylight will not admit of the regular hours, we gain the time at meal-times.  
 A. 12.—Two hours and a half less on Saturday; not worked up.  
 A. 13.—Half an hour at breakfast, from eight to half past; dinner one hour, from half past twelve to half past one; tea-time half an hour, from five to half past.  
 A. 14.—Stops during the time, as stated in answer to Question 13.  
 A. 15.—No time made up; if the lost time exceeds half a day, our hands all work by the piece, and of course only paid for such.  
 A. 17.—Christmas-day; Easter Tuesday, half a day; Huddersfield fair, one day; Whit Monday, half a day.  
 A. 18.—See Question 15; answered.

A. 19.



- A. 19.—If they do not attend regular we discharge them; we fine none.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No. We find one set of hands competent to perform the work during these hours.  
 A. 22.—No punishment allowed, neither by master nor men.  
 A. 23.—No.  
 A. 24.—Cannot answer this question; we do not keep a time-book.  
 A. 25.—Answered above.  
 A. 27.—Our hands all work by the piece, and would regret the passing of the Ten Hours Bill, as it would abridge their wages.

JOHN NORTH.

Yorkshire.

John North.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. THOMAS NELSON and Co., Rushcliff, Huddersfield.

No. 130.  
Nelson & Co.

A. 1.—Manufacturing and finishing woollen cloths, and a small part wire-drawing, and cotton and silk twisting.

A. 2.—Erected in 1826 and 1827, with an addition in 1831 and 1832.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Sixty-horse power; furnished by the owner of the mill, and worked by him for the whole tenants.

A. 5.—One hundred and eight persons; viz.

| In our part of the mill: |                       |   |   |   |   | MALES. |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|--------|
|                          | Under 10 years of age | - | - | - | - | 1      |
|                          | 10 and under 12 years | - | - | - | - | 9      |
|                          | 12 and under 14 —     | - | - | - | - | 12     |
|                          | 14 and under 16 —     | - | - | - | - | 12     |
|                          | 16 and under 18 —     | - | - | - | - | 7      |
|                          | 18 and under 21 —     | - | - | - | - | 3      |
|                          | 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | 64     |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 7d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 4d. |

A. 7.—Thirty-three males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 19s. in a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Twelve boys, from ten to sixteen years old.

A. 9.—The same when any, but that is very seldom the case. Payment for over-hours averaged by the week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning and eight in the evening. Not altered, except for a few weeks in the spring and autumn, when the work begins at half past five, and terminates at half past seven in the evening, to prevent lighting.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturday ends at five o'clock in the evening, and is not made up at any other time.

A. 13.—Half an hour at breakfast, from half past eight to nine; one hour at dinner, from half past twelve to half past one; and refreshment, from five to half past five in the evening.

A. 14.—The moving power does not stop during the day, on account of the fulling or milling process, which does not require a strict attendance, and affords the usual time for meals.

A. 15.—The loss of time has been trifling on account of accidents: sometimes it has been made up by working half or one hour per day extra, at the same rate as for regular time. If the stoppage is trifling, no abatement is made; but if half a day, it is charged, or over-work performed.

A. 16.—No allowance for sickness; but in case of accidents, (and there have only been two in our part since the mill began,) the usual rate of wages was paid to them until their recovery.

A. 17 & 18.—We allow Christmas-day and Good Friday, and pay for them to those who have weekly wages. There are also six half days in the year which are allowed, but not paid for.

A. 19.—We have no fines: if a person is less than a quarter of an hour too late, we charge nothing; but if a quarter of an hour or under half an hour, we charge half an hour, and so on in proportion. The charge per hour is the average of such person's wages by the week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never more than one set. There might be some difficulty in having a second set to perform the work exactly similar to the first set, without some trouble and time.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments are allowed.

A. 23.—Our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age. Piecing for slubbers and shearing machines in the finishing of cloths.

APP.—C. 1.)

A. 24.



Yorkshire.

Nelson & Co.

A. 24.—Every day when the steam-engine has been at work, except Christmas-days and Good Fridays; or when the machinery and steam-engine have been undergoing repair, and which has not averaged three days in the year for both those purposes.

A. 25.—Cannot state exactly; but on the whole, as nearly as possible, the regular time of working, viz. sixty-nine hours and a half per week; but the fulling or milling part's regular time for working is eighty-one hours per week.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—We think two sets of children might answer, under fourteen years of age, to work successively three days each; that children under ten years of age should be prevented working in factories; and that the moving power should not be stopped on any account during the day, in consequence of the fulling or milling process requiring a regular continuance of movement.

THOS. NELSON &amp; Co.

No. 131.

Roberts, Brothers.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. ROBERTS, Brothers, Bradley Spout, Huddersfield.

A. 1.—Woollen-scribbling and milling; and some part occupied by other parties for cotton.

A. 2.—1825; our works commenced in 1828.

A. 3.—The power is steam.

A. 4.—The engine is thirty-four-horse power; we only employ part; it is partly employed in woollen, and part in cotton.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | —        |

A. 7.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3, earning 3s. 6d. | 2, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2, earning 7s.     | 1, earning 7s.     |
|                       |                    | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —                  | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2, earning 7s.     | —                  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, earning 20s.    | 1, earning 7s.     |
|                       | 1, earning 8s.     |                    |
| 21 and upwards        | 4, earning 21s.    | —                  |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Two are employed as cloth-millers' assistants, eight children are employed as piecers, and three as feeders.

A. 9.—Our hands all work by the piece.

A. 10.—Begin at six in the morning, and close at eight at night; in spring and autumn, when daylight will not permit us to work the regular hours, we gain the time by abridging the meal-times.

A. 11.—The power is steam.

A. 12.—We work nine hours and a half on Saturdays only; the two hours and a half are not made up in any way.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half past; one hour for dinner, from half past twelve to half past one; half an hour for drinking, from five till half past: this is the time allowed to all our hands for meals.

A. 14.—The power ceases during meal-times.

A. 15.—We make no lost time up above half a day, which is generally done in the evening; the time lost is, of course, lost by the hands, as they are paid by the piece.

A. 16.—Being paid by the piece, if they don't work they receive no wages.

A. 17.—Christmas-day; Easter, half a day; Huddersfield fair, half a day; Whitsuntide, half a day.

A. 18.—See answer to Question 16.

A. 19.—No fines; if the hands are refractory, we discharge them.

A. 20.—Work only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set of hands, either children or adults.

A. 22.—No: see answer to Question 19.

A. 23.—We have five under twelve, and some above, at the same employment, viz., as piecers for the slubbers.

A. 24.—We keep no time-book, and really cannot answer this question.

A. 25.—See above.

A. 26.—No alterations in regard of wages or hours of work.

A. 27.—If the Ten Hours Bill comes into operation, our hands, all working by the piece, will experience a diminution of wages; and any hands paid by the week must consequently expect a reduction.

ROBERTS, Brothers.



## ANSWERS of JOSEPH SCHOFIELD, Huddersfield.

Yorkshire.

No. 132.

Joseph Schofield.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, and spinning wool.

A. 2.—Began to work this kind of warp April, 1816.

A. 3.—By steam.

A. 4.—Sixteen-horse power.

A. 5.—Forty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 8      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 6      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 11     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 7s.     | 7s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s. 6d. | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1l. 1s. | —        |

A. 7.—Nine slubbers and one spinner, earning about 1l. 5s. per week, in a regular day's work of eleven hours, after they have paid their children.

A. 8.—Those under fourteen years of age.

A. 9.—Over-hours are paid for; every hour is reckoned one twelfth of a day.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—On Saturdays, the work commences at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening; not made up.

A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour, from eight o'clock to half past eight; dinner, one hour, from half past twelve to half past one; drinking, half an hour, from half past four to five.

A. 14.—My steam-engine works the whole time, and some scribbling is still going on during meal-times.

A. 15.—Our lost time we make up by one hour extra each day, until the time be made up.

A. 16.—Those who are paid by time have their wages during sickness, except the sickness be very long continued.

A. 17.—Easter, two half days; Huddersfield fair, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; and Christmas, three days.

A. 18.—My workmen who are paid by time are paid for holidays, which are not made up.

A. 19.—Never stop any part of the wages for late attendance.

A. 20.—No more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never more than one set of children.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Piecing cardings. We employ a few children under twelve.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—I cannot answer.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I think that eleven hours employ, the work not being of a laborious nature, is not overworking.

JOSEPH SCHOFIELD.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. W. B. and H. STABLES, Chapel Hill, Huddersfield.

No. 133.

W. B. & H. Stables.

A. 1.—Woollen goods.

A. 2.—It was erected about the year 1816, and has been employed in the woollen manufacture ever since.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—The power of the steam-engine is about 24 horses; part of it is engaged in the silk-spinning by Mr. Fisher.

A. 5.—Twenty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 9      | —        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

T t

A. 6.



Yorkshire.

W. B. & H. Stables.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— |   | MALES.   |   | FEMALES. |   |
|----------------------------------------|---|----------|---|----------|---|
| Under 10 years of age                  | - | 3s.      | - | 3s.      | - |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | - | 3s.      | - | 3s.      | - |
| 12 and under 14                        | — | 4s.      | - | 3s. 6d.  | - |
| 14 and under 16                        | — | 5s.      | - | 4s. 6d.  | - |
| 16 and under 18                        | — | 5s.      | - | —        | - |
| 18 and under 21                        | — | 7s.      | - | —        | - |
| 21 and upwards                         | - | 22s. 6d. | - | —        | - |

A. 7.—Three male adults, earning 18s. 4d. in a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—Eight.

A. 9.—Precisely the same.

A. 10.—We begin work at six o'clock in the morning, and close at eight in the evening, allowing two hours each day for meals and recreation.

A. 11.—As our machinery is carried by steam, we run the regular hours every day.

A. 12.—We give up work at five o'clock.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, eight o'clock; an hour for dinner, at twelve; one half hour for refreshment, at half-past four.

A. 14.—The moving power stops at meal-times.

A. 15.—The workmen are paid according to the hours they work, consequently their wages are regulated by the hours they work.

A. 16.—No wages are allowed to the sick, or to those who have had accidents; but to the latter we always pay the medical man, and if deserving, are kind to both classes, not claiming it as a right.

A. 17.—Five days for holidays in the year.

A. 18.—All holidays are deducted from the wages, except an overlooker and cartman.

A. 19.—We have no fines; if they do not behave to our satisfaction, we discharge them.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No, our hours being regular, we have found the children quite as competent to perform their slight work, as the adults are to do their more laborious duties.

A. 22.—Slight punishments are allowed, but no severity; and if the men practise any severity, they would be dismissed.

A. 23.—We have no process that requires the children to be under twelve years old; young children are principally employed as piecers.

A. 24.—Not keeping any account for so long back, we really cannot give any account.

A. 25.—The same difficulty prevents our answering this question as the preceding.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—See our remarks at the foot of our statement for Crosland mill.

W. B. &amp; H. STABLES.

No. 134.

Starkey Brothers.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. STARKEY, Brothers, Longroyd Bridge, Huddersfield.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected in the year 1819.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—We have three steam-engines of twenty-eight-horse power each, which are wholly employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Five hundred and twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |     | FEMALES. |    |
|-----------------------|--------|-----|----------|----|
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2   | -        | 8  |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 48  | -        | 15 |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 27  | -        | 13 |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 28  | -        | 6  |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 24  | -        | 11 |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 266 | -        | 73 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—

|                       | MALES. |      | FEMALES. |     |
|-----------------------|--------|------|----------|-----|
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4s.  | -        | 4s. |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 5s.  | -        | —   |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 7s.  | -        | —   |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 10s. | -        | 6s. |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 15s. | -        | 6s. |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 21s. | -        | 6s. |

A. 7.—Two hundred and ninety-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.            |   | FEMALES. |                 |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|----------|-----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | -                 | — | -        | 3, earning 4s.  |
| 14 and under 16 years | 1, earning 8s.    | — | -        | —               |
| 16 and under 18       | 8, earning 10s.   | - | -        | 6, earning 6s.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 4, earning 15s.   | - | -        | 11, earning 6s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 193, earning 21s. | - | -        | 65, earning 6s. |

A. 8.



A. 8.—Fifty-nine persons; viz. twenty-eight males and thirty-one females.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—The engines commence at six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at eight o'clock in the evening, without any variation since 1831.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturdays is less, by two hours and a half, than on other working days, which time is not made up in any manner.

A. 13.—Breakfast, at eight o'clock, half an hour allowed; dinner, twelve o'clock, one hour allowed; and drinking, five o'clock, twenty minutes allowed. The whole of the hands employed take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—Two of the steam-engines stop during meal-times; but the third, which has eight scribblers and the whole of the fulling machinery attached to it, runs during the time of breakfast and drinking; and the persons attending those machines take those meals while thus employed. The above eight scribblers are attended by eight boys or girls, above sixteen years of age, and the fulling by adults.

A. 15.—We never make up any lost time, which is an absolute loss both to ourselves and the workmen.

A. 16.—We do not generally allow the hands their wages when sick, but always in case of accident.

A. 17.—The holidays are as follows:—Shrovetide, a half-holiday; Whitsuntide, a half-holiday; Easter, a half-holiday; Christmas, two days; May 14th and 15th, Huddersfield fair, two days and a half; and on public occasions generally, a half-holiday.

A. 18.—We do not pay for holidays, neither is the time made up in any manner.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed for any thing. They are expected to attend at the time, within ten minutes or a quarter of an hour; should they neglect to do so, after having been repeatedly warned, they are dismissed. This is also done when disorderly or irregular in their habits.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—We never employed more than one set of children. Our only objections to such a plan would be the difficulty of getting hands.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is not allowed under any circumstances.

A. 23.—We do not require children under twelve years of age in any process of our business. The departments in which we employ the most children are in the carding and slubbing.

A. 24.—From Jan. 1st to March 31st, inclusive,  
1830, 76 days, 13 Saturdays - 1831, 77 days, 13 Saturdays - 1832, 74 days, 13 Saturdays.  
From April 1st to June 30th,  
1830, 76 days, 13 Saturdays - 1831, 76 days, 13 Saturdays - 1832, 74 days, 13 Saturdays.  
From July 1st to September 30th,  
1830, 79 days, 13 Saturdays - 1831, 77½ days, 13 Saturdays - 1832, 78 days, 13 Saturdays.  
From October 1st to December 31st,  
1830, 77 days, 13 Saturdays - 1831, 72½ days, 13 Saturdays - 1832, 77 days, 13 Saturdays.

|                                               | 1830.     | 1831.     | 1832.      |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| A. 25.—From Jan. 1st to March 31st inclusive, | 949 hours | 962 hours | 891½ hours |
| April 1st to June 30th                        | — 949 —   | — 949 —   | — 856½ —   |
| July 1st to Sep. 30th                         | — 988 —   | — 968½ —  | — 903½ —   |
| Oct. 1st to Dec. 31st                         | — 962 —   | — 903½ —  | — 891½ —   |

A. 26.—The alterations which have taken place in this mill since January, 1830, are the following:—The hours of work were reduced one hour per day, in 1831, in the finishing, and half an hour in the slubbing departments; and the eight scribblers mentioned in answer to Question 14, who had been accustomed to run three nights in the week until twelve o'clock, ceased to do so in 1832. Our reason for making the above alterations was, we found that night-work and extra time was a loss to us.

A. 27.—If Parliament must interfere with the regulations of labour in factories, we are of opinion that it should confine itself to limiting the age at which children should commence working; for example, twelve years of age for twelve hours per day, between the hours of five o'clock in the morning and eight in the evening.

STARKEY, Brothers.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. SWAIN and WEBBS, Leeds Road, Huddersfield.

No. 135.  
Swain & Webb.

A. 1.—Finishing of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—1825.

A. 3.—Steam alone.

A. 4.—Our engine, about four-horse power; from the adjoining mill about five-horse.

A. 5.—Thirty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 7      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 9      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      |
| 21 and upwards        | 12     |

(APP.—C. 1.)

We



Yorkshire.

Swain & Webbs.

We have a greater proportion of boys in the mill than are found in most finishing mills employing about forty men in finishing the cloth, partly by hand labour, it is in such a prepared state, boys may attend the machines which finish it, under the direction of a few men.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

MALES.

|                       |           |      |
|-----------------------|-----------|------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - - - - - | 4s.  |
| 12 and under 14       | — - - - - | 5s.  |
| 14 and under 16       | — - - - - | 6s.  |
| 16 and under 18       | — - - - - | 8s.  |
| 18 and under 21       | — - - - - | 10s. |
| 21 and upwards        | - - - - - | 22s. |

A. 7.—Forty males, 21 and upwards, earning 20s. in a regular week of about seventy\* hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour as during the regular time.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock in the morning, terminate at half past seven in the evening, except on Saturday, when the engine stops at five o'clock.

A. 12.—Less by two hours and a half, and not made up in any manner on the five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at half after eight; one hour for dinner, at half after twelve; half an hour for drinking, at half after four. When the latter half hour is taken, the workmen continue till eight o'clock, but, at the request of the workmen, we allow them to work without intermission from half-past one till half-past seven, when they cease for the day.

A. 14.—Yes; except at half-past four, for the reason assigned in answer to Question 13. At the usual drinking time, however, our men and lads can, without stopping the works, take their beer or other refreshments.

A. 15.—If an accident stops the engine for a short time, we take nothing from the work-people, but if a day or more, it is lost to us and the men. We never make up lost time, except now and then we may request the men to finish work much wanted; this very rarely.

A. 16.—When accidents have occurred, we have always paid the wages the same as if present, besides the surgeon's bill.

A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter Tuesday, half a day; Whit Tuesday, half a day; the annual fair, May 14th and 15th, half of each day; and Christmas-day; for all of which we pay them, and it is not made up at any other time.

A. 18.—Our practice is to allow holidays as stated above in Question 17, and pay them for those holidays; if they take longer holidays than what are stated above, which is generally done at the fair and Christmas, it is deducted from their wages.

A. 19.—No fines for absence or irregularity; when cases of irregularity or disobedience occur, if not remedied with a caution, they are then discharged.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never more than one set of children to one set of adults.

A. 22.—No punishments sanctioned.

A. 23.—Not necessarily. The younger boys are employed in assisting the elder, or the men, at the cutting machines. We prefer boys above, rather than under twelve years; an active child of nine or ten years might loose and fasten the cloth for cutting, but we don't take them so young.

A. 24.—Not having kept a time-book, we cannot positively answer this question.

A. 25.—We have not kept a time-book.

A. 26.—No material alterations have taken place.

A. 27.—We deem it proper to regulate the hours of the children's labour, but care should be taken not to injure the adults or the trade. A Ten Hours Bill would very probably do this. Our youngest children are healthy and active with twelve hours work, but if they had one hour more in the evening, they might have an opportunity of getting instruction at evening schools, or at home. Our men, with one exception, would prefer working eleven hours, which would not injure children, and we hope would not affect the wages of adults.

SWAIN &amp; WEBBS.

No. 136.

Wrigley & Sons.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN WRIGLEY and Sons, Cocking Steps, Honley.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, milling or fulling and finishing woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Upwards of twenty years, since we bought the property; and more than twenty years before, by the person from whom we bought it; in the woollen manufactory.

A. 3.—Both steam and water; the river Mag.

A. 4.—Power of steam, thirty-horse; and water-wheel power about ten-horse; one third of it is occupied by Mr. Robert Wrigley, for the same purpose as ourselves: but in June, 1832, the Union called his men and children out from their work, and since that time all his machinery has been standing, and spoiling.

\* Seventy about the average. Some earn 23s. or 24s., beginning at from four to five in the morning, and working late. But this is not so general as we have known it.

A. 5.



A. 5.—Fifty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 6      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 29     | —        |

Yorkshire.

Wrigley &amp; Sons.

P. S. We have all our spinning, weaving, burling, and wool picking worked at our servants' own houses, in the neighbourhood, which contain about one thousand inhabitants; from three hundred to four hundred of them are in our employ, and have been for more than forty years; therefore, a man in the above departments has his work with his family, which can assist him in all ways they are able. For more than fifty years that I have lived in this village, I always thought the working classes quite as comfortable as in any place I knew, until the Beer Bill passed into a law, and four beer-shops opened in and near the village, which have done mischief enough, in making men who before that time were sober into drunkards, along with their male children. If that mischievous Beer Bill is continued a law, we do not know what the consequences will be.

A. 6.—The average weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 5s.          |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s. 6d.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s. to 7s.   |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s. to 9s.   |
| 18 and under 21       | 14s.         |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s. to 23s. |

A. 7.—Twenty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                   | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, earning 4s.           | 1, earning 4s. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, earning 4s.           | 2, earning 4s. |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 4s.           | —              |
| 14 and under 16       | 3, earning 5s. to 6s.    | —              |
| 21 and upwards        | 11, earning 16s. to 30s. | —              |

In a regular week of twelve hours per day.

Wool sorters, scribbling, fulling, dyers, drawers, and fire or engine men; their wages depend upon their industry and abilities at their work; from 16s. to 30s. a week of twelve hours a day.

A. 8.—Fourteen children, employed as piecening in the slubbing department, and more than one half are the slubbers' own children; all their wages paid by the slubbers.

A. 9.—Precisely the same; but we have not worked one hour per month over-time during the last twelve months.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and stops at eight o'clock at night, during the six summer months; and half past six until half past seven in the winter months. The workmen prefer it.

A. 11.—It makes no difference to us, as we run all by steam when water is low.

A. 12.—Two hours and a half less on Saturdays than other days, leaving off work at five o'clock in the afternoon; and no time made up for it afterwards, nor any abatement of wages.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock; half an hour for drinking, at half past four o'clock. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The engine stops one hour at dinner-time, but breakfast and drinking half-hours it runs, for the purpose of keeping the fulling-stocks at work; and they seldom require any attention for that half hour, but as they can get a meal.

A. 16.—If any accident occurs in the machinery that stops us two hours, (not more,) the time is made up by shortening the dinner hour, until the time lost is made up, as the men prefer that to taking any thing off their wages; but if a longer stoppage, which very seldom happens, it is a loss to us, and to those men who do not stop and assist in repairing, so as to get to work again; those men who stop and make themselves useful have their wages paid for so doing.

A. 15.—If in very poor circumstances, we give them an allowance; but nearly all our workmen are in sick clubs and funeral briefs, which are very useful to the working classes here. We have been so fortunate as to be without any accident in the mill, during the last seventeen years.

A. 17.—About eight days in the year.

A. 18.—More than half of our weekly men are paid, and no lost time made up; some others are not paid, being agreeable to their agreement when they come to work with us.

A. 19.—If more than half an hour behind their time, they are deducted in proportion to their usual rate of wages.

A. 20.—No, we do not.

A. 21.—No, we have not. We find the workmen and children are quite satisfied with the present plan; and also think it is not more than pleasant and healthful for them. Indeed, we do not know the same number of children any where more healthy than those we have in our mill: they have instruction given two nights a week by one of the masters, in reading, writing, and accounts; and are every way better in health and conduct than the children are, (that are daily under our notice,) who are not allowed to work in the mills, but run about at their own pleasure.



Yorkshire.

Wrigley & Sons.

First objection:—A double set of children would be difficult to get, say from nine to twelve years, at half wages, viz. 2s. per week, half time. Second:—A great number of the parents could not afford to lose half the wages of those children, without applying to the parish to make out, which in all cases takes away the independence of the man.

A. 22.—Not at all, with our sanction.

A. 23.—In the department of feeding the scribbling and carding engines, we think not; although some children at nine or ten years are better capable than others are at twelve or thirteen, as pieceners, in the slubbing department; and healthy children at nine or ten are better calculated as pieceners than children generally are at twelve, (and have their health and spirits quite as well, or better than older children,) as they do their work in a more erect position of their body.

A. 24.—During this time our machinery has been at work six days in the week; viz., five days of twelve hours each, and Saturdays nine hours and a half, with the exception of one fortnight we had to stand for repairs of the steam-engine, in July 1831. The above have been our regular hours for working, for all the time of 1830, 1831, and 1832, and are so now.

A. 25.—This is answered in the 24th Question.

A. 27.—None, with the exception of Mr. Robert Wrigley's men being called out by the Union, (refer to Question 4th,) who rents and holds one third part of the room and power of our mill; we work the remaining two thirds, and our answers refer only to our two thirds, as to the number of hands employed; the mill and property being our own freehold.

A. 27.—Our opinion is, that a Ten Hours Bill for Factory Labour would be attended with a great loss to the working classes, and particularly so to the smaller manufacturers. Hundreds of industrious honest men, with a capital of 5000*l.* and upwards, have taken small mills, upon leases and otherwise, at high rents; when one sixth part of their working hours are taken away by this bill, how is it possible to compete with many of the promoters of this measure, who have immense large mills, and from their immense capital can at any time increase them to any extent they think fit; and by the quantity of work done, and capital turned over, provided the Ten Hours Bill becomes a law, a very small profit will amply pay them, to the ruin of the smaller manufacturers.

JOHN WRIGLEY & Sons.

No. 137.  
Ant. A. de Macedo.

ANSWERS of ANT. A. DE MACEDO, for Messrs. F. da Gama and Co., Hunslet.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Twenty-three horses and a half. We employ the whole.

| A. 5.—Seventy-five persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years            | - 13   | - 3      |
| 14 and under 16 —                | - 4    | - —      |
| 18 and under 21 —                | - 7    | - —      |
| 21 and upwards                   | - 34   | - 14     |

N. B.—This is when we are fully employed: at present there are only twelve weavers, four spinners, and six burlers in the manufacturing department; and six men and seven boys in that of the dressing; also six burlers.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.                       | FEMALES.        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - 13, 2s. 6 <i>d.</i> to 3s. | - 3, 3s.        |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | - 4, 7s.                     | - —             |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | - 7, 12s.                    | - —             |
| 21 and upwards                        | - 17, 21s.                   | - 8, 6s. to 7s. |

A. 7.—Twenty-three persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.  
21 years and upwards - - 17, earning 18s. - - 6, earning 5s. 6*d.*  
In a regular week of eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—It is the same.

A. 10.—At six in the morning till seven at night.

A. 12.—Nine hours and a half, and no time made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half past; an hour for dinner, from twelve to one; and half an hour, from half past four to five in the afternoon: all at the same time.

A. 14.—It runs occasionally during meal-times, when there are any pieces milling, and for no other purpose.

A. 15.—We make no time up on account of accidents.

A. 16.—None.

A. 17.—Good Friday, Christmas-day, and at other times, if they require it.

A. 18.—They are not paid but for the time they work.

A. 19.—No fining for absence, but a deduction for the time lost.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—We have not.

A. 22.



A. 22.—We sanction no punishment whatever.

A. 23.—It does: the process in which they are employed is piecening.

A. 26.—None.

ANT. A. DE MACEDO.

Yorkshire.

Ant. A. de Macedo.

ANSWERS of Messrs. PIM, NEVINS and Son, Hunslet and Leeds.

No. 138.

Pim, Nevins, & Son.

A. 1.—The manufacture and finishing of fine woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Larchfield scribbling-mill has been erected and applied as at present about thirty-five years; the dressing-mill about fifteen. We rent Arridale Mill.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Larchfield has two separate engines; one about twenty-two-horse, and the other sixteen-horse: that at Arridale is thirty-three-horse power, and we let three scribblers, carders, and billies, for the same description of work as our own.

A. 5.—Five hundred and fifty-two persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |     |   |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|-----|---|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | —   | - | - | - | 5  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 10  | - | - | - | 12 |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 23  | - | - | - | 15 |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 17  | - | - | - | 11 |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 26  | - | - | - | 18 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 30  | - | - | - | 24 |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 297 | - | - | - | 64 |

In case of any slight variation between the result of our former detailed return of people and the present tables, the former must be considered accurate.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |              |   |   |   |             |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|---|---|---|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | —            | - | - | - | 5, 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 10, 3s.      | - | - | - | 12, 3s.     |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 23, 4s. 6d.  | - | - | - | 15, 4s. 9d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 17, 5s. 3d.  | - | - | - | 11, 6s.     |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 26, 7s.      | - | - | - | 3, 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 30, 10s.     | - | - | - | 8, 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 93, 21s. 6d. | - | - | - | 12, 7s. 2d. |

A. 7.—Two hundred and eighty-seven persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |                       |   |   |   |                 |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|---|---|---|-----------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | - | —                     | - | - | - | 15, earning 6s. |
| 18 and under 21       | — | —                     | - | - | - | 16, earning 6s. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 206, earning 20s. 6d. | - | - | - | 50, earning 6s. |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-nine piecers and thirteen carder-fillers, paid by slubbers; six drawers and three apprentices to drawing, paid by head drawer; eleven men and fifteen boys, paid by handle-setter; five boys and eleven girls, paid by the mule-spinners as piecers.

A. 9.—Yes, the same.

A. 10.—A regular day's work is always from six A. M. to seven P. M., with intervals of half an hour breakfast, one hour dinner, and half an hour for afternoon meal.

A. 12.—A full day's wages are paid for work on Saturdays, from six to half past four, with intervals of half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner.

A. 13.—For breakfast is allowed from eight to half past; for dinner, from twelve to one; for afternoon meal, from half past four to five. Our fulling millers dine, half a little earlier and half a little later than the usual hour.

A. 14.—The moving power of the dressing-mill stops during meal-times; but the other engine runs, as the fulling stocks are kept at work without interruption during the day. The millers take breakfast and afternoon meal in the mill, and divide the set for dinner, half remaining whilst the rest dine.

A. 15.—When fully employed, we make up lost time by running over-hours. If we do not make it up, the people are not paid for the time lost.

A. 16.—All or nearly all our people belong to sick clubs or benefit societies, and receive allowances when sick. In case of accidents, which have been extremely rare in our mill, we allow about one third or one half wages to the persons hurt, until they recover.

A. 17.—At the two fairs, two half days each fair; at Easter and at Whitsuntide, two half days each occasion; at the races, two half days have been taken, but last year only one, and this is intended to be the rule. Christmas and Good Friday, each day is a holiday.

A. 18.—They are not paid for any holiday except Christmas: if busy, we make up by over-time, and pay for it.

A. 19.—Persons paid by the week are fined, after a quarter of an hour too late, after the rate of their wages; others are not exactly noticed, but if a man be very idle or drunken he is dismissed.

A. 20.—No; except when we have run our dressing-gigs all night; then two full sets are employed.

A. 21.—We have not employed more than one set for the day, but we see no objection to doing so. The objection would be on the part of their parents. Our children are healthy, blooming,

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

*Pim, Nevins, & Son.*

blooming, straight, lively, lungs sound, and we find they all, or nearly all, read and write, as they attend the Sunday schools.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Some of the piecers are under twelve. A few are employed to fetch teazles by the handle-setter.

A. 24.—The mills have run less holidays, as before stated, regularly, except one month of autumn 1832, when the scribbling-mill stood.

A. 25.—On the average, about regular days; but the times of different processes have varied so that we cannot answer the question precisely.

A. 26.—We do not recollect any.

A. 27.—In some manufactures cause may be found for legislative interference, and we think the Bill sufficient; and we think ten working hours enough for a child, although we do not observe that children suffer from hours which men can bear.

PIM, NEVINS, &amp; Son.

No. 139.  
*Robert Walker.*

ANSWERS of ROBERT WALKER, Executor of the late Jabez Stead, Balm Beck, Hunslet

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—Four years last November.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Forty-horse; employ the whole ourselves.

A. 5.—One hundred and sixty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 14       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 12     | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 18     | 20       |
| 21 and upwards        | 49     | 20       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.    | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.    | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7s.    | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 10s.   | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 16s.   | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s.   | 6s.      |

A. 7.—One hundred and sixty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.           | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —                | 3, earning 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, earning 4s.   | 14, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 12, earning 5s.  | 8, earning 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3, earning 7s.   | 4, earning 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3, earning 10s.  | —                   |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 18, earning 16s. | 20, earning 6s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 49, earning 22s. | 20, earning 6s.     |

In a regular week of sixty-three hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—From six o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Saturday, nine hours; the time is not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half-past; one hour for dinner, from twelve to one; half an hour drinking, from half-past four to five. No persons take their meals at any other time.

A. 14.—The fulling stocks do not stop during meals; but they require no attention during the time; therefore no persons take their meals whilst at work.

A. 15.—If we make short time, we deduct according to the ratio of the weekly wage. If we work longer hours, we pay for them according to the weekly wage.

A. 16.—We have no standing rule for sickness, but allow according to the character of the individual.

A. 17.—Rather uncertain; depending upon circumstances.

A. 18.—They are not paid for holidays, nor is the time made up.

A. 19.—We have no fines for irregular attendance.

A. 20.—We work no more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children; we should object to it, because we should be under the necessity of giving them lower wages.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not allowed at any age in our mill.

A. 23.



A. 23.—No part of our work actually requires children under twelve years of age; but the parents of some children require them to work before that age. Some processes of our work may be done by a child of eight or nine years of age as well as one of twelve; it is merely confinement, not labour.

A. 24 & 25.—I know not.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—I remark that our children are healthy and sprightly (working eleven hours per day); and were you in our mill yard, from twelve to one o'clock at noon, and see them, you would by no means suppose them to be the poor overworked, overdriven beings some people have represented them.

ROBERT WALKER.

Yorkshire.

Robert Walker.

ANSWERS of COUSEN, LEACH, and Co., Great and Little Horton.

No. 140.  
Cousen & Co.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning and stuff weaving.

A. 2.—Commenced working June 3d, 1827.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty-horse engine; employed wholly by ourselves.

A. 5.—One hundred and sixty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |    |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|----|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3  | - | - | -        | 10 | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 6  | - | - | -        | 19 | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 9  | - | - | -        | 18 | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 2  | - | - | -        | 9  | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 2  | - | - | -        | 16 | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 1  | - | - | -        | 12 | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 13 | - | - | -        | 46 | - | - |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |          |   |   | FEMALES. |                        |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|---|----------|------------------------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 2s. 3d.  | - | - | -        | 2s. 9d.                | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s. 7d.  | - | - | -        | 4s. 0d $\frac{1}{2}$ . | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 4s. 9d.  | - | - | -        | 4s. 9d.                | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 5s.      | - | - | -        | 5s. 3d.                | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 5s.      | - | - | -        | 5s. 11d.               | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 9s. 6d.  | - | - | -        | 6s. 6d.                | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 22s. 2d. | - | - | -        | 6s. 10d.               | - | - |

A. 7.—Forty-six persons; viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   | FEMALES. |                                   |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 16 and under 18 years | - | - | - | - | -        | 8, earning 8s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | - | - | - | - | -        | 7, earning 8s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | -        | 31, earning 9s. 3d.               | - | - |

A. 8.—Only one, a bobbin winder, who is paid by the warp from the warper.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening, five days in the week.

A. 12.—On Saturdays begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at half-past five in the afternoon, being one hour and a half less, which is not made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—The spinners or piecers, rovers, drawers, and overlookers, have half an hour allowed for dinner, from twelve o'clock to half past, and four boys clean the machinery during the half hour the mill is standing, and have one hour allowed for dinner. Reelers and warpers take their own time for meals: mechanics, half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinkings.

A. 14.—At dinner. Spinners, rovers, drawers, and overlookers, take their other meals whilst at work.

A. 15.—If accidents happen to the machinery, the lost time paid for, and made up generally at half an hour per day.

A. 16.—Only in case of accident while at work; wages paid, and surgeon found till recovered.

|                            |   |   |   |   |   |          |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| A. 17 & 18.—New Year's-day | - | - | - | - | - | 6 hours. |
| Shrove Tuesday             | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Good Friday                | - | - | - | - | - | 12       |
| Easter Monday              | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Easter Tuesday             | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Whit Monday                | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Whit Tuesday               | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| First day, Summer fair     | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Second day, ditto          | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| First day, Winter fair     | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Second day, ditto          | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |
| Christmas-day              | - | - | - | - | - | 12       |
| Day after Christmas-day    | - | - | - | - | - | 6        |

90 for holidays.



Yorkshire.

Cousen &amp; Co.

Five days per week, from six in the morning to seven  
in the evening, with half an hour for dinner - - 62½ hours.  
One day, from six to half-past five, with half an hour  
for dinner - - - - - 11

73½ per week.  
52 weeks per year.

146  
356  
26

3,882

Allowed for holidays - - - 90

Working hours per year - - 3,732

Which averages nearly 12 hours per day; viz. 11 hours 57½ minutes.

A. 19.—Fines we have none; quarter of an hour is allowed after the time; any coming after, are sent back for a quarter of a day, and then allowed to return to work.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; because if wanted, we could not get them.

A. 22.—No; the overlookers have orders, when they find a child unmanageable or disobedient to send it home.

A. 23.—No; but we are frequently compelled to take them along with the elder of the family, or they would leave us; the greatest number of young children are employed in spinning.

A. 24 & 25.—These Questions we cannot answer.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We wish an Eleven Hours' Bill to be tried, as reducing to ten, all at once, would throw a great many adults out of employment, and perhaps might cause a reduction in the wages of the children.

COUSEN, LEACH, and Co.

No. 141.

Wm. Edmondson.

## ANSWERS of Wm. EDMONDSON, Idle.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, and fulling.

A. 2.—Date of its erection unknown to me. Application to its present purpose, July 30th, 1832; before this period, partly worsted.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-eight-horse power; but only a part of the power employed, supposed about twelve-horse.

A. 5.—Thirty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 11     | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d.   | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.   | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.   | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.       | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s.       | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —         | 9s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 10d. | 9s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Five persons, earning 31s. 6d., in a regular week's work of seventy-eight hours.

A. 8.—Fifteen piecers, from ten to twelve years old.

A. 9.—No wages for over-hours are allowed to any but one, and he is allowed the same per hour.

A. 10.—Begins at six, and terminates at eight, generally.

A. 12.—The day's work is twelve hours on this day, and made up at other times.

A. 13.—Half an hour; at eight, twelve, and four.

A. 14.—No; fellers of wool on the carding engine.

A. 15.—No allowance made, excepting to those who are hired by the week; and no extra time of working, unless it be a particular throng time.

A. 16.—An allowance is generally made when an accident occurs.

A. 17.—Six days, and seven half days.

A. 18.—Shrove Tuesday, one day; Easter, one day; Whitsuntide, one day; 17th June, half



half a day; Idle feast, three days; Christmas, two days; January 1st, one day: and Good Friday and other fast days. Those that go to church are paid their wages.

A. 19.—No fine is enforced, but a discharge when irregularity or disobedience is repeated.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. I see no objections, if they could be got.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—They generally learn the best from ten to twelve. Piecing.

A. 24.—No loss of time, except holidays, and some parts of machinery standing when short of work, which I am unable to particularise.

A. 25.—1832, from 30th July to 1st October, 675 hours; from 1st October to 1st January, 1833, 864 hours; from January 1st to April 1st, 1004 hours. These are as near as I can calculate.

A. 26.—In 1830, this mill was in the occupation of Robson, Edmondson, & Co., who sold it to myself on the 26th of July 1832.

A. 27.—I am of opinion that ten hours labour in a factory is quite sufficient for either child or adult, and that it would not be an injury to the mill proprietor or trade in general.

WM. EDMONDSON.

Yorkshire.

Wm. Edmondson.

#### ANSWERS of EDWIN FIRTH, Flush, Heckmondwicke.

No. 142.

Edwin Firth.

A. 1.—In the manufactory of blankets, spinning, carding, and scribbling.

A. 2.—June, 1829.

A. 3.—Steam alone.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse power, and employed by myself, in the manufactory of blankets.

A. 5.—Forty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 8      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 14     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 4d.  | 3s. 4d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 4d.  | 3s. 4d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3s. 9d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4s. 6d.  | 4s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 11s. 9d. | 7s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Fourteen males, 21 and upwards, earning 24s.

In a regular week of seventy-seven hours.

A. 8.—Three male persons, each fourteen, fifteen, and nineteen years old.

A. 9.—Yes, the same.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and terminate at seven in the evening, two hours being allowed for meal-times.

A. 11.—Steam, with a good supply of water.

A. 12.—On Saturday the hands work only nine hours, and have the same wages as on the other days (and the two hours less are not made up on other days), that has been the custom since the mill commenced, from the first of its running.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, between the hours of eight and nine; one hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; half an hour for tea-time, five to half past, P.M. Two hours in the whole. The above time is allowed for all, and at the same time.

A. 14.—The engine stops one hour in the course of the day, for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock. None of the hands work at meal-times; the straps of all the machines are thrown off at breakfast-time and tea-time. The engine is kept running, to keep the fulling stocks employed.

A. 15.—In busy time, and an accident occurring, that stops the engine for a short time; it is generally made up that day, to the satisfaction of master and men; and if obliged to run extra hours, for lost time, (that cannot be so made up,) the lost time is deducted, and the same rate of wages paid to the men, &c. for the extra hours; but I never found it advantageous to work long days for any length of time, for the hands get jaded and lose afterwards what they have gained: this I have found by my own experience to be the case; for where hands are regularly employed they do their work with comfort, but when employed beyond a fair day's labour, they are pushed beyond their strength, and cannot perform their duties.

A. 16.—I have never had an accident in the mill to any of the hands, and when any have been sick, their wages have been continued to them; save the hands who do piece work, the spinners, and the hands connected with them in that department.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 17.



Yorkshire.

Edwin Firth.

A. 17.—Half a day holiday on New Years' day; two half days at Easter, and the same at Whitsuntide; one day at the Lecture; two half days at the fairs; one holiday and two half holidays at Christmas.

A. 18.—The holidays, as stated above, are allowed from custom, and they frequently have holidays on any public occurrence, when desired by the workmen, in a busy time, if required, which is not often the case; the time is redeemed as stated in Question 15. None of the workmen have their wages at these seasons save the engineers and overlookers, who have standing wages the year round.

A. 19.—We have no rules, nor any fines since the mill commenced: there never has been any occasion, as the workmen and hands are regular in attendance at the proper time.

A. 20.—I employ only one set of hands.

A. 21.—I have never employed but one set of children; their labour is light, and requires no exertion of body; they are almost all of them the children of the spinners; and if compelled to employ more than one set of children they could not be obtained, and should I be obliged to stop the rest of the works, or employ machinery to answer the purpose of the children's work, which no doubt will be the case if the time is too much limited.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not allowed in any case; when the children do not perform their duty they are dismissed. The spinners who have their children employed under them in piecing, rather than have them dismissed, use correction, if required, at their own homes, but not in the mill.

A. 23.—The nature of the work requires the employment of young children; tall and stout children would be in each other's way, and would not perform the work so lightly. The process they perform is in piecing the cardings for the spinner: a heavy uneven hand would be attended with uneven work.

A. 24 & 25.—1830 cannot be ascertained.

1831, January 1st to March 31st, 76 days, 13 Saturdays; brought into hours, 810 this quarter.

April 1st to June 30th -  $72\frac{3}{4}$  — 13 — — — — 769 —

July 1st to September 30th  $78\frac{3}{4}$  — 12 — — — — 838 $\frac{1}{2}$  —

October 1st to Dec. 31st  $53\frac{1}{2}$  — 12 — — — — 572 —

1832, January 1st to March 31st  $67\frac{1}{2}$  — 13 — — — — 718 $\frac{1}{2}$  —

April 1st to June 30th - 67 — 13 — — — — 711 —

July 1st to September 30th  $76\frac{1}{2}$  — 13 — — — — 815 $\frac{1}{2}$  —

October 1st to Dec. 31st 69 — 13 — — — — 733 —

A. 26.—This mill has been employed by me, since the time stated, (according to the answers given to the questions proposed,) without any alterations.

A. 27.—In this neighbourhood I see no necessity for such an act; in this country, where freedom is tolerated, and the rights of property respected, they should not, in doing an act of clemency to the one part, injure the property of others by an act of injustice, and take away one sixth of his income or property without either why or wherefore, and with comfortable words console him with obtaining better prices; and say to the workmen, If we get a 'Ten Hours' Bill your wages will be better, your task-masters will get better prices for their goods, and be able to pay you more wages for working ten hours than you now get for working eleven or twelve hours: but will this be believed? Supposing I were to say to the London shopkeeper, you shall only open your shop five days instead of six days in the week, and you shall pay the same wages to your workmen, the same rent to your landlord, and pay the same poor rates and taxes,—and comfort him with the idea, that he would get better prices for all this: but would this be the case? But, for my own part, I do not advocate long days for neither child nor adult; and I am satisfied that the children who are employed eleven to eleven hours and a half a day in the blanket mills, are neither impaired in their constitutions nor injured in health, but on the contrary, are stronger and healthier than almost any differently employed in the neighbourhood; possessing equally the comforts and necessities of life. How this may be in other branches, with a heated atmosphere, I leave: but in reference to age, children vary much in their capabilities, for some at nine or ten are equal to others at the age of thirteen or fourteen years.

EDWIN FIRTH.

No. 143.

Calvert & Clapham.

ANSWERS of Messrs. CALVERT &amp; CLAPHAM, Stubbing House, Kieghly.

A. 1.—Worsted Spinning.

A. 2.—May, 1813.

A. 3.—Water. Worth.

A. 4.—Water-wheel twenty-horse power; we employ the whole for the purpose, as stated in the 1st Question.

A. 5.—Ninety-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |    |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|----|--|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 6  | - | - | -        | 10 |  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 10 | - | - | -        | 11 |  |  |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 10 | - | - | -        | 11 |  |  |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 2  | - | - | -        | 10 |  |  |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | —  | - | - | -        | 4  |  |  |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | —  | - | - | -        | 4  |  |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 4  | - | - | -        | 9  |  |  |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The average weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.      | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.  | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 3s. 8d.  | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —        | 4s. 3d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —        | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 4d. | 7s.      |

Yorkshire.

Calvert & Clapham.

A. 7.—Twelve persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 3, earning 6s. 1d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 7s. 3d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 4, earning 7s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 3, earning 9s. 4d. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—We never work over-hours, except to make up deficiencies, as stated in the 11th Question.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, throughout the year.

A. 11.—In drouthy seasons, we are so far dependent on other mills for water, as to prevent our commencing sooner than eight o'clock in the morning.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed in the middle of the day for dinner, the other meals are brought to the works.

A. 14.—Dinner-time only. Spinning, &amp;c., the hands assist each other, as the meals are brought irregularly in by their parents.

A. 15.—Half an hour per day: we pay the hands for full time; and if the deficiencies cannot be made up, the loss is ours and not theirs.

A. 16.—We do not pay for sickness; but for accidents the wage is allowed. We are happy to state that no accident of a serious nature has occurred during the last fifteen years, which is the time we have occupied the mill.

A. 17.—Seven whole and four half days: in all nine days.

A. 18.—We do not pay for regular holidays, as in the 17th Question.

A. 19.—If the hands find it impossible to be at the works within half an hour of the appointed time, they generally stay at home till nine o'clock, in which case they are subject to a quarter of a day abatement.

A. 20, 21 &amp; 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, the greatest number are employed in spinning and doffing.

A. 24.—

| 1st quarter.           | 2d quarter.     | 3d quarter.     | 4th quarter.           |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1830, 5 days 10 hours. | 6 days 0 hours. | 6 days 2 hours. | 6 days 8 hours.        |
| 1831, 6 — 0 —          | 5 — 9 —         | 6 — 0 —         | 5 — 10 —               |
| 1832, 5 — 9 —          | 5 — 6 —         | 5 — 9 —         | 5 — 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ — |

A. 25.—

| 1st quarter.           | 2d quarter.       | 3d quarter.       | 4th quarter.      |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1830, 915 hours 0 min. | 936 hours 45 min. | 969 hours 25 min. | 945 hours 10 min. |
| 1831, 932 — 30 —       | 895 — 45 —        | 938 — 45 —        | 916 — 15 —        |
| 1832, 905 — 0 —        | 857 — 15 —        | 898 — 0 —         | 920 — 0 —         |

A. 26.—No.

CALVERT &amp; CLAPHAM.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM CLAYTON and Son, Keighley.

No. 144.

Clayton & Son.

A. 1.—Cotton-twist spinning.

A. 2.—Erected in 1780.

A. 3.—Water supplied from Highley Beck.

A. 4.—Estimated at seventeen horse power, all employed by us.

A. 5.—Eighty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 8        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 10       |
| 21 and upwards        | 9      | 22       |

(APP.—C. 1.)

Y y

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
Clayton & Son.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.      | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —           | 5, 2s. 3½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1, 2s.      | 8, 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 2, 3s. 1½d. | 4, 3s. 1d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, 3s.      | 2, 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 1, 5s. 6d.  | 3, 5s. 2d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —           | 5, 6s. 7d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 9, 17s. 8d. | 13, 6s. 3d. |

A. 7.—Twenty-six persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 4, earning 4s. 4½d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 3, earning 4s. 8d.   |
| 16 and under 18       | 5, earning 6s. 9¾d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 5, earning 6s. 11d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 9, earning 6s. 11¼d. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No allowance except to mechanics, who receive the same per hour as during the regular time.

A. 10.—At six in the morning in summer, and seven in winter, terminating at seven o'clock in summer and eight in winter, for the convenience of the hands.

A. 11.—We are considerably inconvenienced in dry seasons by the retention of the water by mills higher up the stream, in dry weather, but we always endeavour to keep to the regular time as much as possible.

A. 12.—Saturday same as other days, in consequence of most of the factories in the neighbourhood being employed in spinning worsted, which work longer hours frequently.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner, at half past twelve to half past one; other meals taken during the hour of labour. Three or four persons dine afterwards, being employed in cleaning the machinery when the power is stopped.

A. 14.—The power is stopped during the dinner-hour; breakfast and tea are taken by all during their work, with the exception of mechanics, who go home to breakfast.

A. 15.—We work up the lost time by half an hour's addition to the regular time when water is abundant; no allowance made to the workpeople.

A. 16.—No time allowed, but the surgeon's bill paid.

A. 17.—Half a day at Shrovetide, the same at Easter, the 9th and 10th of May, half a day at Whitsuntide, half a day the beginning of August, the same about the 25th of August, the 8th and 9th of November, and Christmas-day.

A. 18.—Holidays allowed as above, but no allowance is made to the hands, nor is the time made up.

A. 19.—If the people are not in time, they are sent home for a quarter of the day, which they lose.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; but there appears no objection to the practice, if children could be met with.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—They are not absolutely requisite; the young hands are employed in what is called doffing bobbins.

A. 24.—We have no register; but it has been pretty regularly twelve hours per day. The stoppages are stated in the answer to Q. 17.

A. 25.—No register (as stated above).

A. 26.—None that we are aware of since its erection, with the exception that prior to 1802, part of the mill worked during the night.

A. 27.—This query answered in our return for Langcliff Mill.

WILLIAM CLAYTON & SON.

No. 145.  
John Clough

ANSWERS of JOHN CLOUGH, Ingrow, Keighley.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—Rebuilt in 1832.

A. 3.—Water only. Sun Beck.

A. 4.—Eight or nine-horse power; all employed by myself.

A. 5.



A. 5.—Thirty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 3        |

Yorkshire.

John Clough.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 9½d. | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 8d.  | 2s. 7½d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d.  | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 3d.  | 3s. 8d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 4s. 6d.  | 6s. 2d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —        | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.     | 6s. 6d.  |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 7.—None are paid by piece-work; all are paid by the day or week.

A. 8.—None except what are paid by the master himself.

A. 9.—The same as the regular time.

A. 10.—From six to half past six o'clock in the morning, and terminates between seven and eight o'clock at night.

A. 11.—In drouthy seasons, commences and terminates very irregularly.

A. 12.—Saturdays, eleven hours; make up the one hour in the other five days, as convenient to the overlooker and the rest of the hands.

A. 13.—One hour allowed for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops for dinner, but not for any other meal.

A. 15.—In summer, when I have been short of water, and rain comes, make up one hour and a half or two hours per day over, towards the lost time.

A. 16.—If accidents happen in the mill, give them their wages till they come to their work again.

A. 17.—Ten half-holidays and two holidays.

A. 18.—Give them one day, Christmas day; gain all the rest at half an hour to one hour per day, or deduct for lost time.

A. 19.—No exact rule. If any hands come, at different times, too late, fine them a quarter of a day's wages.

A. 20.—Never work more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—Never work more than one set of children during the same set of adult hands.

Two sets of children could not be got at many mills.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned at any age in this mill.

A. 23.—It requires children under twelve years as spinners.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—Have no time-book to refer to; cannot answer these questions.

A. 26.—This mill was rebuilt in 1832.

A. 27.—I should petition for a bill to run twelve hours a day, for five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday; with allowance to gain half an hour per day for time lost by drouths and floods, accidents to the water-wheel, engines, &amp;c.

JOHN CLOUGH.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT CLOUGH, Keighley.

No. 146.

Robert Clough.

A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarns.

A. 2.—It was applied to its present purpose in 1820.

A. 3.—Water, supplied by the River Worth.

A. 4.—Twenty horse power, wholly employed by myself.

A. 5.—Fifty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16       | 5      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 8        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 9        |

A. 7.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 4s.      | 3, earning 6s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5, earning 13s.     | 3, earning 9s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 13s.     | 6, earning 19s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 5, earning 21s.     | 5, earning 17s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 10s. 6d. | 4, earning 23s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, earning 13s.     | 8, earning 48s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 2, earning 43s.     | 9, earning 58s. 6d. |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 7.



Yorkshire.

Robert Clough.

A. 7.—I have none that work by the piece; they all work by the week, and the above is a correct statement of their weekly earnings.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Exactly the same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 11.—As my mill is entirely dependent on other mills for the supply of water, I cannot exactly state the time of commencing and concluding work in drouthy seasons.

A. 12.—It is generally rather less on Saturdays, which is regularly made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—Forty-five minutes for dinner, between twelve and one o'clock; twelve take their meals at a different time, as they are not exactly dependent on the moving power.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during dinner-time.

A. 15.—Loss of time is paid for to the workpeople, and is made up by working one hour per day extra five of the first days in the week, until the time so lost is made up.

A. 16.—No time allowed during sickness; absence from the mill in the case of accidents is allowed for.

A. 17.—They have generally about one holiday and twelve half holidays.

A. 18.—They have two holidays allowed, and the other is made up, as explained in Question 15.

A. 19.—Fines, I have none; I take nothing off their regular week's wage, unless they are absent a quarter of a day.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; I have no objections to employ two sets of children to one set of adults, if the hours of labour for children under fourteen years of age should be made shorter.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned at any age.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age can do very well in the process of piecing ends, in which process the greatest number of young children are employed.

A. 24.—As I regularly pay for lost time, as before specified, I cannot exactly ascertain the number of days, as required in this question.

A. 25.—As I cannot ascertain the number of days, neither can I ascertain the number of hours as here required.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—If the legislature think proper to alter the hours of labour in factories, I beg that the moving power may not be restricted, and that one set of hands may be wrought sixty-nine hours per week, that is, twelve hours per day for the first five days in the week, and nine on Saturdays; and also that we may be allowed to make up any time that may be lost through accidents or drouthy seasons, so that the workpeople may have regular wages to depend upon.

ROBERT CLOUGH.

No. 147.

Greenwood & Sons.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN GREENWOOD and Sons, Keighley.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning from No. 20<sup>s</sup>. to No. 36<sup>s</sup>.

A. 2.—In the year 1784.

A. 3.—Both steam and water, Keighley North Beck.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, thirty horse power; none let.

A. 5.—Fifty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |    |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|----|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | —  | - | - | -        | 1  | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 4  | - | - | -        | 3  | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 4  | - | - | -        | 2  | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 3  | - | - | -        | 3  | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1  | - | - | -        | 5  | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | —  | - | - | -        | 7  | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 10 | - | - | -        | 15 | - | - |

The above includes two warehousemen, of twenty-one and thirty-two years of age.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |           |   |   | FEMALES. |          |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------|---|---|----------|----------|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | —         | - | - | -        | 1s. 6d.  | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 1s. 7½d.  | - | - | -        | 2s. 5d.  | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 1s. 9¾d.  | - | - | -        | 3s. 4½d. | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 3s. 9d.   | - | - | -        | 4s. 4d.  | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 4s. 3d.   | - | - | -        | 5s. 8½d. | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | —         | - | - | -        | 6s. 4¾d. | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 14s. 8½d. | - | - | -        | 6s. 6¾d. | - | - |

This average of wage includes the whole of the hands employed at this mill; total number, fifty-eight. See Query 5.

A. 7.—Three warpers, twenty-one and upwards, earning 7s. in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.



- A. 9.—Over-hours paid in proportion to their wage.
- A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and seven at night, except Saturday, on which day the mill stops at half past five in the afternoon, beginning at six in the morning.
- A. 11.—Having a steam-engine, no time is lost by drought.
- A. 13.—One hour for dinner, at half past twelve o'clock at noon.
- A. 14.—The whole of the dinner-hour.
- A. 15.—Loss of time made up by not more than half an hour a day; if the hands are absent, deductions are made after the rate of their wages; when the time is made up, no alteration is made in the wages.
- A. 16.—The surgeon's bills, if any accident occurs in the mill, are generally paid, but they are of rare occurrence.
- A. 17.—In 1832, Tuesday, 6th March, Shrovetide, half a day; 21st March, general fast, one day; Monday, 23d April, Easter, one day; 8th and 9th May, Keighley fair, two days; 11th June, Whitsuntide, half a day; 30th July, parish feast, half a day; 27th August, Bingley-tide, half a day; 8th and 9th November, Keighley fair, one day and a half; 25th December, Christmas-day, one day.
- A. 18.—No wage paid for the holidays named in Answer 17, nor is the time ever made up.
- A. 19.—At the end of the week, the time of the absence is taken, and a deduction made in proportion to their wage; suppose 6s. a week, it will be 1d. per hour.
- A. 20.—No.
- A. 21.—None required.
- A. 22.—Never.
- A. 23.—In doffing the bobbins and sweeping the rooms, &c.
- A. 24.—The whole time, with the exception of the holidays stated in Query 17.
- A. 25.—Average twelve hours a day.
- A. 26.—None.
- A. 27.—We consider twelve hours a day the best time both for masters and hands.

Yorkshire.

Greenwood & Sons.

JOHN GREENWOOD &amp; SONS.

## ANSWERS of N. CONSTANTINE, Keighley, Yorkshire.

No. 148.

N. Constantine.

A. 1.—Preparing and spinning of sheep's wool into worsted yarn, after it has passed the operation of combing.

A. 2.—In the year 1811, and completed in 1812.

A. 3.—The power originally was intended for water alone, but finding the stream too weak in dry seasons, a small engine was added in the year 1832, solely for the purpose of assisting the water power in dry seasons. The rivulet which supplied the mill is known by the name of the North Beck.

A. 4.—The power of the wheel and small engine together may be computed at about eighteen horse power, wholly employed by the owners of the premises.

A. 5.—Forty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 7      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 5½d.  | 2s. 1d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 10d.  | 3s. 1d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 4½d.  | 3s. 10½d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 10d.  | 5s. 0d.   |
| 16 and under 18       | —         | 5s. 6d.   |
| 18 and under 21       | —         | 6s. 0½d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 1½d. | 6s. 0d.   |

A. 7.—Six persons, viz. one male, and five females, earning 6s. 0¾d. in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—We have no hands employed but what receive their wages direct from the owners of the mill.

A. 9.—If we have occasion to employ any of the male adults at any time in assisting occasional mechanics in repairs, we pay them for over-time after the rate of their weekly wages.

A. 10.—For the winter season, we begin to work at seven o'clock in the morning, and continue the same hour until the spring, when we alter the time to six o'clock in the morning, and give over work at eight o'clock in the winter season, and seven o'clock in summer.

(APP.—C. 1.)

Z z

A. 11.



Yorkshire.

N. Constantine.

A. 11.—In dry seasons we are not so much dependent on the mills above us on the same stream as some are, having a moderate reservoir, which enables us to commence at regular hours generally and conclude the same.

A. 12.—On Saturdays, we begin at the usual time in the morning, say seven o'clock in winter and six o'clock in summer, and leave at half past six o'clock in winter, and half past five in summer; having run half an hour over on the Thursday, and half an hour on the Friday, and half an hour on the Saturday noon, which makes up for the hour and a half for Saturday night.

A. 13.—We have no stated hours for meals except dinner, for which we allow a full hour. As our mill is situated a mile from the town, and we have part hands therefrom, we provide a fire and kettle in the counting-house to supply themselves with a comfortable cup of coffee to breakfast, if they have occasion for it, during which time their frames are minded by some other hands, or sometimes in the drawing room they are standing.

A. 14.—The moving power always stops a full hour for dinner, except on Saturdays.

A. 15.—We take off the wages of the hands for lost time when occasioned by the breaking of any part of the machinery, but all losses occasioned by want of water we take to our own account, without deducting any thing from the full wages of the hands, or taking any remuneration by working them overtime. This we consider the most eligible way, as factory hands are continually changing, and it would be a tax upon a new hand to work up the lost time of an old one.

A. 16.—We make no allowance to hands when taken off their work by sickness. If an accident occurs that requires surgical aid, we pay the doctor's bill and full wages to the patient during the time he or she is not capable of attending their regular work.

A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter Monday, half a day; Whitsuntide Monday, half a day; Keighley May fair, two days; Keighley parish feast, a day; Bingley-tide, half a day; Keighley November fair, two days; and Christmas, two days.

A. 18.—We take off the hands' wages for all regular holidays, and do not work it up before or after.

A. 19.—We do not impose fines upon the hands, but expect them to attend within five minutes of the time fixed; and if this is not attended to, a repetition generally begets a dismissal.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—We never have employed more than one set of children. When we take a child of very tender years, we indulge it with stopping at home for an hour, or an hour and a half in a morning for a few months, till it becomes acquainted with its work, which we consider to be easier for children than roving about and doing mischief, to the injury of their neighbours.

A. 22.—We do not suffer corporal punishments to be inflicted upon the children, nor do we think such correction advisable.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are very useful in the spinning department, and their labour is very easy. The first process of their labour is only to take a full bobbin from the spindle and put an empty one on in its place, the weight of which rarely exceeds three ounces.

A. 24.—The average for each week, during 1830, was January,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days; February,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days; March, 6 days; April, 6 days; May,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days; June, 6 days; July,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days; August,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days; September,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  days; October, 6 days; November,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days; December,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days. Of the foregoing, fifty-two were Saturdays. 1831 and 1832 the same as 1830, except casual stoppages.

A. 25.—January, February, March, 1056; April, May, June, 1068; July, August, September, 1068; October, November, December, 1056.

A. 26.—Alterations in factories are continually taking place, such as changing of hands, &c. and too often breakings of machinery, &c. which cannot be enumerated, and frequently cause a considerable expence both in repairs and loss of work.

A. 27.—We think if an Act was passed and enforced to compel all factories not to exceed twelve hours working in each day, it would be a good thing, with a provision for allowances for watermills to enable them to work up lost time occasioned by want of water in dry seasons. Also a consideration for loss of time occasioned by the breaking of machinery, &c. both for water and steam mills. But why enforce an Act against factories alone, and let every other class of his Majesty's subjects conduct their establishments without molestation? What is the difference between children and adult hands being employed in factories and other establishments, where their time is required longer than the hours fixed by a Factory Bill? Ought it not to extend to all his Majesty's subjects?

N. CONSTANTINE.

No. 149.

David Illingworth.

## ANSWERS of DAVID ILLINGWORTH, Keighley.

A. 1.—The upper part of the mill is worsted.

A. 2.—It was applied to the worsted spinning in the year 1828.

A. 3.—Water.

A. 4.—About ten horse power; it also has to work three pairs of stones for grinding corn, and the corn machinery.

A. 5.



A. 5.—Thirteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 1        |

Yorkshire.

David Illingworth.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES.   |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, 2s. 6d. | —          |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1, 2s. 6d. | 1, 2s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, 2s. 6d. | 2, 2s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16       | —          | 1, 4s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | —          | 1, 6s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, 20s.    | —          |

A. 7.—Three persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 1, earning 5s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, earning 3s.     |

Earnings of a week of twelve hours each day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The pay is the same for over hours as the regular time, because they are paid to the full when we are short of water.

A. 10.—We begin at six o'clock in summer mornings, and seven in winter; we terminate at seven in summer evenings, and eight in winter, allowing one hour for dinner.

A. 11.—Our mill is the first on this stream of water, of course we are the first takers. Our time of commencing in drougthy seasons is irregular.

A. 12.—We work on a Saturday the same length of time as on other days.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed for dinner, that is, from half after twelve to half after one. Their other meals are brought to them.

A. 14.—The works are stopped during the dinner hour.

A. 15.—The workpeople are paid to the full time when any of the machinery has to stand through any accident; the time is made up in over hours when the water is plentiful.

A. 16.—The hands are not paid for time they are sick. We have not had any accidents happen at our mill.

A. 17.—They have eight regular holidays and two half holidays.

A. 18.—We do not pay them for the holidays.

A. 19.—There is no fine imposed whatever, unless they exceed two hours.

A. 20.—We only employ one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of hands since we commenced spinning.

A. 22.—We avoid corporal punishments as much as possible; it is very seldom resorted to, as it tends to harden the children's feeling.

A. 23.—We are not particular to children twelve years of age; children of that age are preferred for spinning.

A. 24.—During the last three years, our average loss of time has exceeded six weeks per annum, arising from deficiency of water and accidents in machinery.

A. 26.—None, whatever.

A. 27.—It is my opinion, that an alteration in the hours of labour will be injurious to water mills that are not regularly supplied.

DAVID ILLINGWORTH.

## ANSWERS of Mr. WILLIAM LUND, North Beck Mill, Keighley.

No. 150.

William Lund.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn solely.

A. 2.—About the year 1830, and entirely occupied in this business.

A. 3.—Water entirely, supplied by a rivulet commonly called the North Beck.

A. 4.—The wheel is twenty-four feet diameter; the power indefinite, but wholly employed by the tenant.

A. 5.—Thirty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | 3        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
William Lund.

|                                        |   |          |   |          |   |
|----------------------------------------|---|----------|---|----------|---|
| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— |   | MALES.   |   | FEMALES. |   |
| Under 10 years of age                  | - | 2s. 6d.  | - | 2s. 6d.  | - |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | - | 3s.      | - | —        | - |
| 12 and under 14                        | — | 3s.      | - | 3s. 6d.  | - |
| 14 and under 16                        | — | 6s.      | - | 4s. 6d.  | - |
| 16 and under 18                        | — | 5s.      | - | 4s. 6d.  | - |
| 18 and under 21                        | — | —        | - | 5s. 6d.  | - |
| 21 and upwards                         | - | 18s. 4d. | - | 6s.      | - |

A. 7.—Two females, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 7s. 6d.

A. 8.—There are no persons but what are in the direct employ of the occupier.

A. 9.—Precisely the same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning for the six summer months, and ends at seven o'clock; and at seven o'clock in the morning for the six winter months, and concludes at eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—This mill is entirely dependent on the running of those mills above us; and, in drouthy seasons, is altogether dependent on them, having no separate supply from any other source.

A. 12.—The mill closes two hours earlier on Saturday; but the time is made up by running over-hours the other five days.

A. 13.—From eight to half-past eight is allowed for breakfast, during which period the machinery does not stand, but goes considerably slower; dinner one hour, from twelve to one, during which the machinery completely stands; and from four to half-past four, the same regulation is observed as at breakfast.

A. 14.—Refer to the last answer.

A. 15.—The practice has been, when drought or accidents have occurred, to make up the deficiency of time so arising by running one hour per day over; but it very seldom happens that the time so lost is made up, but is most frequently, after a certain period, a gift to the hands.

A. 16.—The most common practice is to continue their wages, unless the illness is protracted; and in the case of accidents, if they have taken place in or about the mill, the medical attendant is likewise paid.

A. 17.—About ten days in the year.

A. 18.—The holidays are generally made up by over-hours, or deducted, according to the value of the time so absent, from their wages.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed, nor is any notice taken of half an hour's lateness, unless the party transgressing make a regular practice of it.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never: nor do I think the practice advisable or beneficial; as one child cannot, by such an arrangement, have the entire management of their own work: it has a tendency likewise to promote habits of carelessness, and give birth to unnecessary and endless complaints.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—It does, in piecing ends: but the necessity for employing them is created by the parents forcing them upon us; for the practice is, where we have two or three of one family, say from twelve to sixteen, we are compelled to take those under ten, or have the others taken from us.

A. 24.—The mill has run regularly twelve hours per day, for six days in the week, deducting the exceptions before stated, and likewise a few occasional days when the dam has been out of repair.

A. 25.—No account has been kept of the number of hours run in each quarter.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—My opinion, as to any legislative measure for the regulation of hours of labour for children in mills, is decidedly opposed to any enactment which would have a tendency to cripple the productive powers of the manufacturer to less than twelve hours per day, or sixty-nine hours per week. And I would further embrace this opportunity of stating, that the general feeling amongst the manufacturers is opposed to the introduction of any children under ten or twelve years of age into mills, were it not for the reasons as stated in the answer to the 23d Query.

WM. LUND.

No. 151.  
Lund & Sugden.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. LUND and SUGDEN, Costel, Keighley.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—The year 1824.

A. 3.—Water from the North Beck.

A. 4.—Twelve-horse power; part let off to J. Sugden and Co.

|                               |   |        |   |          |   |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|
| A. 5.—Seventeen persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |   |
| 10 and under 12 years         | - | 4      | - | 3        | - |
| 12 and under 14               | — | —      | - | 4        | - |
| 14 and under 16               | — | —      | - | 1        | - |
| 16 and under 18               | — | —      | - | 1        | - |
| 18 and under 21               | — | —      | - | 1        | - |
| 21 and upwards                | - | 1      | - | 2        | - |

A. 6.



|                                       |          |   |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---|----------|
| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.   |   | FEMALES. |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 2s. 7½d. | - | 2s. 7½d. |
| 12 and under 14                       | —        | - | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16                       | —        | - | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18                       | —        | - | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21                       | —        | - | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards                        | 20s.     | - | —        |

Yorkshire.  
Lund & Sugden.

A. 7.—Females of twenty-one and upwards earn 7s. 6d. in a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and seven at night, in summer; at seven in the morning, and eight at night, in winter.

A. 11.—Irregular.

A. 12.—None.

A. 13.—One hour at noon.

A. 14.—Stops one hour at noon.

A. 15.—Part loss to both.

A. 16.—Allowances for accidents.

A. 17.—Twelve days.

A. 18.—Neither paid nor made up.

A. 19.—Not very strict with regard to that.

A. 20 & 21.—None.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Yes; for spinning only.

A. 24.—We kept no account.

A. 25.—We do not know.

A. 26.—No particular alteration.

A. 27.—Eleven hours.

LUND & SUGDEN.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. BENJAMIN and WILLIAM MARRINER, Keighley.

No. 152.

B. & W. Marriner.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—Applied to worsted spinning in the year 1818.

A. 3.—Water power only, produced by the river Worth.

A. 4.—The whole power of wheel, about thirty-horse; and near one half let off, for the same purpose, and under the same regulations.

|                                  |        |   |          |
|----------------------------------|--------|---|----------|
| A. 5.—Ninety-seven persons; viz. | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |
| Under 10 years of age            | 4      | - | 7        |
| 10 and under 12 years            | 5      | - | 8        |
| 12 and under 14                  | 7      | - | 7        |
| 14 and under 16                  | 6      | - | 10       |
| 16 and under 18                  | —      | - | 14       |
| 18 and under 21                  | —      | - | 7        |
| 21 and upwards                   | 8      | - | 14       |

|                                       |           |   |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|
| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.    |   | FEMALES.  |
| Under 10 years of age                 | 2s.       | - | 1s. 8¾d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 2s. 2½d.  | - | 2s. 10¼d. |
| 12 and under 14                       | 3s.       | - | 3s. 5¼d.  |
| 14 and under 16                       | 5s.       | - | 4s. 4½d.  |
| 16 and under 18                       | —         | - | 5s. 7¾d.  |
| 18 and under 21                       | —         | - | 6s.       |
| 21 and upwards                        | 16s. 1¼d. | - | 5s. 7½d.  |

A. 7.—Three females; viz.

18 and under 21 years - - - 1, earning 6s.

21 and upwards - - - 2, earning 6s.

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening, allowing one hour for dinner.

A. 11.—Not entirely dependent on the mills above, having a reservoir. At six o'clock in the morning till eight in the evening; in which case the whole mill stands several times during the day.

A. 12.—Occasionally ten hours and three quarters on Saturdays; and when that is the case, a quarter of an hour per day is added to the remaining five days, making a total of seventy-two hours in the week.

A. 13.—Dinners from twelve to one o'clock; breakfasts and teas are brought by their parents, and taken during the working hours.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 A

A. 14.



Yorkshire.

B. & W. Marriner.

A. 14.—The whole moving power stops at noon.

A. 15.—Accidents happening to the principal machinery, and causing the mill to stand six whole hours, a half day is generally deducted from their earnings; and less than that time is made up by a quarter to half an hour per day. All extra time is paid for the same as Question 6.

A. 16.—The surgeon's bill is discharged by the employers, when an accident happens in the mill.

A. 17.—Six days and a half.

A. 18.—The above holidays are deducted from the earnings.

A. 19.—Absentees on their own account are deducted from their earnings. Five minutes are allowed for the hands to assemble after the mill commences; each individual, after that time, forfeits one halfpenny, which forfeits are deposited in a fund, and disposed of by a committee of the hands, for the relief of the sick children employed on the premises.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—No; when the children become unmanageable, they are dismissed.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are generally employed in keeping the floors clear from wool and waste, and stripping bobbins from the machinery; some are occasionally set to spin, in which case their work is proportioned to their age.

| A. 24.— |                               | Days. |     | Saturdays. |    |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------|-----|------------|----|
| 1830.   | From 1st January to 1st April | -     | 76½ | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st April to 1st July         | -     | 75½ | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st July to 1st Oct.          | -     | 80  | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st Oct. to 31st Dec.         | -     | 82  | -          | 13 |
| 1831.   | From 1st January to 1st April | -     | 81½ | -          | 12 |
|         | 1st April to 1st July         | -     | 79½ | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st July to 1st Oct.          | -     | 79½ | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st Oct. to 31st Dec.         | -     | 75  | -          | 14 |
| 1832.   | From 1st January to 1st April | -     | 78½ | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st April to 1st July         | -     | 75  | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st July to 1st Oct.          | -     | 73  | -          | 13 |
|         | 1st Oct. to 31st Dec.         | -     | 72  | -          | 13 |

The above are the total number of days run in each quarter, and paid for.

| A. 25.— |                               | Hours. |     |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------|-----|
| 1830.   | From 1st January to 1st April | -      | 918 |
|         | 1st April to 1st July         | -      | 906 |
|         | 1st July to 1st Oct.          | -      | 960 |
|         | 1st Oct. to 31st Dec.         | -      | 984 |
| 1831.   | From 1st January to 1st April | -      | 978 |
|         | 1st April to 1st July         | -      | 954 |
|         | 1st July to 1st Oct.          | -      | 954 |
|         | 1st Oct. to 31st Dec.         | -      | 900 |
| 1832.   | From 1st January to 1st April | -      | 942 |
|         | 1st April to 1st July         | -      | 900 |
|         | 1st July to 1st Oct.          | -      | 876 |
|         | 1st Oct. to 31st Dec.         | -      | 864 |

The above are the total number of hours run in each quarter.

A. 26.—No, none.

A. 27.—Our regular standard time is twelve hours per day; although in 1830 and 1831, we ran part of the time thirteen hours per day, as stated above. We consider that a reasonable Act of Parliament for regulating the time of labour in factories would be beneficial, inasmuch as it would place us all on an equal footing; but a ten hours bill would be ruinous to all parties.

B. F. MARRINER.

W. MARRINER.

No. 153.

Hartley Merrall.

## ANSWERS of HARTLEY MERRALL, Keighley.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 3.—Water and steam.

A. 4.—Engine, eight-horse power; water-wheel, about twelve horse power: employ part, the other part is worsted spinning.

A. 5.—Twenty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---|----------|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | — | -        | 2 |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2 | -        | 1 |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 3 | -        | — |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 3 | -        | 3 |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | — | -        | 7 |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 1 | -        | 1 |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 1 | -        | 2 |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —        | 5s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 11s. 3d. | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 12s.     | 15s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 38s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 6s.      | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s.     | 11s. 6d. |

Yorkshire.

Hartley Merrall.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same for over-hours as for standing weekly wages.

A. 10.—Six in the morning the time of commencing, and about half-past seven o'clock the time of concluding work.

A. 11.—In drougthy seasons, the hour of commencing work varies much; sometimes it is eight o'clock in the morning, and sometimes later; same at concluding work at night.

A. 12.—No.

A. 13.—A short time allowed for dinner, but no time allowed for other meals.

A. 14.—All the moving-power stops at noon, but not at other meals.

A. 15.—If any time is lost by being short of water, the hands get their full wage; and when there is water, it is made up, without paying any extra wage to the hands.

A. 16.—If hands get hurt in the mill, we pay them full wage till such hands get well.

A. 17.—Four days, and four half days.

A. 18.—They are generally paid for the holidays, and the time is made up by working about an hour per day over till the time is made up.

A. 19.—If hands stop away a day or two of their own accord, they are bated for it; but there is no fine.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. No objection respecting tender children.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—We generally have piecers under twelve years of age, owing to the inability to pay greater wage to persons of advanced years.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—Do not know.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I think that sixty-nine hours per week will not be too much for children above nine years of age; but if an Act passes for under that time, we shall be obliged to curtail both in the number of hands and wage.

HARTLEY MERRALL.

## ANSWERS of RICHARD ROBINSON, Hiltop, Keighley.

No. 154.

Richard Robinson.

A. 1.—Preparing and spinning sheep's wool, after it has passed the operation of combing, into worsted yarn.

A. 2.—In the year 1817.

A. 3.—Worked by water alone; and by a small stream of water running down the north side of the parish.

A. 4.—The power of the wheel may be about five-horse power; employed wholly by the occupier.

A. 5.—Fifteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d. | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.     | 3s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Two females, earning 10s. in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same; but seldom done.

A. 10.—We begin at six in the morning, and end at seven in the evening.

A. 11.—We can work about eight hours per day in drougthy weather.

A. 12.—Sometimes the hands give over a little sooner, and make up the time on some of the other days.

A. 13.—We allow one hour at noon for dinner; the other meals are mostly gotten while the frames are running, but the other hands sometimes mind them.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 14.



Yorkshire.

Richard Robinson.

- A. 14.—The mill stops one hour at noon.  
 A. 15.—We do not abate the wages for scarcity of water, or misfortunes ; neither do we make the lost time up afterwards.  
 A. 16.—We do not pay wages during sickness.  
 A. 17.—Eight whole days, and four half days.  
 A. 18.—We do not allow any wages for the holidays.  
 A. 19.—We do not make any abatement in the wages for the hands being two or three hours too late, but the other hands usually mind the work of those who are absent.  
 A. 20.—We do not.  
 A. 21.—Never.  
 A. 22.—We punish very little ; and when we do, it is a slap with the flat hand, and to that they are all alike liable.  
 A. 23.—We do not want any under twelve years, but people are desirous of sending them sooner.  
 A. 24.—We do not keep accounts, so that we cannot answer this question.  
 A. 25.—We cannot answer this question.  
 A. 26.—None.  
 A. 27.—I think it would be better if children under twelve years of age were not bound to work above ten hours per day.

RICHARD ROBINSON.

## ANSWERS of BERRY SMITH, Keighley.

No. 155.

Berry Smith.

- A. 1.—Spinning worsted, by commission.  
 A. 2.—About 1810.  
 A. 3.—By steam only.  
 A. 4.—About twenty-horse power ; employed only by self.  
 A. 5.—Sixty persons ; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 12     | 10       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | 8        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are : —
- |                       | MALES.       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 3d.      | 2s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d.      | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 6d.      | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —            | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —            | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s. to 18s. | —        |
- A. 7.—We have no piece-work, except reeling and warping : reeling averages 7s. per week, and warping 10s. ; females mostly employed.  
 A. 8.—Have none.  
 A. 9.—The same as regular time.  
 A. 10.—Work begins at six o'clock in the morning, ends at seven o'clock at night, about eight months in summer ; and begins at seven o'clock in the morning, ends at eight o'clock at night, four months in winter.  
 A. 12.—We work twelve hours and a half five days in the week, and an hour less on Saturdays, which makes eleven hours and a half ; so that we have two hours each week to make up for lost time, accidents, and holidays ; then what this leaves short of making up for holidays they are not paid for, but bated in their wages.  
 A. 13.—The engine stops at a quarter past twelve o'clock at noon, and begins again at one ; that is the only time we stop for meals ; all other meals are got while the engine is at work.  
 A. 14.—See No. 13.  
 A. 15.—See No. 12.  
 A. 16.—There is no time allowed for sickness that is paid for, but their place is left open for them till they get better ; if they are maimed by accident by the machinery, their time is then paid them as if they were at work, and the doctor's bill also.  
 A. 17.—Whole days and half days all would make up about seven days and a half per year.  
 A. 18.—See No. 12.  
 A. 19.—We never had any settled time for fining, for not being in time in the morning, or any other part of the day ; if any one begin to be habitual in coming late to work, we then bate them for the time they are too late only, and no more.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No, we never have, nor should we ever wish to do so.

A. 22.



A. 22.—There never was a design formed, in any mind that was humane, to use any corporal punishments to children or adults: we should act to any child as a father acts to his children; but, nevertheless, a father may be drawn at certain times to lift his hand to his child.

A. 23.—Yes; they are employed in piecing ends.

A. 24.—In the first six months of 1830, our machinery would average about five days in the week, or ten hours per day; after that, full time till the middle of November 1831; and from November 1831, to November 1832, we should hardly average four days and a half per week, for a whole year.

A. 25.—The answer is above.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—I think, beginning at six o'clock in the morning the work should end at six o'clock at night, even for an adult, and less should do for children.

BERRY SMITH.

Yorkshire.

Berry Smith.

### ANSWERS of Wm. SMITH and Sons, Keighley.

No. 156.

Smith & Sons.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarn, and making of rollers and spindles for worsted machinery.

A. 2.—About the year 1830.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—The power of the engine is sixteen horse, and wholly employed by the tenants.

A. 5.—Thirty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | 3        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Four females, twenty-one and upwards, earning 7s. 6d.

A. 8.—There are no persons but what are in the direct employ of the occupier.

A. 9.—Precisely the same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning and concludes at seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—The mill closes one hour and a half earlier on Saturday, but the time is made up by running over hours the other five days.

A. 13.—From eight to half past eight is allowed for breakfast, during which period the machinery does not stand; from twelve to one, during which the machinery completely stands; and from four to half past four, the same regulation is observed as at breakfast.

A. 14.—Refer to the last answer.

A. 15.—The practice has been when accidents have occurred to make up the deficiency of time so arising, by running one hour per day over.

A. 16.—The most common practice is, to deduct the proportionate value of the time absent from their wages.

A. 17.—About ten days in the year.

A. 18.—The holidays are generally made up by over hours or deduct the proportionate value of the time absent from their wages.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never, nor do we think the practice advisable or beneficial, as one child cannot by such an arrangement have the entire management of their own work; it has a tendency likewise to promote habits of carelessness and give birth to unnecessary and endless complaints.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—It does, in piecing ends.

A. 24.—The mill has run regularly twelve hours per diem, for six days per week, deducting the exceptions before stated.

A. 25.—No account has been kept of the number of hours run each quarter.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Our opinion as to any legislative measure for the regulation of hours of labour for children in mills is decidedly in favour of ten hours per day, or sixty hours per week.

WILLIAM SMITH & Co.



Yorkshire.

## ANSWERS of J. SUGDEN and Co., Keighley.

No. 157.

Sugden & Co.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning.  
 A. 2.—The year 1824.  
 A. 3.—Water from the North Beck.  
 A. 4.—Twelve horse power, and part let off to John Lund and Sugden, worsted spinning.

A. 5.—Twenty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7s. 6d. | 9s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 7s.     | 8s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —       | 9s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 12s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s.    | 7s.      |

In a regular week of ten hours.

- A. 7.—Four females, twenty-one and upwards, earning 7s.  
 A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—The same.  
 A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning and at seven o'clock at night in the summer; and at seven o'clock in the morning and at eight o'clock at night in the winter.  
 A. 11.—Irregular.  
 A. 12.—No difference.  
 A. 13.—One hour at noon.  
 A. 14.—Stops one hour at noon.  
 A. 15.—Part lost to both.  
 A. 16.—Allowance for accidents.  
 A. 17.—Twelve days.  
 A. 18.—Neither paid nor made up.  
 A. 19.—Not very strict on that account.  
 A. 20 & 21.—No.  
 A. 22.—Not sanctioned.  
 A. 23.—Yes, for spinning only.  
 A. 24.—We have kept no account particularly, but they will not average above five days and three quarters.  
 A. 25.—We do not know exactly, but we can truly say not above nine hundred hours.  
 A. 26.—Nothing material.  
 A. 27.—Eleven hours.

JONATHAN SUGDEN,  
 JAMES JUDSON,  
 ROBERT SUGDEN,  
 MARY JUDSON.

No. 158.

William Sugden.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM SUGDEN, Fleece Mill, Keighley.

- A. 1.—Preparing and spinning worsted yarn.  
 A. 2.—Erected in the year 1820, for the preparing and spinning worsted yarn.  
 A. 3.—Steam.  
 A. 4.—Two steam-engines; one of twelve, and the other of thirty horse power. The whole power employed by myself.

A. 5.—One hundred and fifty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 12       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 12     | 7        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6      | 22       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 18       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 22       |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | 31       |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 9d.  | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.  | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s.      | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.      | 4s. 9d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s.      | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s.     | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s. 6d. | 6s.      |

Yorkshire.  
William Sugden.

A. 7.—Seventeen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | —      | 2, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 2, earning 7s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 13, earning 8s.    |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Any of the workpeople working over-hours are paid for such over-hours after the same rate as their weekly wages.

A. 10.—All the workpeople begin to work at six o'clock in the morning, and give over working at seven o'clock in the evening. These hours are not varied.

A. 11.—This question (as the moving-power is steam) does not apply to this mill.

A. 12.—The regular time worked on Saturdays is eleven hours and one sixth. Ten minutes are worked in the dinner-hour on each of the five other days, making the regular working hours into seventy-two per week.

A. 13.—Fifty minutes for dinner; besides which the greater part of the hands have from twenty to thirty minutes allowed, at eight o'clock in the morning, for breakfast-time, and the same in the afternoon, at four o'clock, to take refreshment. All the hands employed take their meals at these times.

A. 14.—The moving power is stopped at dinner-time; at breakfast-time, and at four o'clock in the afternoon, it is not stopped. The spinners take their meals at these times while their frames are at work, their work in general allowing them ample time to do so. The drawers, rovers, cleaners, and jobbers, sit down to take their meals, as stated in the answer to Question 13. All the spinners have seats provided, on which they can sit down at any time in the day.

A. 15.—When the time lost by accidents to the engine, gearing, &c. is less than one day, the hands are paid their full wages, and the time lost is made up generally at the rate of half an hour per day; but if the time lost exceeds twelve hours, it is not made up, and the hands are abated in wages for such lost time.

A. 16.—Only one marked accident has occurred since this mill was built: the individual had his surgeon's bill paid, and half wages allowed till he resumed his work. In slighter cases (when surgical aid is required), the surgeon's bill is paid, but the lost time is not paid for. The sick have frequently presents made them, but observe no regular rule in doing so.

A. 17.—Seven holidays in the year.

A. 18.—In a very few instances holidays have been worked up at the rate of half an hour per day, but in general they have not been worked up: in the former case, they have been paid full wages; in the latter, they have been abated for the time lost.

A. 19.—No fines are ever imposed. If any hand cannot be induced, by gentle means, to be regular in their attendance, they are refused admittance for one fourth part of a day, and one fourth of a day's wages is deducted from them.

A. 20.—No more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never more than one set of children to one set of adult hands; the population of the town would not admit of more than one set.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments are either allowed or sanctioned.

A. 23.—The nature of the work does not absolutely require them under twelve years of age; but children set to work at ten or eleven years of age make the best spinners, and the greatest number are wanted in that process.

A. 24.—

|                                      | Days per quarter. | Saturdays. | Average weekly.   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1830: From 1st January to 31st March | 72                | 13         | 5 $\frac{7}{13}$  |
| 1st April - to 30th June             | 81 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 13         | 6 $\frac{1}{4}$   |
| 1st July - to 30th September         | 84                | 13         | 6 $\frac{6}{13}$  |
| 1st October to 31st December         | 78 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 13         | 6 $\frac{3}{52}$  |
| 1831: From 1st January to 31st March | 79                | 13         | 6 $\frac{1}{13}$  |
| 1st April - to 30th June             | 72                | 13         | 5 $\frac{7}{13}$  |
| 1st July - to 30th September         | 75 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 13         | 5 $\frac{32}{52}$ |
| 1st October to 31st December         | 60 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 14         | 4 $\frac{35}{52}$ |
| 1832: From 1st January to 31st March | 74                | 13         | 5 $\frac{9}{13}$  |
| 1st April - to 30th June             | 74 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 13         | 5 $\frac{37}{52}$ |
| 1st July - to 30th September         | 68 $\frac{3}{4}$  | 13         | 5 $\frac{15}{52}$ |
| 1st October to 31st December         | 72 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 13         | 5 $\frac{30}{52}$ |



| Yorkshire.      | A. 25.—    | Hours per quarter. |                |                |             |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
|                 |            | 1830: From         | 1st January to | 31st March     | - - -       |
| William Sugden. |            |                    | 1st April - to | 30th June      | - - - 864   |
|                 |            |                    | 1st July - to  | 30th September | - - - 975   |
|                 |            |                    | 1st October to | 31st December  | - - - 1,008 |
|                 |            |                    |                |                | - - - 945   |
|                 | 1831: From | 1st January to     | 31st March     | - - -          | 948         |
|                 |            | 1st April - to     | 30th June      | - - -          | 864         |
|                 |            | 1st July - to      | 30th September | - - -          | 908         |
|                 |            | 1st October to     | 31st December  | - - -          | 729         |
|                 | 1832: From | 1st January to     | 31st March     | - - -          | 888         |
|                 |            | 1st April - to     | 30th June      | - - -          | 894         |
|                 |            | 1st July - to      | 30th September | - - -          | 825         |
|                 |            | 1st October to     | 31st December  | - - -          | 870         |

A. 26.—No alteration.

WILLIAM SUGDEN.

No. 159.

William Sugden.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM SUGDEN, Damems Mill, Keighley.

- A. 1.—The preparing and spinning of worsted yarn.
- A. 2.—Was erected for the purpose of spinning cotton, and used in that capacity thirty-five years; the application to its present purpose was in the year 1824.
- A. 3.—The power produced by a river called the Worth, or South Beck.
- A. 4.—The power of the wheel, fourteen horse; the whole of which is employed by me.
- A. 5.—Forty-six persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 8        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 7½d. | 1s. 7½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.  | 3s. 1½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.      | 3s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 6d.  | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s.     | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 8d. | 7s. 6½d. |
- A. 7.—Four females, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 8s. 7d., in a regular week of seventy-two hours.
- A. 8.—Not any.
- A. 9.—The same as regular hours.
- A. 10.—Begin at six in the morning, and terminate at seven in the evening; except three months during winter, begin at seven in the morning and end at eight in the evening, being more convenient to the hands during winter.
- A. 11.—To the extent of two or three hours per day. In rough seasons, begin at half past five in the morning, and terminate at half past eight in the evening.
- A. 12.—The same generally; but have occasionally given up work one hour sooner, and have made up the deficiency by working twelve minutes over each of the other five days, making the week's work seventy-two hours.
- A. 13.—The time allowed is one hour for dinner, being usually taken at half past twelve o'clock. All the hands take their meals at the same time.
- A. 14.—The moving power only stops during dinner. Those engaged in drawing stop their part of the machinery to get breakfast and drinking: those employed in spinning, doffing, &c. do not stop their machinery; but the nature of their employment allows sufficient time to get their meals.
- A. 15.—The lost time is generally made up by working half an hour, or at particular times an hour, each day extra: the hands are paid for that extra time at the usual rate.
- A. 16.—In particular cases, arising from accidents, have made allowances.
- A. 17.—Four whole days and ten half days.
- A. 18.—Either deducted from the wages, or worked up at the rate of half an hour per day, or occasionally one hour per day, and paid at the usual rate.
- A. 19.—Not particular to a few minutes. Fining the hands is not practised: in case any hands are refractory, if after repeated admonitions no reform takes place, they are dismissed.
- A. 20.—No.
- A. 21.—No. The labour not being in any manner excessive, I never saw the necessity to employ more than one set.
- A. 22.—No.

A. 23.



A. 23.—It does. The hands, under twelve years, are chiefly employed in spinning, winding, and doffing.

Yorkshire.

William Sugden.

| A. 24.— |                                  | Days per quarter. | Average weekly. | Saturdays. |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1830.   | From 1st January to 31st March - | 73                | $5\frac{8}{13}$ | 13         |
|         | 1st April - to 30th June -       | 83                | $6\frac{5}{13}$ | 13         |
|         | 1st July - to 30th September -   | $84\frac{1}{2}$   | $6\frac{1}{2}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st October to 31st December -   | $82\frac{3}{4}$   | $6\frac{1}{4}$  | 13         |
| 1831.   | From 1st January to 31st March - | $81\frac{1}{2}$   | $6\frac{7}{8}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st April - to 30th June -       | 83                | $6\frac{5}{8}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st July - to 30th September -   | $79\frac{1}{2}$   | $6\frac{3}{8}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st October to 31st December -   | $68\frac{1}{2}$   | $5\frac{7}{8}$  | 14         |
| 1832.   | From 1st January to 31st March - | $74\frac{1}{2}$   | $5\frac{1}{2}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st April - to 30th June -       | $79\frac{1}{2}$   | $6\frac{3}{8}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st July - to 30th September -   | $69\frac{1}{2}$   | $5\frac{9}{8}$  | 13         |
|         | 1st October to 31st December -   | $75\frac{1}{2}$   | $5\frac{1}{2}$  | 13         |

A. 25.—

Hours per quarter.

|       |                                  |   |   |   |       |
|-------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| 1830. | From 1st January to 31st March - | - | - | - | 876   |
|       | 1st April - to 30th June -       | - | - | - | 996   |
|       | 1st July - to 30th September -   | - | - | - | 1,014 |
|       | 1st October to 31st December -   | - | - | - | 992   |
| 1831. | From 1st January to 31st March - | - | - | - | 978   |
|       | 1st April - to 30th June -       | - | - | - | 996   |
|       | 1st July - to 30th September -   | - | - | - | 954   |
|       | 1st October to 31st December -   | - | - | - | 822   |
| 1832. | From 1st January to 31st March - | - | - | - | 894   |
|       | 1st April - to 30th June -       | - | - | - | 954   |
|       | 1st July - to 30th September -   | - | - | - | 834   |
|       | 1st October to 31st December -   | - | - | - | 906   |

A. 26.—None.

WILLIAM SUGDEN.

ANSWERS of THOMAS WATERHOUSE, Laycock, Keighley.

No. 159.

T. Waterhouse.

A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn.

A. 2.—8th May, 1831.

A. 3.—Water from the North Beck.

A. 4.—Five-horse power.

A. 5.—Fifteen persons; viz.

|                         | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |
|-------------------------|--------|---|---|----------|---|---|
| 10 and under 12 years - | 3      | - | - | 1        | - | - |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 1      | - | - | 2        | - | - |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 1      | - | - | 1        | - | - |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | 1      | - | - | 2        | - | - |
| 21 and upwards -        | 1      | - | - | 2        | - | - |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                         | MALES. |     |                  | FEMALES. |     |                  |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|------------------|----------|-----|------------------|
| 10 and under 14 years - | 2s.    | 11  | $\frac{1}{4}$ d. | 2s.      | 11  | $\frac{1}{4}$ d. |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 3s.    | 8d. | -                | 3s.      | 8d. | -                |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 6s.    | -   | -                | 6s.      | -   | -                |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | 8s.    | 6d. | -                | 6s.      | 6d. | -                |
| 21 and upwards -        | 18s.   | -   | -                | -        | -   | -                |

A. 7.—Females earn 7s. 6d. a week in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—In summer we begin about six in the morning, terminate at about seven o'clock at night; in winter about one hour later in beginning and ending.

A. 11.—Irregular.

A. 12.—None.

A. 13.—At noon near an hour.

A. 14.—All stops near one hour at noon.

A. 15.—Part lost to both.

A. 16.—Allowance for accidents.

A. 17.—In all ten days.

A. 18.—Neither paid nor made up.

A. 19.—Not very strict.

A. 20.—No charge.

A. 21.—None.

A. 22.—Little or none used and not sanctioned.

(APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

T. Waterhouse.

- A. 23.—Yes, for spinning only.  
 A. 24.—We have no account.  
 A. 25.—We do not know.  
 A. 26.—Nothing particular since I entered it.  
 A. 27.—Eleven hours.

THOMAS WATERHOUSE.

No. 160.  
 Cocker & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. BENJAMIN COCKER &amp; Co., Linfit Lane, Kirkburton.

- A. 1.—Wool scribbled, carded, and slubbed, and woollen pieces milled.  
 A. 2.—The old mill erected about 1800, the new mill about 1813.  
 A. 3.—Steam power.  
 A. 4.—Twenty-horse power. We employ the whole of the power ourselves, except two grindstones turning let off.

| A. 5.—Twenty-two persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--------|---|---|----------|---|--|
| Under 10 years of age          | - | 2      | - | - | -        | 2 |  |
| 10 and under 12 years          | - | 2      | - | - | -        | 1 |  |
| 12 and under 14                | — | 2      | - | - | -        | 1 |  |
| 14 and under 16                | — | 1      | - | - | -        | 2 |  |
| 18 and under 21                | — | —      | - | - | -        | 1 |  |
| 21 and upwards                 | - | 8      | - | - | -        | — |  |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— |   | MALES.       |   |   | FEMALES. |      |  |
|----------------------------------------|---|--------------|---|---|----------|------|--|
| Under 10 years of age                  | - | 6s.          | - | - | -        | 6s.  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | - | 6s.          | - | - | -        | 3s.  |  |
| 12 and under 14                        | — | 12s.         | - | - | -        | 3s.  |  |
| 14 and under 16                        | — | 7s.          | - | - | -        | 10s. |  |
| 18 and under 21                        | — | —            | - | - | -        | 7s.  |  |
| 21 and upwards                         | - | 3l. 14s. 6d. | - | - | -        | —    |  |

This is the average when fully employed.

A. 7.—Four males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 18s. in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Seven boys and five girls.

A. 9.—When necessity requires over-hours, the same is paid as is paid for the regular time.

A. 10.—Our day's work commences at half-past six in the morning, and terminates at half-past seven at night, at all times when fully employed.

A. 12.—Our day's work on Saturdays is two hours less than on other days; the time is not made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for drinking, from ten to half-past ten o'clock; one hour for dinner, from half-past twelve to half-past one; and half an hour for drinking, from half past four to five. All employed take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops sometimes; at other times continues, when necessary for propelling the fulling stocks.

A. 15.—We have no fixed rule with regard to making up loss of time from accidents; but sometimes work a little longer, when necessity requires it; and nothing is allowed for the extra time, but is considered in lieu of the lost time.

A. 16.—Time and money have been allowed, at different times, both in cases of sickness and accidents; but we have no specific rule on the subject.

A. 17.—At Christmas, three days; at Fastness, half a day; at Easter, two half days; and at Trinity, three days.

A. 18.—Some are paid for their holiday-time, and some are not: we never make it up at any time.

A. 19.—We have no rules on the subject; nor are our workpeople ever fined for late attendance, or irregularity, or disobedience.

A. 20.—We never have worked more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have never worked more than one set of children at any time; the objection to such a practice is, that we have no necessity for it.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is sanctioned, but not beyond reason; nor can it be dispensed with at all times.

A. 23.—The nature of our work requires children to be employed under twelve years of age; their employment is in piecing cardings, in which employment are the greatest number.

A. 24.—We cannot answer the question here proposed, having kept no time-book; as nearly as we can judge for the time specified, we have been about two-thirds employed.

A. 25.—We have no means of ascertaining how many hours our machinery has been at work during the time specified, nor could we tell for any one quarter.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place but what have been answered in the questions before.

BENJAMIN COCKER &amp; Co.



## ANSWERS of WILLIAM CLAYTON and SON, Langcliff.

Yorkshire.

No. 161.

Clayton &amp; Son.

A. 1.—Cotting spinning and weaving.

A. 2.—One part erected in 1784, another part in 1804.

A. 3.—Water supplied from the river Ribble, assisted by a steam-engine in dry seasons.

A. 4.—Estimated at forty-horse power; the steam-engine required in dry weather is of thirty-horse power. All employed by the occupiers.

| A. 5.—Two hundred and three persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                     | 7      | 9        |
| 10 and under 12 years                     | 7      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14 —                         | 21     | 10       |
| 14 and under 16 —                         | 15     | 10       |
| 16 and under 18 —                         | 10     | 15       |
| 18 and under 21 —                         | 5      | 18       |
| 21 and upwards                            | 35     | 34       |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.        | FEMALES.   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | —             | 2, 2s.     |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 1, 2s.        | 1, 2s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —                     | 4, 2s. 6d.    | 3, 2s. 5d. |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | 2, 4s. 4½d.   | 1, 5s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —                     | 2, 5s.        | —          |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | 1, 6s.        | —          |
| 21 and upwards                        | 10, 15s. 10d. | —          |

A. 7.—One hundred and sixteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 2, earning 3s. 7d.    | 2, earning 3s. 4d.   |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6, earning 6s. 9d.    | 7, earning 7s. 6¾d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4, earning 7s. 10½d.  | 14, earning 6s. 11d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4, earning 8s. 9d.    | 18, earning 8s. 2½d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 25, earning 19s. 5½d. | 34, earning 7s. 8d.  |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Sixty piecers and creel-fillers; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 7, earning 2s. 1d.  | 7, earning 1s. 11½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, earning 2s. 7½d. | 6, earning 2s. 8d.   |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 15, earning 3s. 3d. | 5, earning 3s. 2d.   |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7, earning 3s. 4d.  | 2, earning 3s. 7d.   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4, earning 3s. 7½d. | 1, earning 3s. 6d.   |

A. 9.—The mechanics get more for over-hours; but no allowance is made to the other hands for working over-time, to make up for lost time in dry weather.

A. 10.—In summer, at six o'clock in the morning to seven o'clock in the evening; in winter, at seven o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock in the evening, except on Saturdays, when the people leave work at four o'clock in summer and five o'clock in winter: the change is for the convenience of the hands.

A. 11.—There being only one paper-mill above ours, without almost any reservoir, we are nearly independent of other mills for the supply of water.

A. 12.—We work nine hours on Saturdays, excepting there is some lost time to make good, when we work the same time as other days.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed at noon for dinner: breakfast and tea are taken in the mill during work, the hands living far from the; mill and by so doing they get home earlier in the evening. A person is wholly employed in preparing these meals for them, and more than one half dine on the premises.

A. 14.—The power stops during the hour of dinner. Mechanics go to breakfast, and no others.

A. 15.—When time is lost, we make it good for the most part by working on Saturdays the same time as on other days; and sometimes we have had occasion to work an additional quarter of an hour each day also. No allowance made to the hands at standing wages for such extra time; but the greater part being at piece-work, they of course get remunerated.

A. 16.—We make no allowance in wages, but always pay the surgeon's bill.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, three days at Whitsuntide, and two days in August.

A. 18.—No allowance is made to the people on holidays, and the time is never made good; and no holidays except as stated above.

A. 19.—If the hands are a quarter of an hour too late in coming to work in the morning, they are sent home for three hours. Weavers are fined one penny per hour, and mule-spinners sixpence per hour: the latter fine we have scarcely had occasion to impose.

A. 20.—One set only.

A. 21.—Never; but we can see no objection to the practice, if children could be procured.

A. 22.—No: if the children misbehave, our orders are to send them home.

A. 23.—Certainly not; they are employed as creel-fillers and spreaders of cotton.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 24.



|                              |             |                    |                    |                    |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Yorkshire.<br>Clayton & Son. | A. 24.—     | 1830.              | 1831.              | 1832.              |
|                              | 1st Quarter | 77 - 13 Saturdays. | 77 - 13 Saturdays. | 78 - 13 Saturdays. |
|                              | 2d —        | 75 - 13 —          | 75 - 13 —          | 75 - 13 —          |
|                              | 3d —        | 77 - 12 —          | 77 - 13 —          | 76 - 13 —          |
|                              | 4th —       | 78 - 12 —          | 79 - 14 —          | 78 - 13 —          |
|                              |             |                    |                    |                    |
|                              | A. 25.—     | 1830.              | 1831.              | 1832.              |
|                              | 1st Quarter | no account kept.   | 892                | 907                |
|                              | 2d —        | —                  | 852                | 836                |
|                              | 3d —        | 887                | 905½               | 885½               |
|                              | 4th —       | 902½               | 917½               | 901¼               |

There are a few hours apparently in excess, which is caused by making up for loss of work when short of water, as sometimes we get only ten and a half to eleven hours of work in the twelve.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—Our impression is, that it is indiscreet to interfere with the hours of labour in general; but we think it would perhaps be desirable to prohibit the employment of children under twelve years of age in factories, although in our experience we have observed no injury to the health of children employed twelve hours per day in cotton factories (they are not worked).

WILLIAM CLAYTON and Son.

No. 162.  
Firth & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. FIRTH, HAWORTH, and FIRTH, Causey Wood, Langfield.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning; water twist.

A. 2.—July, 1826.

A. 3.—Both steam and water. The name of the stream is Lumbutts Clough.

A. 4.—The water power is called five-horse, and the steam power eight-horse. We employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Fifty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 7        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 10       |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | 11       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.       | 3s. 6½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.       | 3s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 8d.   | 5s. 0½d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s. 3d.   | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 6d.  | 7s. 1½d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s. 3½d. | 7s. 1d.  |

A. 7.—Five persons; viz.

|                | MALES.          | FEMALES.        |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 21 and upwards | 1, earning 30s. | 4, earning 12s. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and ends at half-past seven o'clock at night.

A. 11.—We are not much affected with drought; and our usual hours of commencing and concluding work are pretty near the same all the year.

A. 12.—Our regular day's work on Saturday is nine hours, which is considered a full day; and none of the time is made up on the other days of the week.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; breakfast at eight o'clock, and dinner at one o'clock. All our hands take their meals at one time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during all the meal-times.

A. 15.—We make no deduction from the wages for the time lost by reason of accidents or injuries to the dam or watercourse; it is made up afterwards, by working extra hours, at the rate of half an hour, and sometimes one hour each day, according to the supply of water that we have.

A. 16.—We allow no time to the hands during sickness: when an accident happens to any of them, we allow half wages for the time they are off. We have very few accidents; now and then a finger crushed a little, generally arising from the carelessness of the persons themselves.

A. 17.—Four days, and four half days.

A. 18.—We pay the workpeople for the four days of holidays, full wages; and for the four half days we pay nothing; it is not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—As our workpeople are generally pretty regular in their attendance, we seldom have occasion to fine them; if any of them are negligent, we sometimes take a quarter of a day's wages off their time, which mostly has the desired effect.

A. 20.



A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—Occasionally we have; whenever we work our adult hands more than twelve hours a day, all the children under eighteen years of age are relieved when they have worked twelve hours. We do not find much inconvenience from the practice.

A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishment.

A. 23.—It does not.

A. 24.—We cannot answer this question correctly, because we keep no account of the time lost by reason of accidents to the dam, &c., or from a scarcity of water, excepting a loose memorandum of it, until it is worked up; but we have very little lost time, excepting the holidays mentioned before: on an average, not more than one day in each year.

A. 25.—The last answer will apply to this also.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We do not object to hours of labour for children under fourteen years of age being limited to eight or ten hours; but we think that, after they arrive at that age, they ought to be left at liberty, in this business, the same as in all others.

FIRTH, HAWORTH, & FIRTH.

Yorkshire.

Firth & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN and JAMES GREENWOOD, Lumbuts, Langfield.

No. 163.

J. & J. Greenwood.

A. 1.—Carding, preparing, and spinning of cotton weft.

A. 2.—Erected in 1811, and has been employed in the same way ever since.

A. 3.—Water; Lumbuts Clough.

A. 4.—About four horse power; we employ it wholly ourselves.

You note 5, 6, 7, 8; these answers, as well as the foregoing, have been forwarded as directed.

A. 9.—We have not the means of working over-hours, nor even of making twelve hours per day throughout the year.

A. 10.—We generally begin at about six o'clock in the morning, and stop at half past seven in the evening, if the water hold out so long.

A. 11.—There is immediately above us a mill, and when there is not an overflow, we cannot move until the water be sent to us from the upper mill.

A. 12.—The hours' work is less on a Saturday than on other days, and we never attempt to make up the difference.

A. 13.—Half an hour at breakfast, at eight o'clock, and one hour at dinner, at one; all take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving-power stops during all and every meal.

A. 15.—We have not the means of making up the whole loss of time from accidents, &c., and are sometimes under the necessity of abating wages.

A. 16.—We do not make any allowance during sickness, as the greater part of our people are in clubs; we have not any experience of absence from accidents.

A. 17.—We only pay wages for two holidays per year; viz. Christmas-day and New Year's-day.

A. 18.—Explained by Answer 17.

A. 19.—We have not any particular rules; but the workpeople know the means of retaining their situations.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—No; in our situation a double set of children is not to be had.

A. 22.—They are not forbidden by us, but would be if we saw any cause for so doing; but trivial punishments are of rare occurrence at our place.

A. 23.—Cotton spinning being so poor a concern that the working spinner cannot afford to pay wages to grown persons, the greatest number of children are employed by the spinners, and paid by them; the youngest that we ourselves pay is eleven years of age.

A. 24 & 25.—We cannot make out a better case than refer you to the answers to Questions 20 and 21, which were sent to you a few days ago.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We refer you to our answer to Questions 37 and 78, which were forwarded to you as stated above.

JOHN & JAMES GREENWOOD.

#### ANSWERS of THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, Langfield.

No. 164.

Thomas Sutcliffe.

A. 1.—Cotton-twist spinning.

A. 2.—About 1812 or 1813.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—About eighteen horse power; the whole power employed.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 D

A. 5.



Yorkshire.  
Thomas Sutcliffe.

| A. 5.—One hundred and fourteen persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|----------------------------------------------|---|--------|---|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age                        | - | 7      | - | - | -        | 1  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                        | - | 11     | - | - | -        | 10 |  |
| 12 and under 14                              | — | 7      | - | - | -        | 12 |  |
| 14 and under 16                              | — | 13     | - | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 16 and under 18                              | — | 5      | - | - | -        | 8  |  |
| 18 and under 21                              | — | 4      | - | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 21 and upwards                               | - | 14     | - | - | -        | 14 |  |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are: |   | MALES.  |   |   | FEMALES. |         |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------|---|---|----------|---------|--|
| Under 10 years of age                | - | 2s.     | - | - | -        | 2s.     |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                | - | 2s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 2s. 6d. |  |
| 12 and under 14                      | — | 3s. 9d. | - | - | -        | 3s. 9d. |  |
| 14 and under 16                      | — | 4s. 9d. | - | - | -        | 4s. 9d. |  |
| 16 and under 18                      | — | 6s.     | - | - | -        | 6s.     |  |
| 18 and under 21                      | — | 8s.     | - | - | -        | 6s. 6d. |  |
| 21 and upwards                       | - | 13s.    | - | - | -        | 7s.     |  |

| A. 7.—Fifty-seven persons; viz. |   | MALES.               |   |   | FEMALES. |                     |  |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|---|----------|---------------------|--|
| Under 10 years of age           | - | 4, earning 2s.       | - | - | -        | —                   |  |
| 10 and under 12 years           | - | 6, earning 2s. 6d.   | - | - | -        | 4, earning 2s. 6d.  |  |
| 12 and under 14                 | — | 3, earning 3s. 9d.   | - | - | -        | 2, earning 3s. 9d.  |  |
| 14 and under 16                 | — | 3, earning 4s. 9d.   | - | - | -        | 1, earning 4s. 9d.  |  |
| 16 and under 18                 | — | 3, earning 6s.       | - | - | -        | 4, earning 7s.      |  |
| 18 and under 21                 | — | 2, earning 8s. 6d.   | - | - | -        | 4, earning 7s. 6d.  |  |
| 21 and upwards                  | - | 10, earning 14s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 11, earning 7s. 6d. |  |

In a regular week's work of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-seven employed as piecers and bobbin putters-in.

A. 9.—We do not reckon any over hours.

A. 10.—Six in the morning and eight at night; same throughout the year.

A. 11.—Steam.

A. 12.—Saturday, nine hours. We reckon to run seventy-two hours per week, letting the surplus time stand against break-downs, and other casualties, when we are not running.

A. 13.—Eight o'clock, half an hour for breakfast, and twelve o'clock one hour for dinner; one is employed during stoppages for oiling, and has his time allowed afterwards.

A. 14.—Moving power all stops.

A. 15.—This question explained in No. 12.

A. 16.—We do occasionally allow both for sickness and accidents, as the case may be.

A. 17.—Christmas, two fairs, Whitsuntide, and Easter: in all, perhaps, five or six days.

A. 18.—One part is given to them, and the other part made up as in No. 12.

A. 19.—Five or ten minutes are allowed after the engine starts: afterwards, we bate them according to their time of absence, in proportion to their wages.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—We have not employed more than one set, because we consider night-work both demoralising and injurious to their health.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes, in mule and throstle-spinning rooms, for bobbing putting-in, bobbing cleaning, and various trifling jobs.

A. 24.—We have wished to run the time as expressed in No. 12.; but have not averaged that time, on account of break-downs and other casualties.

A. 25.—(See No. 24.)

A. 26.—Our general rule has been as stated above for some years.

A. 27.—I consider that hands of nine, ten, and eleven years of age, are as useful as any that are employed in their places; and the earlier children begin to work, the more useful they become, both to their employers and themselves, when they arrive at maturer age. I have been concerned in cotton spinning for more than thirty years, and have noticed that the older children are when they begin to work, the more dull and indifferent they are to learn, and when at maturity are of less value both to themselves and their employers than those who begin at an earlier age. We have in our employ a number of hands from thirty to forty years of age, who began to work when six or seven years of age, who are the most robust and healthy hands that we have at the place.

THOMAS SUTCLIFFE.

No. 165.  
Moses Atkinson.

#### ANSWERS of MOSES ATKINSON, Leeds.

A. 1.—Flax spinning.

A. 2.—Built in 1825.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Engine, fifty horse power.

A. 5.



A. 5.—Two hundred and nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 11     | 25       |
| 12 and under 14       | 8      | 39       |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 13       |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 14       |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | 31       |
| 21 and upwards        | 20     | 40       |

Yorkshire.

Moses Atkinson

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —        | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.      | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —        | 4s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s.     | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 6d. | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Twenty-six females, 21 and upwards, earning 6s. 6d. in a regular week of twelve hours.

A. 8.—No wages paid but by the time-keeper.

A. 9.—The same per hour for over-hours as their regular time.

A. 10.—Begins at six in the morning, and ends at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—The engine stops at five o'clock on Saturday, but the lost time made up in the other five days.

A. 13.—Forty minutes for dinner, and half an hour for breakfast and drinking; but the principal part of the hands have their breakfasts and drinkings in the mill; breakfast, from eight to half past eight; dinner, from twenty minutes past twelve to one; drinking, from four to half past four.

A. 14.—Engine stops at dinner only.

A. 15.—By working over-hours.

A. 16.—If serious accidents, wages paid; if slight accidents, and come to mill, wages paid; but if slight, and do not come to mill, half wages paid.

A. 17.—One whole day, and ten half days.

A. 18.—No wages paid for holidays, except made up by working over-hours.

A. 19.—If ten minutes late, a fine is imposed in proportion to their wages: a fine for disobedience; and, a second time, dismissed.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never had more than one set of hands.

A. 22.—Boys only; girls turned away for disobedience.

A. 23.—It does. Their principal work is doffing, that is, taking full bobbins off, and putting fresh ones on.

A. 24.—Every day, except Sundays.

A. 25.—Averaged eleven hours and forty-three minutes.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—My opinion is, eleven working hours per day, or sixty-six hours per week, would be sufficient for the hands, and ought to satisfy the proprietor: to be allowed to work up lost time, but on no account to work more than twelve hours in any one day, and that work to be performed betwixt half past five in the morning and eight at night.

MOSES ATKINSON.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. WM. AVENS &amp; Co., Leeds.

No. 166.

Avens & Co.,

A. 1.—Dressing woollen cloths.

A. 2.—This mill was altered for this purpose in 1821.

A. 3.—Steam-engine.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power; the whole employed by Avens and Co.

A. 5.—Forty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 11     | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 4      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | 3        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.          | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.          | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. to 7s.   | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s. to 8s.   | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s. to 14s. | 8s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. to 22s. | 8s.      |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 7.



Yorkshire.

Avens &amp; Co.

- A. 7.—Five males, earning from 25s. to 30s. per week, in a regular week of eleven hours.  
 A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—The same as regular time.  
 A. 10.—Commences at six o'clock in the morning, and ceases at seven in the evening.  
 A. 11.—Answered in Question 3.  
 A. 12.—They cease labour on Saturdays at five o'clock: the time is not made up; we pay them a regular day's wage for it.  
 A. 13.—Breakfast, from eight o'clock until half past; dinner, from twelve until one; drinking, at half past four until five.  
 A. 14.—Yes, the moving power stops during all meal-times.  
 A. 15.—The time lost with regard to accidents to the machinery is lost to both parties. The workpeople are not paid, except it be of short time standing; viz. one hour or so standing, we do not deduct them for, nor do we wish them to make it up by working extra hours.  
 A. 16.—We have not had any serious accidents since our commencement. In cases of sickness we do not allow any thing; but as soon as they recover, they come to work again, if agreeable to both parties. We have not had any sickness of importance.  
 A. 17.—Good Friday, all day; Whit Monday, half a day; Leeds fairs, half a day each; and Christmas-day.  
 A. 18.—We neither pay them, nor do they make it up.  
 A. 19.—We deduct them for absence, at the same rate per hour as they receive for working.  
 A. 20.—We only employ one set of hands.  
 A. 21.—No, we have not.  
 A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not allowed.  
 A. 23.—No; but children under twelve years of age can work at the brushing mill, the work is so light,—viz. skewering the ends of the cloth together, and also in cleaning the flocks out of the teazles.  
 A. 24.—We commenced this mill December 1st, 1832; previous to that time it was in the hands of Messrs. Birchall and Laycock.  
 A. 25.—Answered in Question 24.  
 A. 26.—Answered above.  
 A. 27.—We are of opinion that eleven hours per day for five days, and nine hours and a half on Saturdays, is quite long enough for any adult, or boys or girls at twelve years of age, to labour.

WM. AVENS.  
 BENJN. ROBINSON.  
 JOSH. NETHERWOOD.

No. 167.  
 Benyon & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. BENYON and Co., Holbeck, Leeds.

- A. 1.—The spinning of flax, and the manufacture of linens.  
 A. 2.—1804; and some trifling addition in 1815 and 1817.  
 A. 3.—Steam-power.  
 A. 4.—One engine of sixty horse, and one of thirty horse power; and all employed by ourselves.  
 A. 5.—Four hundred and eighty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |     |   |   | FEMALES. |    |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|-----|---|---|----------|----|---|---|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 4   | - | - | -        | 4  | - | - |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 29  | - | - | -        | 24 | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 26  | - | - | -        | 32 | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 5   | - | - | -        | 36 | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 5   | - | - | -        | 52 | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 5   | - | - | -        | 65 | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 127 | - | - | -        | 67 | - | - |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |          | FEMALES. |          | AVERAGE.    |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 3s. 1½d. | -        | 2s. 10d. | - 2s. 11¾d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 3s. 3½d. | -        | 3s. 4d.  | - 3s. 3¾d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | -      | 3s. 8½d. | -        | 4s. 1d.  | - 3s. 10¾d. |
| 14 and under 16       | -      | 4s. 8d.  | -        | 4s. 11d. | - 4s. 9½d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 5s. 3d.  | -        | 5s. 6¾d. | - 5s. 4¾d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | 13s.     | -        | 6s.      | - 9s. 6d.   |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 21s. 6d. | -        | 6s.      | - 13s. 9d.  |

- A. 7.—One hundred and twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |                      | FEMALES. |                    |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | -      | 1, earning 7s.       | -        | 1, earning 4s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | -      | 2, earning 8s. 6d.   | -        | 2, earning 6s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | -      | —                    | -        | 5, earning 6s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 84, earning 14s. 8d. | -        | 33, earning 6s.    |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and forty minutes.

A. 8.



Yorkshire.

Benyon & Co.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Exactly the same.

A. 10.—Usually the day's work begins at a quarter to six, and ends at seven o'clock in the evening. When we are working somewhat longer time, as mentioned in No. 15., we work from a quarter-past to half-past seven in the evening.

A. 11.—Not a water-mill.

A. 12.—It is less, as we stop at five in the afternoon instead of seven. The time is made up by stopping forty-five minutes at dinner, instead of sixty; and also by having no stoppage for the drinking, or afternoon meal.

A. 13.—Breakfast, a quarter of an hour, at eight in the morning; dinner, forty-five minutes, at twelve; drinking, ten minutes, at ten minutes past four in the afternoon.

A. 14.—It stops during all the meal-times mentioned in No. 13.

A. 15.—When time is lost by accident, or by necessary repairs to the moving power, the time so lost is always deducted from the workpeople; but if such lost time is considerable, we are accustomed to pay them more wages than they are entitled to, from the time they have actually worked, on the understanding that they are to work it up afterwards.

A. 16.—We allow the time to a hand absent in consequence of any accident sustained from the machinery, or any other cause in the mill, but not in case of sickness.

A. 17.—One whole holiday, eight half-days, three quarter-days.

A. 18.—They are not paid for any part of their holiday-time; but we allow them to make it up afterwards, in the same way as mentioned in No. 15.

A. 19.—We do not now fine for absence; ten minutes are allowed for the hands to assemble, and, after that period, the wages are deducted for the time absent. To enforce obedience to rules, and as a punishment for spoiled work, we sometimes fine the hands so offending.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We have not. We know of no other objection, than that if every mill was compelled to employ two sets of children, we do not think they could be procured, and certainly not at the present proportionate rate of wages; and in that case the cost of production would be increased.

A. 22.—They are not.

A. 23.—Our work does not absolutely require children under twelve years of age. Our youngest hands are employed in bobbin changing, and in attending the hackling machines; these hands are from nine to fifteen.

|              |                |   |              |   |           |
|--------------|----------------|---|--------------|---|-----------|
| A. 24.—1830. | First quarter  | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 77 days.  |
|              | Second quarter | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 76 days.  |
|              | Third quarter  | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 79 days.  |
|              | Fourth quarter | - | 11 Saturdays | - | 76 days.  |
| 1831.        | First quarter  | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 77 days.  |
|              | Second quarter | - | 12 Saturdays | - | 74 days.  |
|              | Third quarter  | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 75½ days. |
|              | Fourth quarter | - | 14 Saturdays | - | 78 days.  |
| 1832.        | First quarter  | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 75½ days. |
|              | Second quarter | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 75½ days. |
|              | Third quarter  | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 78 days.  |
|              | Fourth quarter | - | 13 Saturdays | - | 74 days.  |

|              |                |   |   |   |                        |
|--------------|----------------|---|---|---|------------------------|
| A. 25.—1830. | First quarter  | - | - | - | 825 hours, 30 minutes. |
|              | Second quarter | - | - | - | 897 hours, 40 minutes. |
|              | Third quarter  | - | - | - | 969 hours, 30 minutes. |
|              | Fourth quarter | - | - | - | 948 hours, 30 minutes. |
| 1831.        | First quarter  | - | - | - | 917 hours, 10 minutes. |
|              | Second quarter | - | - | - | 934 hours, 20 minutes. |
|              | Third quarter  | - | - | - | 926 hours.             |
|              | Fourth quarter | - | - | - | 931 hours, 50 minutes. |
| 1832.        | First quarter  | - | - | - | 800 hours, 30 minutes. |
|              | Second quarter | - | - | - | 860 hours, 50 minutes. |
|              | Third quarter  | - | - | - | 890 hours, 5 minutes.  |
|              | Fourth quarter | - | - | - | 871 hours, 55 minutes. |

A. 26.—Until November 1831 we did not stop the spinning rooms during breakfast and drinking; and, until a few months ago, we used to fine hands who came late six days in succession, besides deducting the time lost from their wages. Previous to the above period, we used to stop running forty minutes for dinner: it was then altered to sixty minutes, but, it being represented to us that our hands preferred a shorter time, that they might leave earlier in the evening, we altered the time to forty-five minutes.

A. 27.—As a general principle, we are decidedly against any regulation of hours by Act of Parliament, as they must act as a check to enterprise and industry; and, we imagine, will be extremely difficult to enforce with any degree of exactness. Any bill, such as is now before the House, which should compel us not to work any hands under eighteen, above ten hours per day, we should view with alarm, as a measure which would contract our power of production in this proportion, and consequently increase its cost, and diminish our demand. We do not, however, advocate the excessive working of young children: by which term we



Yorkshire.

Benyon &amp; Co.

mean all hands under thirteen or fourteen years; and if it appears, on due enquiry, that they are frequently overworked, - we should think it a very proper subject for legislative enactment.

BENYON &amp; Co.

No. 168.

Binns &amp; Sons.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JAMES BINNS and Sons, Brunswick Mill, Leeds.

A. 1.—Cloth-dressing.

A. 2.—Erected in June 1824, and entered by us in July 1830.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-eight-horse power.

A. 5.—One hundred and sixty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 19     | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 28     | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 23     | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 24     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 56     | 8        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.          | —         |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.          | —         |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.          | —         |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s.          | —         |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 14s. to 18s. | —         |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. & 22s.  | 8s. & 9s. |

A. 7.—Sixteen males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 30s., in a regular week of eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Six to seven; two hours off for meals. If only half an hour is taken for dinner, as has often been the case with us, then the other half hour is paid for as over-time, in proportion to their wages.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturday is from six to five; one hour and a half off for meals. The time is not made up.

A. 13.—Eight in the morning they all take half an hour; twelve at noon, one hour; four in the afternoon, half an hour.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—The men are not paid when any accident happens to the machinery, but the time is lost to us in the shape of rent.

A. 16.—To men we do not pay, they being generally in sick societies; to the boys, who happen to have misfortunes, we invariably pay half their weekly wages.

A. 17.—Two regular holidays and two half holidays; the former being Christmas-day and Good Friday, the latter at each of our fairs.

A. 18.—The great majority of the men and boys are not paid for holidays; apprentices and weekly hired men (that is, those who are paid work or play) are.

A. 19.—If a man or boy be not at the mill by eleven minutes past six in the morning, they are not to receive any wage for the first quarter of an hour of the regular day.

A. 20 &amp; 21.—No.

A. 22.—Boys seldom or never punished, and never allowed.

A. 23.—No, although we have a very limited number. The youngest are employed at the brushing-mills and clipping teazles.

A. 24.—Our machinery has run six days since we entered the premises, except the holidays, two days stock-taking, and a few short stoppages, the time of which we cannot ascertain, our time being entered weekly, and not in separate days of the week.

A. 25.—We have worked from five o'clock to eight o'clock, except the holidays, and stoppages for a few repairs.

A. 26.—The machinery has been extended one third.

A. 27.—We are of opinion that it is very desirable to enact some law to prevent children, under twelve years, being worked longer than eleven hours; although if such Bill were extended to young men of eighteen years of age, it would in fact be enacting, that no adult shall work longer than the time stated in such Act, which we think would prove very injurious to the men as well as to the masters.

JAMES BINNS &amp; Sons.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. BRIGG and SONS, Leeds.

Yorkshire.

No. 169.

Brigg & Sons.

A. 1.—Dressing woollen cloths.

A. 2.—Erected 1806. Dressing machinery and engine erected in 1819.

A. 3.—Steam engine.

A. 4.—Twelve-horse power; steam-engine occupied solely by Brigg and Sons.

A. 5.—Fifty-five persons; viz.

|                              | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years of age | 3      | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —            | 2      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —            | 3      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —            | 5      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —            | 5      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards               | 26     | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d. | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 2d. | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s. 4d. | 7s. 3d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9s.     | 7s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s.    | 7s. 3d.  |

Each person per week of sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 7.—Six males, each person earning 42s.

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—One male, upwards of twenty-one years; two males, one under twelve, and one under fourteen. These are included in the answer to Question No. 5.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—The general average we believe—

January 1st to March 31st - 8 morning to 6 evening - Saturdays only to 5 o'clock.

April 1st - to June 30th - 6 — 7 — — 5

July 1st - to Sept. 30th - 6 — 9 — — 5

Oct. 1st - to Dec. 31st - 6 — 7 — — 5

The short hours are occasioned by want of employment from the state of trade at those periods of the year.

A. 12.—The mill closes at five o'clock on Saturdays, which short time is not made up.

A. 13.—Morning, eight o'clock till half-past, being half an hour; noon, twelve to one o'clock, one hour; afternoon, winter, four o'clock till half-past, summer, half-past four till five o'clock, half an hour.

On Saturdays, no afternoon meal time is allowed; the persons employed at weekly wage all take their meals at the same time.

The six persons employed at piece-work, being unconnected with the moving power, take their meals at their own pleasure.

A. 14.—Yes, at all the meal times.

A. 15.—Should one or two hours be lost from any accident to the engine, &amp;c., that time is usually made up by working half an hour or one hour per day longer the next day or two; should it occur in the Spring, when we are only working the shorter hours, but if in Autumn, it is not made up, but the workpeople receive so much less wages.

A. 16.—Not in ordinary cases of sickness or absence; in two or three cases of accidents, during the last twelve years, we have paid the full wages till they resumed their work again.

A. 17.—Christmas-day and Good Friday, and perhaps four half days at different periods of the year.

A. 18.—We do not pay wages for time taken for holidays, unless the time is made up by over hours, as stated in answer to Question No. 15.

A. 19.—No fines; any time lost by absence from, is deducted at the same rate as the weekly wage.

A. 20, 21, 22 &amp; 23.—No.

A. 24.—Not having kept any account of the time the engine has worked, we are unable to answer this question, further than six days per week during the three years, except Christmas-days and Good Fridays, and three or four days each year stopped for holidays and repairs.

A. 25.—We suppose—

|                               |   |                              |   |            |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|------------|
| 1st quarter each year average | - | 8 hours per day, or          | - | 600 hours. |
| 2d —                          | - | 11 hours, or 5 days per week | - | 800 —      |
|                               |   | 9½ hours on Saturday.        |   |            |
|                               |   | 13 hours, or 5 days per week | - | 956 —      |
|                               |   | 9½ hours on Saturday.        |   |            |
|                               |   | 11 hours, or 5 days per week | - | 810 —      |
|                               |   | 9½ hours on Saturday.        |   |            |

A. 26.—No.

BRIGG &amp; SONS.



Yorkshire.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. BROWN and ANDREWS, Leeds.

No. 170.  
William Brown.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, fulling, and dressing woollen cloths.  
 A. 2.—1822.  
 A. 3.—Steam.  
 A. 4.—Two steam-engines about thirty-six-horse power, one room let off to Mr. T. C. Rusher, a worsted spinner.

|                                        | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| A. 5.—Under 10 years of age            | 5        | 6        |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | 7        | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —                      | 5        | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —                      | 13       | 7        |
| 16 and under 18 —                      | 7        | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —                      | 9        | —        |
| 21 and upwards                         | 78       | 15       |
| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
| Under 10 years                         | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | 4s.      | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —                      | 5s.      | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —                      | 8s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —                      | 12s.     | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —                      | 14s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards                         | 21s. 6d. | 6s.      |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.

- A. 7.—Sixty-one persons; viz.

|                | MALES.               | FEMALES.            |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 21 and upwards | 39, earning 21s. 3d. | 22, earning 6s. 2d. |

- A. 8.—Six children paid by the mill spinners.  
 A. 9.—Yes.  
 A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening except on Saturdays, when the engine stops at five o'clock.  
 A. 12.—The hours of work on Saturday are nine hours and a half per day, and not made up at any other time.  
 A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for tea time, except in winter or short days when the time for breakfast is twenty minutes, forty minutes for dinner, and twenty for tea.  
 A. 14.—The engine stops only at dinner time; the scribblers are the only persons who take their meals while at work, and then only in cases of necessity.  
 A. 15.—Wages abated according to the days and half days they are standing.  
 A. 16.—If any accident happens, the wages are regularly paid till they are convalescent; but from sickness or any accident which might happen away from the mill, we do not consider ourselves bound to pay any thing.  
 A. 17.—Christmas-day, Good Friday, whole days; Easter Monday, half a day; Whit-Monday either a whole day, or half the day on the Tuesday; Leeds fairs, each half a day; Halton feast, two half days.  
 A. 18.—None but Christmas-day and Good Friday.  
 A. 19.—After three or four times offending turned away; no fines or wages stopped unless the time amounts to a quarter of a day.  
 A. 20. 21 & 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Yes, piecers.  
 A. 24.—Six days per week, one Saturday each week!!!  
 A. 25.—Sixty-four hours and a half including holidays.  
 A. 26.—None.

WILLIAM BROWN.

No. 171.  
C. Thornton.

## ANSWERS of CHARLESWORTH THORNTON, Leeds.

- A. 1.—Fine woollen cloths.  
 A. 2.—Erected and used as a woollen-cloth manufactory above forty years.  
 A. 3.—Steam only.  
 A. 4.—Twenty four-horse-power engine exclusively used for manufacturing woollens.  
 A. 5.—Fifty-two persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 9      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 8      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 15     | —        |

(1.3-44) A. 6



| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are: | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12                      | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14                      | 5s. 6d.  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16                      | 5s. 6d.  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18                      | 10s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards                       | 18s. 7d. | —        |

Yorkshire.

C. Thornton.

A. 7.—Seven males, twenty-one and upwards, earning 30s. in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None; each person employed is paid distinctly.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Commences at six o'clock in the morning, and ends at seven at night.

A. 11.—It is a steam mill.

A. 12.—Less on Saturday by two hours, and not made up on any other days.

A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour, commences at eight o'clock; dinner, one hour, commences at twelve o'clock; drinking, half an hour, commences at half past four.

A. 14.—The engine does not stop during meal-times. Cloth-milling and scribbler-filling are the processes used during meal-times, but these do not require much attention of the workpeople during meal-times.

A. 15.—The workpeople in cases of accidents to the machinery are not paid or allowed any wages whatever; the time is wholly lost to both employer and workpeople.

A. 16.—No rule exists.

A. 17.—Good Friday one day, Easter Tuesday half a day, Whit Tuesday half a day, Leeds fair half a day, Wortley school feast half a day, Wortley feast one day and a half, Christmas-day one day.

A. 18.—No wages paid or allowed during holiday times.

A. 19.—No fines imposed on any occasion.

A. 20.—Only one set of adults employed.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—Certainly not.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are only employed in the capacity of pieceners.

A. 24.—No account has been kept, but I can safely say that my machinery has not worked more than five days in the week at eleven hours per day for 1830, 1831, 1832.

A. 25.—No account has been kept.

A. 26.—No alteration has been made.

A. 27.—I think it would be best for no restriction at all to be made for labour; for my workpeople had rather work seven days per week, than a shorter period, because they have more wages. The workpeople at my mill have been short of employ for the last three years; they have not worked more than five days a week of eleven hours per day; as I stated above, when they are short of work, as they have been for the last three years, they are always discontented.

CHARLESWORTH THORNTON.

## ANSWERS of J. P. DICKINSON, Camp Road, Leeds.

No. 172.

J. P. Dickinson.

A. 1.—Scribbling, slubbing, and carding wool; and scouring and milling cloth.

A. 2.—I don't know the time it was erected; has been employed at the same trade about nine years.

A. 3.—Steam-power.

A. 4.—Power of engine, eighteen horses: part let off to a finisher of cloth, for raising.

| A. 5.—Thirty-six persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years          | 17     | 9        |
| 12 and under 14                | 7      | 3        |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14                       | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16                       | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18                       | 10s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards                        | 24s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Nine males, earning 31s. 6d. in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Commence at six in the morning, end at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—The working time on Saturday is nine hours, for which a full day's wage is paid; the time is not made up on other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour in the afternoon; all take their meals at these hours.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 F

A. 14.



Yorkshire.

J. P. Dickinson.

A. 14.—Generally stops at meal-times; when it works at those times, it is for scribbling or milling.

A. 15.—Time lost by accidents is made up by so much a day till worked up, if in full work; if not, deducted for after the rate of wages they are receiving.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Six or eight.

A. 18.—Holidays are either deducted for or worked up at other times, as we happen to be busy or not; if worked up, it is done at the rate of an hour a day till all is made up.

A. 19.—No fines; any one in the habit of being irregular is turned away.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Occasionally; men don't work with spirit being wearied.

A. 22.—No punishments allowed.

A. 23.—Parents sometimes send their children at nine years old, and compel them to go; our work does not require children so young; from ten to twelve is the general age; the greatest number are employed in piecening the cardings as they fall from the carder, for the slubber to draw into the first thread.

A. 24.—Six, except when standing for repairs, and holidays.

A. 25.—Have worked from five and a half to six days per week, or from sixty to sixty-four hours.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I think eleven hours a day would satisfy the manufacturers and the greater part of the workpeople. I think it a mistake that the same wages will be paid for ten hours as for eleven, as generally held out to the workpeople by those who advocate ten hours. And machinery will be brought into use, which is now preparing, that will throw out of work above half the children employed in woollen mills; pieceners will not be required at all when this machine is generally used.

J. P. DICKINSON.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS GEORGE and Sons, Spring Gardens, Leeds.

No. 173.

George & Sons.

A. 1.—Dyeing and finishing of worsted stuff goods.

A. 2.—Counting-house, engine, cleaning, crabb, singeing, grease, ware, making-up, drying, rolling, scalding, and quirking rooms. Black and copperas dye-houses, in 1825; press, shop, and pattern dye-house in 1829; additional grease-room and stables in 1833: they were applied to their present purpose immediately on being completed.

A. 3.—Steam-power.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power; we employ the whole of the power.

A. 5.—Eighty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 2      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 10     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 11     |
| 21 and upwards        | 57     |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 5s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 8½d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 3d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 11s. 2d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s. 7d. |

A. 7.—Thirty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.               |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 1, earning 4s.       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1, earning 8s.       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 6, earning 14s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20, earning 33s. 7d. |

In a regular week of sixty hours.

A. 8.—Pressers, nine men and two boys; singers and rollers, four men and seven boys.

A. 9.—As nearly the same as we can approach, without calculating the fraction of a half-penny, except our engine and roll-scalding men, whose work is easier after the regular time: they are consequently paid rather less per hour.

A. 10.—Begins at six, A. M., and closes at six, P. M.; does not vary.

A. 11.—Not a water mill.

A. 12.—It is not less.

A. 13.—Thirty minutes to breakfast at eight, A. M., and drinking at four, P. M., and one hour at noon to dinner; twenty of our men take their meals, at times varying about an hour and a half from the others, for the purpose of keeping the dyeing vessels at work throughout the day.

A. 14.—Our engine stops at noon generally, not for breakfast or drinking; those employed to work the drying machine (one man and two boys,) take their meals while at work.

A. 15.



A. 15.—Those who are engaged at piece work bear the loss; we bear the loss where weekly wages are paid.

A. 16.—We do not pay for the lost time our men may sustain from sickness; we have generally paid a weekly allowance to those who have suffered from accident.

A. 17.—Two holidays, Christmas-day and Good Friday; two half holidays, the fair days.

A. 18.—If we are busy and the men are receiving pay for over-hours, we expect them generally to work up the time; if not, we do not deduct it.

A. 19.—We are not very strict; if any person makes a practice of staying beyond the time allowed, we deduct the amount from his wages: we have no fines for irregularity or disobedience.

A. 20.—Only work one set.

A. 21.—We have not employed two sets of children to one of adults; it is probable a sufficient number of children could not be obtained to work double sets, where adults only work single: and if that were accomplished, much difficulty would arise in finding employment for them as they became adults.

A. 22.—They are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—No.

A. 24.—Our machinery has been employed every day during the years 1830, 1831, and 1832, exclusive of Sundays, the holidays mentioned above, and a few days for repairs, which have not varied more than a day or two in any of the years; we have no exact data.

| A. 25.— | 1st quarter. | 2d quarter.  | 3d quarter.   | 4th quarter.  |
|---------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1830,   | 1006 hours.  | - 982 hours. | - 1018 hours. | - 1019 hours. |
| 1831,   | 967 —        | - 946 —      | - 991 —       | - 1010 —      |
| 1832,   | 974 —        | - 951 —      | - 1053 —      | - 970 —       |

This is as correct as can be ascertained not having kept any particular account.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We consider there is much danger in fixing a maximum rate of daily labour: in a business, the extent of which varies, as in our concern, at different seasons of the year as one to two, and a great part of which being dependent on foreign markets, the utmost possible exertion is requisite to complete our orders in the time allowed us, even with our present facilities in extending the usual time of working. We believe if that time were limited to ten hours, the consequence would be ruinous both to ourselves and to our workpeople.

THOMAS GEORGE & SONS.

Yorkshire.

George & Sons.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. JAMES HARGREAVE and Son, Mill Garth, Leeds.

No. 174.

Hargreave & Son.

A. 1.—Woollen cloths; scribbling, slubbing, spinning, fulling, and dressing or finishing.

A. 2.—Large mill, erected 1815-16; application to present purpose July 1819.

Small ditto — 1827-28; application to present purpose 1828.

A. 3.—Steam-power only.

A. 4.—Large engine, forty horse power; small ditto, fourteen horse power. We do not let off any part, but employ the whole power.

| A. 5.—One hundred and forty persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                     | 3      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years                     | 4      | 9        |
| 12 and under 14 —                         | 6      | 12       |
| 14 and under 16 —                         | 15     | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —                         | 10     | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —                         | 21     | 7        |
| 21 and upwards                            | 41     | —        |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 4s. 9d. | 4s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —                     | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —                     | 9s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | 11s.    | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards                        | 23s.    | —        |

N. B. Wages are regulated by the description of work, and not by ages.

| A. 7.—Thirty-four persons; viz. | MALES.               | FEMALES.           |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years           | —                    | 1, earning 6s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —               | —                    | 1, earning 6s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —               | 2, earning 7s. 6d.   | —                  |
| 16 and under 18 —               | 4, earning 8s.       | —                  |
| 18 and under 21 —               | 8, earning 12s.      | 2, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards                  | 16, earning 25s. 3d. | —                  |

In a regular week of ten hours and three quarters per day.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 8.



Yorkshire.  
Hargreave & Sons.

A. 8.—Six persons, spinners' piecers.

A. 9.—Wages for over-hours are paid the same as for regular time, except that eleven hours are reckoned for regular time, and ten hours per day for over-time; but allowing, as we do, one hour and a half for Saturdays, the real working hours are, for regular time ten hours and three quarters, and for over-time nine hours and three quarters per day.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, ends at seven o'clock in the evening, except at the season of the year when, for the sake of securing light, we occasionally begin at half past five and end at half past six; at other times, and for the same reason, we begin at half past five and end at six o'clock, without allowing the usual drinking half hour.

A. 11.—Steam-mill.

A. 12.—Regular work-time on Saturdays, nine hours and a half. The time not made up at all.

A. 13.—Breakfast and drinking, half hour each; dinner, one hour. Meals taken: breakfast, eight to half past eight; dinner, twelve to one; drinking, four to half past four. All the workpeople get their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—Small engine stops at every meal-time; large engine stops from twelve to one o'clock only, on account of the fulling department; but all may go out to their meals if they please.

A. 15.—Loss of time, by accidents to the machinery, is made up by working extra hours. Wages are paid (for time so lost and thus made up by extra hours) the same as for regular time, that is, at the rate of eleven hours per day, or really ten hours and three quarters, when one hour and a half is deducted for Saturday's short time.

A. 16.—We have no invariable practice, but according to the nature of the case, wages are allowed or otherwise.

A. 17.—One day, six half days.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for holiday time. Holiday time is generally made up by working half an hour per day extra, if busy; or if not busy, the time is deducted from amount of weekly wages.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed for irregularity or disobedience; but if incorrigible, they are dismissed. For occasional absence, deduction from wages according to time. Ten minutes allowed to elapse before any fine for late attendance is imposed.

A. 20.—We work no more than one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children, or found it necessary to do so.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment of children is not sanctioned at any age.

A. 23.—The nature of some of our work does require the employment of children under twelve years. The greatest number of young children employed in our works are piecers.

A. 24.—

|      | January 1st. |       | April 1st. |       | July 1st. |       | October 1st. |       |
|------|--------------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|-------|--------------|-------|
|      | Weeks.       | Days. | Weeks.     | Days. | Weeks.    | Days. | Weeks.       | Days. |
| 1830 | 13           | 4½    | 17         | 2¼    | 16        | 4½    | 15           | 2¾    |
| 1831 | 15           | 4½    | 22         | 3¾    | 18        | 1     | 15           | 3½    |
| 1832 | 15           | 4½    | 15         | 3½    | 14        | 4¼    | 15           | 2     |

N. B. Real working hours reckoned; that is, for six days per week, ten hours and three quarters per day; above six days per week, called extra hours, nine hours and three quarters per day. Regular worktime on Saturdays, nine hours and a half, and from this standing regulation we do not deviate.

A. 25.—

|      | January 1st. | April 1st. | July 1st. | October 1st. |
|------|--------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
|      | Hours.       | Hours.     | Hours.    | Hours.       |
| 1830 | 882½         | 1094¼      | 1057¾     | 982          |
| 1831 | 999          | 1401½      | 1140¾     | 995½         |
| 1832 | 999          | 989½       | 938¼      | 975          |

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—No remarks to make.

JAMES HARGREAVE & Son.

No. 175.  
Hindes & Derhams.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. HINDES and DERHAMS, Leeds.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarns.

A. 2.—Application to its present purpose April 1830.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-eight horse, and a new thirty horse on the point of starting; wholly occupied by Hindes and Derhams.

A. 5



A. 5.—Three hundred and thirty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8      | 17       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 16     | 44       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 12     | 55       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 11     | 48       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4      | 39       |
| 21 and upwards        | 13     | 60       |

Yorkshire.

*Hindes & Derhams.*

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.     | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d. | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 3d. | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.    | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | —       | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Thirty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | —      | 1, earning 7s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 5, earning 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 12, earning 7s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 17, earning 6s. 6d. |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—None; all paid by Hindes and Derhams.

A. 9.—Yes; but we only employ a few overlookers occasionally, for half to one hour a day, at over-work; none others.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock in the morning, and end at seven o'clock in the evening, except on Saturday, when it begins at six o'clock and ends at five in the afternoon.

A. 11.—A steam-engine.

A. 12.—Less on a Saturday, as stated above, but not made up at any time.

A. 13.—Fifteen to twenty minutes, at eight, for breakfast; fifty to fifty-five minutes, at twelve, for dinner; fifteen to twenty minutes, at four, for tea. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The engine stops during meals.

A. 15.—If accidents, and the mill stands for a few hours, half a day or so, the people are paid; if a day or two, the people are deducted. No lost time is wrought up.

A. 16.—If hands have any accidents they are paid, if they are not off more than a few weeks.

A. 17.—Christmas-day; four half days at the summer and winter fairs, say two half days to each; Whitsuntide, two half days; Easter, two half days; and occasional holidays on other particular occasions.

A. 18.—Not paid, and not wrought up.

A. 19.—We never fine any one for absence; if they are not in time, they usually return till quarter-time, say nine o'clock; they then come and make three-quarters of a day.

A. 20.—We run all night. The night-hands come on at seven o'clock, and have half an hour at twelve, and then work till six in the morning; and on Saturday night, till near twelve o'clock, and begin again on Monday night. No working on Sunday nights.

A. 21.—Never employed two sets during day. Few adults are employed in worsted-mills, compared to number of children.

A. 22.—No; never, to our knowledge.

A. 23.—Yes, as spinners or piecers; but we think children at twelve years old would answer as well as taking in those that are younger.

A. 24 & 25.—Cannot answer these.

A. 26.—Yes.

A. 27.—We would recommend from six in the morning to seven in the evening, allowing two hours for meals, as the time, we think, would satisfy all parties, and not be injurious to the health of the children. We have a school in the mill, and allow all the children to go to learn to read, fifteen minutes in the forenoon and fifteen in the afternoon, free from any charge, as we employ extra hands to do their work during the time they are in school.

We think children should not be allowed to go to a mill before they are ten to eleven years old. We pay a surgeon an annual salary to visit our mill three times a week to inspect all the hands, to prevent any being employed that are not in good health: he has the entire management as to the ventilation of the mill, &c. &c. &c.

HINDES and DERHAMS.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. HIVES and ATKINSON, Leeds.

No. 176.

*Hives & Atkinson.*

A. 1.—Flax spinning.

A. 2.—1824.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 G

A. 3.



Yorkshire.

Hives & Atkinson.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Seventy-five-horse power.

A. 5.—Five hundred and fifty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 35     | 29       |
| 12 and under 14       | 31     | 57       |
| 14 and under 16       | 19     | 72       |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | 60       |
| 18 and under 21       | 7      | 72       |
| 21 and upwards        | 95     | 74       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                                 | FEMALES.                             |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 2 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.   | 2s. 11d.                             |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.   | 3s. 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 4 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.   | 4s. 5 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s. 10d.                               | 5s. 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s. 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.  | 6s. 1 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. | 6s. 7 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same in proportion for over-hours as for the regular time.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, except on Saturdays, when we give over at five o'clock, P.M.

A. 11.—Not applicable to us.

A. 12.—Sixty-nine hours is our regular week's work.

A. 13.—Breakfast, fifteen minutes, at eight o'clock; dinner, forty minutes, at twelve o'clock; tea, ten minutes, at four o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power stops when all the meals are taken.

A. 15.—Any time lost by accidents we have generally made up by working half an hour per day extra, paying our full wages.

A. 16.—We have made allowances according to the nature of the accident.

A. 17.—One whole day and ten half days,—say six days per year.

A. 18.—The holiday is made up by working half an hour per day extra, and paying the full wages.

A. 19.—We pay the people for the time they work. We prefer discharging them for irregularity, in preference to fining them.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. We do not think a sufficient number of children, at proper ages, could be obtained for two sets of hands; and if they could, the labour of the adults would be too severe, if seven or eight hours days were fixed for the children; and the wages derived for those hours for the children would not satisfy the parents. We think a seven or eight hours bill would produce over-production by the manufacturer, with fluctuating employment for the children; and that the temptation of wages to both children and parents would cause them to evade the intention of such a clause, by working two relays, or fourteen and sixteen hours per day.

A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishments.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are employed as doffers, and in learning to spin, which is a light and easy employment, and attained with the greatest facility when young.

A. 24.—

|             | 1830.  | 1831. | 1832.  |                                                                     |
|-------------|--------|-------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|             | Days.  | Days. | Days.  |                                                                     |
| 1st Quarter | 69·08  | 78·46 | 73·13  | } Each quarter<br>13 weeks, and<br>13 Saturdays<br>in each quarter. |
| 2d —        | 81·05  | 76·27 | 75·41  |                                                                     |
| 3d —        | 80·34  | 77·17 | 76·50  |                                                                     |
| 4th —       | 79·35  | 75·01 | 75·59  |                                                                     |
| Days - -    | 310·54 | 307·  | 300·63 |                                                                     |

Nominal working-hours per week:—1830, 72; 1831, 70<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; 1832, 69.

A. 25.—

|             | 1830.  | 1831.  | 1832.  |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | Hours. | Hours. | Hours. |
| 1st Quarter | 829    | 945    | 839    |
| 2d —        | 973    | 917    | 870    |
| 3d —        | 966    | 888    | 883    |
| 4th —       | 955    | 862    | 872    |
| Hours - -   | 3723   | 3612   | 3464   |

A. 26.



| HOURS PER WEEK.                                                                                                                           |  |  |  | H.  | M. | Yorkshire.<br>Hives & Atkinson. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|-----|----|---------------------------------|
| A. 26.—In 1830, our nominal working time was                                                                                              |  |  |  | 72  | -  |                                 |
| 1831                                                                                                                                      |  |  |  | 70½ | -  |                                 |
| 1832                                                                                                                                      |  |  |  | 69  | -  |                                 |
| Real time working                                                                                                                         |  |  |  | 70  | -  | 1                               |
|                                                                                                                                           |  |  |  | 69  | -  | 4                               |
|                                                                                                                                           |  |  |  | 66  | -  | 6                               |
| A. 27.—If a bill is passed for sixty-six hours per week, it would give about sixty to sixty-three hours average employment, and not more. |  |  |  |     |    |                                 |
| HIVES & ATKINSON.                                                                                                                         |  |  |  |     |    |                                 |

## ANSWERS of JAMES HOLDFORTH, Mill Street, Leeds.

No. 177.  
James Holdforth.

- A. 1.—One mill, cotton spinning: one ditto, silk waste ditto.  
A. 2.—Cotton mill, 1790; silk mill, 1822.  
A. 3.—Steam.  
A. 4.—Thirty-six to forty-horse. In my own occupation.  
A. 5.—Two hundred and forty persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | 16       |
| 14 and under 16       | 6      | 31       |
| 16 and under 18       | 5      | 25       |
| 18 and under 21       | 5      | 50       |
| 21 and upwards        | 36     | 54       |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.   | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —        | 1, 2s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 3, 3s.   | 7, 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, 4s.   | 21, 4s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, 5s.   | 17, 5s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 2, 14s.  | 32, 6s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 17, 20s. | 24, 6s. 6d. |
- A. 7.—Seventy persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES.           | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | —                | 1, earning 4s.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —                | 3, earning 6s.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 3, earning 20s.  | 17, earning 7s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 19, earning 50s. | 27, earning 8s. |
- A. 8.—In the cotton mill, none. In the silk mill, piecers are paid by the spinners, as follows:—
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 12 years              | 2      | 2        |
| 14                    | 3      | 9        |
| 16                    | 5      | 9        |
| 18                    | —      | 2        |
| 21                    | —      | 2        |
- A. 9.—The same.  
A. 10.—At six in the morning, and ends at seven in the evening; except in spring and autumn, when it is not light enough to see at six, the mill begins at half-past six, and ends at half-past seven.  
A. 12.—On Saturday, the day's work is two hours less, and the time is made up by stopping forty minutes to dinner, instead of sixty minutes.  
A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour, from eight to half-past; afternoon, half an hour, from half-past four to five; dinner, one hour, from twelve to one; less twenty minutes each day, to make up for Saturday.  
A. 14.—Moving power stops for dinner only; all go to meals, except carders and cotton spinners, who take their meals while the mill works, for which they have plenty of time to do so comfortably, as there are spare hands to assist them.  
A. 15.—Loss of time, by accidents or repairs, &c. is made up by over-time; if not, it is a loss to me and them.  
A. 16.—Accidents so rarely occur in my mills, that I have no general practice; but when sick, or unable to work, a weekly collection is made, which amounts to the full wage; and I further add to it, according to the exigencies of the case.  
A. 17.—Christmas-day, Easter Monday and Tuesday, each half a day; Whitsuntide, Monday and Tuesday, each half a day; Leeds Fair, summer and winter, each half a day; Halton Feast, two half days.  
A. 18.—Formerly the holidays were given to them, and, on some of the days, tea-drinking, music, and dancing; but, for several years back this practice has been discontinued, and only Christmas-day given to them; and I fear the bad feeling which is now excited between master and man will destroy every remnant of mutual attachment.  
A. 19.—No fines; only abated for the deficient time in proportion to the wage for each hour. If later than a quarter of an hour after the last bell rings, they are abated one hour.  
(A. 20.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

James Holdforth.

A. 20.—Only one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—Only one set of children, during the labour of the adult hands. I don't see any objection to employing two sets of children, suppose from ten to twelve years, or perhaps fourteen years, provided they can be procured, and at a wage proportionate to their time; this would afford them time for recreation and learning, and would enable the adult hands to make the most of their time.

A. 22.—I don't permit corporal punishment.

A. 23.—The tables annexed to 5, 6, 7, 8 will explain this question. The hands from ten to sixteen are mixed in each department.

| A. 24.—1830. |   |   |    | Weeks. |   | Days. |   | Hours. |      |
|--------------|---|---|----|--------|---|-------|---|--------|------|
| 1st Quarter  | - | - | 12 | -      | - | 68    | - | -      | 847  |
| 2d —         | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 76    | - | -      | 950  |
| 3d —         | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 79    | - | -      | 971  |
| 4th —        | - | - | 14 | -      | - | 84    | - | -      | 1044 |
| 1831.        |   |   |    |        |   |       |   |        |      |
| 1st Quarter  | - | - | 12 | -      | - | 71    | - | -      | 864  |
| 2d —         | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 75    | - | -      | 908  |
| 3d —         | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 57    | - | -      | 714  |
| 4th —        | - | - | 14 | -      | - | 40    | - | -      | 504  |
| 1832.        |   |   |    |        |   |       |   |        |      |
| 1st Quarter  | - | - | 8  | -      | - | 45    | - | -      | 547  |
| 2d —         | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 77    | - | -      | 918  |
| 3d —         | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 75    | - | -      | 913  |
| 4th —        | - | - | 13 | -      | - | 75    | - | -      | 905  |

A. 26.—None but what I have described in answers to the first set of queries.

A. 27.—I fear an act of parliament regulating the hours of factory labour, will never work well; labour ought to be uncontrolled, and left to adapt itself to the many unforeseen changes frequently occurring; and when the master and the workpeople will mutually agree to what will prove best to their interest; but, during the agitation which exists at present, and a violent appeal to the passions, we may expect (notwithstanding all the caution of a wise and just ministry) great evils will be embodied in the proposed bill, which experience and time only can remedy.

JAMES HOLDFORTH.

No. 178.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM B. HOLDSWORTH, Leeds.

W. B. Holdsworth.

A. 1.—Flax spinning.

A. 2.—I don't know when built, but applied by me to flax spinning in April 1832; has been partially employed for flax spinning these last twelve years.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Eighteen-horse power. Nearly the whole part let off for the purpose of dressing cloth.

A. 5.—Sixty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12       | 1      | 12       |
| 12 and under 14       | 1      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 10       |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 10       |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —          | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.        | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d.    | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 6d.    | 5s. 2½d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 6s.        | 5s. 8d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —          | 6s. 2d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 10½d. | 5s. 8d.  |

A. 7.—Nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.         |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 1, earning 7s. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 7s. |
| 18 and under 21       | 2, earning 7s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 4, earning 7s. |

In a regular week of seventy hours and a half.

The above are reelers, who don't work so long as seventy hours and a half.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same, but don't work over-hours unless for the purpose of making good lost time.

A. 10.



A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock in the morning and close at seven in the evening. Never, except for a few weeks at the beginning and close of lighting, when the mill begins at daylight and works up the deficient time in the evening,

A. 12.—Yes; the mill stops at five; the mill works twenty minutes each day after twelve o'clock, which makes two hours.

A. 13.—The spinners, &c. are allowed forty minutes for dinner, and fifteen minutes for breakfast; but no drinking allowed, because they can get their meals whilst at work. Those who are continuously employed have both breakfast and drinking-time allowed.

A. 14.—The engine stops at breakfast and dinner-time. The spinners work during drinking-time.

A. 15.—I make up no time lost by any machinery, unless it be the moving-power. When the engine stops from accident, it is either deducted from their wages, or made up by over time, from fifteen minutes to half an hour at a time.

A. 16.—I don't pay the hands their wages when they are sick; but if from accident, I pay their wages.

A. 17.—Seven days, in days and half days.

A. 18.—Governed by the custom of the place. No. No.

A. 19.—We have no rules for fining from five to seven minutes.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. I think the plan very objectionable, because it would be impossible to get adult hands to work any long time, or to get two sets of children to work with them.

A. 22.—Very rarely used; prefer sending them home.

A. 23.—Not absolutely; but children of ten years are suitable for doffers—as doffers.

A. 26.—None, except allowing a quarter of an hour to breakfast to the spinners.

A. 27.—My opinion is, that a moderate bill would be beneficial both for masters and workpeople; say eleven hours per day, with power to work up lost time within a month, at from thirty to sixty minutes each day; but think ten hours would be injurious to workpeople as well as masters, because the masters could not afford to give them the same wages.

WILLIAM B. HOLDSWORTH.

Yorkshire.

W. B. Holdsworth.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JAMES HOLROYD and BENJAMIN WILSON, Carlton Hill, Leeds.

No. 179.

Holroyd & Wilson.

A. 1.—Cloth-dressing.

A. 2.—1828.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Sixteen horse power; a small part is let off for spinning worsted yarns.

A. 5.—Sixty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 5      | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 13     | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20     | 15       |

A. 6.—The average weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 3s. 9d.  | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 8d.  | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 4d.  | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9s. 5d.  | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 3d. | 7s.      |

A. 8.—We have none.

A. 9.—The over-time is rather more than less.

A. 10.—From six o'clock in the morning to seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—The time on Saturday is two hours' less work, and it is not made up.

A. 13.—Breakfast-time, eight o'clock, half an hour allowed; dinner-time, at twelve o'clock, one hour allowed; drinking-time, at four o'clock, half an hour allowed.

A. 14.—The engine stops at every meal-time.

A. 15.—We pay no persons but apprentices and overlookers, when the machinery is standing from accidents to it.

A. 16.—When sick and not at work they have no pay.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, Shrove Tuesday, Easter, Whitsuntide, and the two Leeds fair-days.

A. 18.—The time for holidays is not made up, nor do we pay for it, except to apprentices.

A. 19.—We only take off for time that is lost.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have not.

A. 22.—We allow of no punishment.

A. 23.—No.

A. 24.—Our machinery has been at work every day during that time, excepting holidays and Sundays, and we had a Saturday once a week.

A. 25.—From eleven and a half to twelve hours per day.

A. 26.—Not any.

JAMES HOLROYD & Co.



Yorkshire.

No. 180.

John Horsfall.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HORSFALL, Spring Gardens, Leeds.

A. 1.—Dyeing and finishing worsted stuffs.

A. 2.—The principal part was built in the year 1824; the remainder at different periods since.

A. 3.—Steam-power.

A. 4.—The estimated power of the engine is twelve horses, and is all employed for my own purposes.

A. 5.—Eighty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 5      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10     |
| 21 and upwards        | 58     |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 4, 6s. 9d.   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7, 7s. 3d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9, 13s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 37, 20s. 6d. |

A. 7.—Twenty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.           |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 1, earning 7s.   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1, earning 10s.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1, earning 16s.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 21, earning 35s. |

In a regular week of fifty-nine hours.

A. 8.—The preparing and finishing—including singeing and crabbing, tentering and drying, callendering and pressing—is all piece-work. Two persons take the singeing and crabbing, and employ under them two, and occasionally three or four, hands; one of whom at present is a boy of seventeen. The callendering is done by two boys; their father, who had the work for many years, having died twelve months since. The tentering and drying is in the hands of one person, who employs three men under him; and the press shop is let to four men, who employ besides nine other hands, all of whom are adults.

A. 9.—Boys whose wages are 6s., receive 1½d. per hour for over-time; those who have 10s. or 12s., 2d.; those at 14s., 3d.; men at 16s., 3d.; and at 20s. or upwards, 4d.

A. 10.—The day's work commences at six in the morning, and terminates at six in the evening. In summer, over-time is generally made, and the work begins a little earlier, and continues later, but without any regularity; the principal part of the work being independent of the moving power. In winter very little time work is done, excepting during daylight, and of course the number of hours is less, though there is no difference in the wages on this account.

A. 11.—The moving power is steam.

A. 12.—The usual time of leaving off work on Saturday is five o'clock, making one hour of work less on this day than on others; this is paid for as a full day's work, without any making up before or after. I may further observe, that in order to enable the workmen to get home soon on the Saturday, I have for some years paid the wages on Fridays, and the week is held to terminate on the evening of the latter day.

A. 13.—From eight o'clock in the morning to half past is allowed for breakfast, from twelve to one for dinner, and from four to half past for the afternoon meal. In general the meals are taken at those periods; but in the dyeing departments some of the vessels are frequently in operation at those times, and from the nature of the work cannot be left until the process is finished, when the men take their meals; this never occurs, however, with any considerable number of hands, and is continually varying.

A. 14.—The engine is at rest during the dinner-hour, but not at the other meal-times; this, however, does not interfere with the men taking their meals, as the engine is then generally employed in pumping water, and processes which may be left for half an hour. It may be further observed, that nearly the whole of the work paid by time is independent of the machinery, and that those engaged in piece-work take their meals at their own discretion.

A. 15.—When the works are standing on account of any accident to the machinery, or for any necessary repairs or alterations, the workpeople are paid as if they had been employed during the whole of the time, without any deduction or making up of time afterwards.

A. 16.—Previous to twelve months since, it was my practice to allow the workmen their regular wages when sick, or absent from any accident, whether they received relief from benefit societies or not; but a subsequent general combination among the workmen, enforcing higher wages, having been formed, and having been obliged to submit to vexatious proceedings, independent of wages, on their part, I have since discontinued this practice, except in particular cases.

A. 17.—Christmas-day is the only holiday which is invariably allowed. See further below.

A. 18.—With the exception of Christmas-day, the holidays depend entirely on the state of business. Good Friday is generally kept, and sometimes half days are allowed at Easter, Whitsuntide, and the Leeds summer and winter fairs; but not when business is very brisk. For two or three years past, frequent holidays have also been given, to allow the men to attend meetings and for other purposes; on all these occasions, the men are paid precisely as if they were the whole time at work.

A. 19.



A. 19.—Previous to the combination above mentioned, and a subsequent turn-out after the required wages were given, no account of the men's time was kept, except by themselves of their over-time, unless they were absent so much as several hours at a time; but I now employ a time-keeper, who takes the time to the nearest quarter of an hour over or under. This, however, is the case only when working over-time; at other periods, slight irregularities are unnoticed, and the men are paid full wages, whether working a regular day's work, or, as frequently happens, not more than half time. No fines are enforced.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. The objections are the irregularities in the time worked, and the difficulty and inconvenience there would be in obtaining or employing fresh hands for two or three hours a day, and that only occasionally; besides, the boys in my employ are quite as able to work over-time as the men.

A. 22.—No; nor inflicted.

A. 23.—No, as will be seen from the table of ages. The youngest boys in my works are employed in spreading out the pieces after they are dyed, in order to expose them to the air.

A. 24.—I have no means of answering this question with accuracy, for the following reason:—It being my practice to pay the workmen their wages when the works are standing, from whatever cause, I have never kept any account of the time lost to me in this way, and consequently can only guess at the amount. In the early part of the year (say in January), I have always the machinery put into complete repair, which stops the works generally for three or four days; this, with holidays and breakages (which I have never repaired on Sundays), will reduce the working days in the year to about three hundred and four.

A. 25.—To this question I cannot give any precise answer, for the reason above stated. The nearest estimate I can make from the accounts kept, is, for the quarter beginning the 1st January, fifty-nine hours of actual work per week; ditto, 1st April, seventy-one hours; ditto, 1st July, seventy-one hours; and ditto, 1st October, fifty-nine hours:—making the general average per week, during the whole year, sixty-five hours, or six hours' over-time.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—On this subject I would observe, that any restriction on the employment of children under fourteen years of age would not affect me, nor much if on those under sixteen, though it would considerably if on those between sixteen and twenty-one, many of whom receive men's wages, and are equally capable of the work. If, however, any regulations were made and enforced, prohibiting the employment of adults for more than ten or even twelve hours of actual work in any one day, or placing any restrictions on the mode or time of working the moving-power, the effect on my business would go far towards destroying it altogether. It is impossible, without going into many minute details, to give the grounds of this opinion: but I may mention, that every dyer has his regular customers, whose business he must be able to do when they are most brisk, or he loses it altogether. To do this I must either at such periods run the works considerably above the regular hours, or increase the buildings, machinery, and utensils in the same proportion: besides, many of the processes being necessarily continuous for from one to four hours, they could not be begun at all, unless there remained sufficient time for completely finishing them before the exact regulated time of leaving off work, which would seldom happen, and thus many hands would be unemployed for some time previous to that hour. The effect of all these circumstances, under the supposed restrictions, would be to increase materially the cost of the workmanship; and thus, either prices must be advanced or profits reduced. Competition, however, has already reduced profits to the lowest ebb, and there is not even the slightest chance of obtaining any advance on present prices. The continental trade, in which I am principally engaged, has already fallen off very considerably, from the great and increasing exportation (perfectly unrestricted) of worsted yarns and undyed worsted stuffs, which any increase of prices here would have a tendency to encourage still further; and I, therefore, feel myself fully justified in the opinion that the supposed restrictions on the hours of labour would be exceedingly injurious both to masters and workmen, the latter of whom I have always found anxious to make as much over-time as possible.

JOHN HORSFALL.

Yorkshire.

John Horsfall.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN HOWARD, Lowfold, Leeds.

No. 181.

John Howard.

A. 1.—Cotton yarn for coverlets, &c., and woollen yarn for carpets.

A. 2.—The old mill first employed by me for woollen and cotton yarn in 1820; the new mill built in 1823.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-four horse.

A. 5.—Seventy-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 9      | 9        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | 6        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards        | 9      | 5        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
John Howard.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 2s.     | - | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 3s.     | - | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 3s.     | - | 3s. 4d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 6s.     | - | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 7s.     | - | 5s. 2d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - 8s. 6d. | - | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | - 24s.    | - | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Eleven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.            |   | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | - 1, earning 22s. | - | —               |
| 21 and upwards        | - 8, earning 21s. | - | 2, earning 17s. |

In a regular week of sixty-six hours.

A. 8.—Sixteen piecers paid by five slubbers.

A. 9.—If there were any over-hours they would be paid at the same rate as their daily labour. My mill has not made its regular time for the last seven years.

A. 10.—Six in the morning, and ends at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Saturday ends at five o'clock; the time is made up by taking only forty minutes for dinner instead of an hour.

A. 13.—Eight o'clock, half an hour for breakfast; twenty minutes past twelve, forty minutes for dinner; at four o'clock, half an hour for drinking.

A. 14.—The works stand at dinner-time; none take their meals working; the stocks run at breakfast and drinking.

A. 15.—If busy, it is made up by half an hour per day; if not, it is lost to both master and men.

A. 16.—The weekly hands are often allowed either all or part wages; if an accident, always.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, two half days at Easter and Whitsuntide, the feast, and Leeds fairs; the men are not paid for holidays.

A. 18.—See above.

A. 19.—If the children are within ten minutes, it is not noticed; they all work under the men, though only a few paid by the men, and they insure a pretty good attendance.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; I think it cannot answer any purpose; the children could, if required, work twelve hours per day, in case of need, and it is plenty for adult hands.

A. 22.—Punishment is not sanctioned by any law or rule in my mills, though I am aware that the men have a small strap.

A. 23.—The table will show the ages of the children; the youngest are employed as piecers, the others fill the carders, scribblers, &c., and employed in jobbing work.

A. 24.—See Answer 9.

A. 25.—As above: I cannot give a statement of this kind, never having kept an exact statement of hours.

A. 26.—No particular alteration.

A. 27.—See my remark on accompanying statement.

JOHN HOWARD.

No. 182.  
R. Jackson.

ANSWERS of R. JACKSON, North-town-end, Leeds.

A. 1.—Cloth finishing.

A. 2.—July 1st, 1832.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Eighteen horse.

A. 5.—Eighty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 2    | - | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 6    | - | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 2    | - | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 7    | - | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 11   | - | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - 14   | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | - 32   | - | 9        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |   | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|--------|---|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 2s.  | - | —           |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 3s.  | - | —           |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 4s.  | - | —           |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 7s.  | - | —           |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 10s. | - | —           |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - 13s. | - | —           |
| 21 and upwards        | - 22s. | - | 8s. to 12s. |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Eleven males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 25s. in a regular week of eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—Five boys under twelve years of age.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and closes at seven in the evening, winter and summer.

A. 12.—Yes, an hour and a half less; the time is not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, which is taken at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, which is taken at twelve o'clock; and half an hour for tea, which is taken at half past four.

A. 14.—Yes, all of them.

A. 15.—Whenever any time is lost, they are allowed to make it up at the ratio of their weekly wages.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—One holiday and four half holidays.

A. 18.—No; the time is generally made up by working longer hours.

A. 19.—They are deducted for whatever time they are short.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; in carping or clipping of teazles for handle setters.

A. 24.—From July 1st to October 1st, 1832, 78 days, 13 of which were Saturdays.

|                                   |    |   |    |   |
|-----------------------------------|----|---|----|---|
| October 1st to January 1st, 1833, | 77 | — | 13 | — |
|-----------------------------------|----|---|----|---|

|                          |   |    |   |    |
|--------------------------|---|----|---|----|
| January 1st to April 1st | — | 78 | — | 13 |
|--------------------------|---|----|---|----|

A. 25.—From July 1st to October 1st, 1832, - - 858 hours.

|                                  |   |   |     |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-----|---|
| October 1st to January 1st, 1833 | - | - | 847 | — |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-----|---|

|                          |   |   |     |   |
|--------------------------|---|---|-----|---|
| January 1st to April 1st | — | - | 858 | — |
|--------------------------|---|---|-----|---|

A. 26.—No.

WM. JACKSON.

Yorkshire.

William Jackson.

# ANSWERS of SAMUEL LAWSON, Mabgate, Leeds.

No. 183.

Samuel Lawson.

A. 1.—Flax-dressing and flax-spinning.

A. 2.—1824.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty horse power. About six or seven horse power is employed in machine-making. The persons employed in this department are not included in these returns.

A. 5.—Sixty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | 7        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 12       |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | 9        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                 | FEMALES.               |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 9d.                | —                      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. | 3s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 9d.                | 4s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.                    | 4s.                    |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s. 8d.                | 6s. 3d.                |
| 18 and under 21       | —                      | 6s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 6d.               | 7s.                    |

A. 7.—Seven persons; viz.

|                       | FEMALES.                          |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 1, earning 5s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 6, earning 7s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |

The above is the average wage of these seven individuals for the last three months. No account is taken of their time: it will average about sixty hours per week.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—It is the same per hour in all cases.

A. 10.—The regular day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturday is ten hours and twenty minutes, and on other days twelve hours and twenty minutes, for the spinners. For the flax-dressers, the regular day's work on Saturday is ten hours, and on the other days eleven hours and forty minutes. The time of those who prepare the flax after it is dressed is the same as the dressers.

A. 13.—The hour for breakfast is from eight o'clock to twenty minutes past eight; dinner, twenty minutes past twelve to one o'clock; tea, half past four o'clock to ten minutes before five, except on Saturday, when no time is allowed for tea. In the spinning-room, the machinery only stops during the dinner hour; in the dressing and preparing room, it stops at breakfast and tea.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 I

A. 14.



Yorkshire.

Samuel Lawson.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during dinner time. Those who are engaged in spinning, take breakfast and tea whilst at work.

A. 15.—When time lost by accidents to the machinery is made up, it is generally by working an hour or half an hour per day extra time: it is seldom fully made up. As there are a number of men on the premises employed in making machinery, an accident is generally soon repaired, and very little time lost. No wages are allowed to the workpeople, but for the time during which they are actually employed.

A. 16.—No wages are allowed when absent, from whatever cause. No accidents have ever occurred.

A. 17.—The holidays are: Shrovetide, one third of a day; Easter, one third each of two days; Whitsuntide, one third each of two days; Leeds fair, in July, one half each of two days; Halton feast, in September, one half each of two days; Leeds fair, in November, one third each of two days; and Christmas-day.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for any part of their holiday time, and it is very seldom that holiday time is made up; when it is so, it is by working half an hour longer in the evening.

A. 19.—There are no fines in any case. There is a small premium paid weekly to those who have been regular in their attendance.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands is employed.

A. 21.—I have never employed more than one set of children. I know no objection to the practice of employing two sets of children, except that the wages of those so employed would be reduced in proportion to their hours of work; while the children, in general, would derive no benefit from thus shortening the time of their employment.

A. 22.—No punishments, except dismissal, are allowed.

A. 23.—The nature of the work does not require the employment of children under twelve years; but there are some parts of it which may be done by children under twelve years as well as by adults. The younger children are chiefly employed in the spinning-room, in taking away the full bobbins, and assisting in putting on the empty ones: they are actually employed only a small portion of their time.

|               |                              |   |         |   |   |               |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|---------|---|---|---------------|
| A. 24.—1830 : | October 1st to December 31st | - | 78 days | - | - | 13 Saturdays. |
| 1831 :        | January 1st to March 31st    | - | 70 —    | - | - | 11 —          |
|               | April 1st to June 30th       | - | 78 —    | - | - | 13 —          |
|               | July 1st to September 30th   | - | 76 —    | - | - | 13 —          |
|               | October 1st to December 31st | - | 79 —    | - | - | 14 —          |
| 1832 :        | January 1st to March 31st    | - | 77 —    | - | - | 13 —          |
|               | April 1st to June 30th       | - | 77 —    | - | - | 13 —          |
|               | July 1st to September 30th   | - | 78 —    | - | - | 13 —          |
|               | October 1st to December 31st | - | 77 —    | - | - | 13 —          |

From a dissolution of a previously existing partnership having taken place, I have not access to the time-books previous to October 1830. The work-hours were precisely the same before that time as since.

|               |                              |   |   |             |                                                          |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|---|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| A. 25.—1830 : | October 1st to December 31st | - | - | 928½ hours. | } These hours apply to spinning department only. See 12. |
| 1831 :        | January 1st to March 31st    | - | - | 805½ —      |                                                          |
|               | April 1st to June 30th       | - | - | 919 —       |                                                          |
|               | July 1st to September 30th   | - | - | 930 —       |                                                          |
|               | October 1st to December 31st | - | - | 945 —       |                                                          |
| 1832 :        | January 1st to March 31st    | - | - | 922 —       |                                                          |
|               | April 1st to June 30th       | - | - | 908 —       |                                                          |
|               | July 1st to September 30th   | - | - | 919 —       |                                                          |
|               | October 1st to December 31st | - | - | 913 —       |                                                          |

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I consider all legislative interference between the employer and the employed as either useless or unjust: useless, where the regulations imposed by Parliament are for the mutual benefit of the parties; unjust, where they are not for their mutual benefit. I consider the Bill now before Parliament, for regulating the hours of labour in factories, as peculiarly unwise and uncalled for; and if it should pass into a law, it would tend to destroy that mutual goodwill which ought to subsist between the employer and the employed, and would prove highly injurious to, if not destructive of, the interest both of the manufacturing labourers and of their employers;—that the evidence on which the Bill in question professes to be founded is an utter misrepresentation of the effects of factory employment, both as respects children and adults;—that there is nothing in the nature of such employment unfavourable to the health of children; and that, where their health is injured, it arises from other causes than the nature of the employment, or the number of hours during which it is usually continued: such as inattention to cleanliness, or insufficient ventilation; from insufficient food or clothes, and from the distance at which some of the children live from the places of their employment, and their consequent exposure to cold or wet.

SAMUEL LAWSON.



## ANSWERS of Messrs. MACLEA and MARCH, Holbeck, Leeds.

Yorkshire.

No. 184.

Maclea & March.

A. 1.—Iron and brass founders, and manufacturers of flax and tow machinery, &amp;c. &amp;c.

A. 2.—Built in 1825.

A. 3.—Six horse power steam-engine.

A. 4.—Employ the whole.

A. 5.—Eighty-two persons, viz. ;

|                   | MALES. |
|-------------------|--------|
| 14 and under 16 — | 2      |
| 16 and under 18 — | 12     |
| 18 and under 21 — | 5      |
| 21 and upwards —  | 63     |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                   | MALES.   |
|-------------------|----------|
| 14 and under 16 — | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 — | 7s. 2d.  |
| 18 and under 21 — | 11s. 7d. |
| 21 and upwards —  | 23s. 4d. |

A. 7.—About thirty-four of our workmen are employed in piece-work, and will earn over and above their stated weekly wages on an average from 5s. to 7s. per week of fifty-nine hours and a half, and in the same proportion for any over time.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—It is the same.

A. 10.—We commence at six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at six in the evening.

A. 12.—On Saturday we stop at five o'clock, but do not allow any tea or drinking half hour; this makes nine hours and a half for Saturday; the half hour lost is not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour at noon, from twelve to one o'clock, for dinner; and half an hour at four o'clock for tea or refreshment.

A. 14.—When the engine does not stand, the processes require no attention from the workmen, such as turning, placing, &c. &c.

A. 15.—We have not lost any particular time by accidents. Every week they are paid for the exact time they work.

A. 16.—Only to apprentices.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, and five other half holidays.

A. 18.—Only the apprentices are allowed it; the time is deducted from the men, and is not made up. We are generally making six and a half or seven days a week, which we consider renders the making up any lost time unnecessary.

A. 19.—We have no means of enforcing a regular attendance; all that we can do is to deduct the time from their wages.

A. 20, 21, 22 &amp; 23.—No.

A. 24.—Every day in each of the three years except the Christmas-days.

A. 25.—On the average about seven hundred and fifty to seven hundred and ninety hours in each quarter.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We think that, from the description of our hands, no legislative enactment is required to regulate our hours; most of them are men, and sufficiently powerful by their combined unions to regulate their own.

MACLEA &amp; MARCH.

## ANSWERS of JOHN POLLARD, St. Helen's Mill, Bramley, Leeds.

No. 185.

John Pollard.

A. 1.—Woolling, scribbling, carding, and slubbing woollen, and fulling woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected about thirty years ago for its present purpose.

A. 3.—Both steam and water; the Aire is the name of the river.

A. 4.—Engine about twenty-four horse power; water, when there is sufficient to work the mill, will be forty horse power.

A. 5.—Twenty-three persons; viz. ;

|                         | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age — | 5      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —       | 1      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —       | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards —        | 6      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                         | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age — | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —       | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —       | —        | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —       | 6s.      | —        |
| 21 and upwards —        | 22s. 6d. | 6s.      |

A. 7. The standing weekly wages are:—

|                   | MALES.              |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 18 and under 21 — | 1, earning 17s.     |
| 21 and upwards —  | 4, earning 4l. 16s. |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 8.



Yorkshire.

John Pollard.

A. 8.—One cloth miller.

A. 9.—Never have any over hours; much more work than is done could be done within the usual hours.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock A.M., and terminates at seven P.M.; works only during daylight in winter.

A. 11.—No variation on that account; when not sufficient power, the steam power is adopted, and usual hours continued.

A. 12.—Work two hours less on Saturdays, giving up at five o'clock.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking. All take their meals at the same time except the fulling millers, who, from the nature of their employ, can take their meals when they please.

A. 14.—Yes, as regards all the machinery except the fulling-stocks scribblers.

A. 15.—No extra hours under any circumstances: the loss in such case would be both to master and workpeople.

A. 16.—No time is allowed or paid under these circumstances except by way of charity.

A. 17.—Holidays at Whitsuntide, Easter, and Christmas, two half days; the workpeople wish for as few holidays as possible.

A. 18.—They are not paid for holiday time.

A. 19.—No imposed fine during the last seven years; when fine was paid, it was given to those who were sick; when they are inattentive, they are turned off work.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; I think it is no benefit to any mill-owner to work more than one set of hands of each class.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned, and no complaint ever made to me of any corporal punishment, nor do I know of any punishment being inflicted.

A. 23.—The greatest number of children under twelve years of age are employed to piece cardings on the billies.

A. 24.—I do not manufacture cloth, I only exercise those parts of it before mentioned. The other parts of the question I cannot answer.

A. 25.—I have no record of this.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I have no remarks to make.

JOHN POLLARD.

No. 186.

John Sayner.

## ANSWERS of JOHN SAYNER, Hunslet Lane, Leeds.

A. 1.—Dyeing of wool, cloth, and worsted goods, scribbling and slubbing of wool, for the manufactory of cloth, fulling-mill, cloth-dressing, ware-grinding, calenderer and cylinderer.

A. 2.—Buildings erected about the year 1792, for the purpose of dyeing, as above, to the present time; the scribbling, fulling, and cloth-dressing for the last twenty years.

A. 3.—A steam-engine of twenty horse power.

A. 4.—Twenty horse engine. Let off to the parties described above, No. 1, and for the various purposes there described.

A. 5.—Thirty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                                                                                                    | FEMALES.   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Under 10 years of age | Two at 3s.                                                                                                | —          |
| 10 and under 12 years | { Three at 3s.<br>One at 4s. }                                                                            | Two at 3s. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | Three at 3s.                                                                                              | Two at 5s. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | { One at 3s.<br>Two at 5s.<br>Two at 6s. }                                                                | One at 5s. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | { One at 7s.<br>One at 10s. }                                                                             | One at 6s. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | { Two at 18s.<br>One at 8s.<br>One at 20s.<br>One at 30s. }                                               | One at 6s. |
| 21 and upwards        | { One at 14s.<br>Two at 13s.<br>Two at 20s.<br>One at 21s.<br>Two at 24s.<br>One at 25s.<br>One at 30s. } | —          |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Four persons; viz.

|                                 | MALES.          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21 years - - - - - | 1, earning 30s. |
| 21 and upwards - - - - -        | 1, earning 20s. |
|                                 | 1, earning 25s. |
|                                 | 1, earning 30s. |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Only George Hirst, calenderer, 6s. per week.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—Two hours less; ends at five o'clock; none extra for it.

A. 13.—Half an hour at breakfast, say from eight to half-past; one hour at dinner, say from twelve to one; half an hour at drinking, say from five to half-past.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—One day per month allowed for lost time from any accidents to the machinery; if it should be more, it is made up by over-time.

A. 16.—If by any accidents in the mill, they are paid until well. If by sickness, the first week's wage is paid them.

A. 17.—Christmas-day; Good Friday; half a day each Leeds fair; half a day each Hunslet feast day.

A. 18.—The wages are paid; the time made up for the fair and feast days, but not for the others.

A. 19.—None.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. If the children were required to work more than eleven hours, I would advise two sets.

A. 22.—None allowed.

A. 23.—Not particularly, only they are generally obtained at a less wage; they are employed as pieceners for slubbing.

A. 24 & 25.—Cannot answer.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I should say, eleven hours is not too much for children employed in the woollen manufactory.

JOHN SAYNER.

Yorkshire.

John Sayner.

# ANSWERS of Messrs. TAYLOR and DUFFIELD, Oatlands, near Leeds.

No. 187.  
Taylor & Duffield.

A. 1.—Finishing of woollen cloths.

A. 2.—25th October, 1810. Finishing woollen cloths.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—One engine, ten-horse power; one ditto, twelve-horse power. None let off.

A. 5.—One hundred and seventy persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |    |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|----|----|---|---|----|
| 12 and under 14 years | - | 16 | -  | - | - | —  |
| 14 and under 16       | — | -  | 18 | - | - | —  |
| 16 and under 18       | — | -  | 13 | - | - | —  |
| 18 and under 21       | — | -  | 10 | - | - | —  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | -  | 86 | - | - | 27 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |     |      |   |   |          |
|-----------------------|---|-----|------|---|---|----------|
| 12 and under 14 years | - | 4s. | -    | - | - | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | — | -   | 8s.  | - | - | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | — | -   | 10s. | - | - | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | — | -   | 18s. | - | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | - | -   | 24s. | - | - | 8s. 1½d. |

A. 7.—Seventeen males, 21 and upwards, earning 30s.

A. 8.—Six cloth-drawers.

A. 9.—All over-time paid at the same rate per hour.

A. 10.—From six to seven o'clock a regular day's work; and, when very busy, from six to nine o'clock; which will generally happen in the summer and autumn months.

A. 11.—No water power.

A. 12.—Saturday, nine working hours; paid for eleven hours, and no time made up.

A. 13.—Breakfast, from eight to half-past eight o'clock, half an hour; dinner, from twelve to one o'clock, one hour; drinking, from four to half-past four o'clock, half an hour.

A. 14.—The engines are set down every meal, and no hands employed during meal-times.

A. 15.—Lost to both parties.

A. 16.—If the accident does not arise from carelessness, wages allowed.

A. 17.—Two full days, and four half days.

A. 18.—Time made up by engine running one hour per day extra.

A. 19.—No fine imposed, but dismissal for repeated bad conduct.

A. 20.—No.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 K

A. 21.



Yorkshire.

Taylor & Duffield.

A. 21.—No objection

A. 22.—No corporal punishment allowed.

A. 23.—No children under twelve years required. Brushing mills.

A. 24.—Six days per week in each respective quarter, holidays exclusive.

| A. 26.—             |   | 1830. | 1831. | 1832. |
|---------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|
| January to March    | - | 1001  | 988   | 956   |
| April to June       | - | 1038  | 1014  | 1022  |
| July to September   | - | 1012  | 1027  | 1006  |
| October to December | - | 948   | 961   | 871   |

A. 27.—We should recommend eleven working hours per day, say from 6 o'clock A.M. to 7 o'clock, P.M.

EDWARD TAYLOR.

No. 188.  
Titley & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. TITLEY, TATHAMS, and WALKER, Waterhall, Leeds.

A. 1.—Spinning of flax and manufacturing of thread.

A. 2.—It came into our possession in 1808, and has been so employed ever since. It was erected fifteen or twenty years previous, for the purpose of spinning flax.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Two steam-engines, one of fifty-horse power, and one of twenty-horse power; both wholly employed by us.

A. 5.—Four hundred and forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 14     | 27       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 29     | 42       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 24     | 47       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 16     | 41       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 21     | 31       |
| 21 and upwards        | 112    | 42       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 7d.   | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 10d.  | 3s. 1½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 7½d.  | 4s. 1½d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 6½d.  | 5s. 1d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s. 5d.   | 5s. 8¼d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 0½d. | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s. 2¾d. | 6s. 1¾d. |

A. 7.—One hundred and sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                 | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —                      | 13, earning 2s. 11d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —                      | 12, earning 3s. 11¼d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —                      | 13, earning 4s. 8d¼.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1, earning 6s. 6d.     | 15, earning 5s. 9½d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12, earning 12s. 11¼d. | 10, earning 6s. 2½d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 70, earning 17s. 7d.   | 15, earning 6s. 6½d.  |

A. 8.—None; the whole are paid by us.

A. 9.—They are paid for over-time after precisely the same rate of wages.

A. 10.—It is the same both summer and winter; viz. from six to seven, except at the beginning of spring and in autumn, when we begin later and work later previous to our commencing and giving over lighting in the morning.

A. 11.—We have no water power.

A. 12.—We give over on Saturdays at five o'clock in summer, and at four in winter, as we never light on that day in the evening; but the time is made up on other days, by their having forty minutes to dinner instead of sixty.

A. 13.—For breakfast one part of the hands have fifteen minutes, and others thirty minutes; for dinner the whole have forty minutes; and for drinking the whole have fifteen minutes; the hour for breakfast is eight, dinner twelve, and drinking a quarter past four; and the whole take their meals at the same time, except about a dozen oilers and sweepers, who work while the others get their dinner, and have their dinner-time allowed afterwards.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during every meal.

A. 15.—The time lost by accidents to the machinery, when of such a nature as to send the hands home, is afterwards worked up at the rate of about half an hour per day, they having previously been paid the full wages at the end of the week the accident happened.

A. 16.



A. 16.—No wages are paid to sick hands off work, except occasionally a present or gift; but in case of accidents in our employ (unless through carelessness or wilfulness), they are allowed their wages until well and return to their employment.

A. 17.—Twelve half days and one whole day during the year.

A. 18.—All holiday-time is worked up.

A. 19.—The hands are deducted the proportion of wages for the time they are absent; but unless they are ten minutes too late more than once during the week, no notice is taken of it.

A. 20.—We only work one set.

A. 21.—We have not; and we think the practice would be very objectionable, as a sufficient number of hands could not be got to supply all the mills, and would be a strong temptation for parents to send their children to one mill for the first part of the day, and to another for the second; and also to the masters to work the adult population too long hours; and would be very injurious to trade, by an over-production, consequently overstocking the market with goods, and at those times throwing the workpeople out of employment.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment has been discouraged some time.

A. 23.—We employ children under twelve years for reeling, hanking and parting thread, with a few for other purposes.

A. 24.—Our mill has been at work six days every week during 1830, 1831, 1832, with the exception of the holidays above mentioned, and some reform meetings, and the election.

A. 26.—We do not understand this question.

A. 27.—We consider eleven hours per day, or sixty-four hours per week, would be the least objectionable to all parties concerned, both as regards masters and servants; and we think the hands would obtain the same wages for that time as they have been paid for longer; and that should be divided as follows:—to commence at six o'clock in the morning, stop at eight, with half an hour for breakfast; again at twelve, for dinner, one hour being allowed; again at a quarter past four for drinking, with the allowance of another half hour; and finally stop at seven, except on Saturdays at half past four, without the allowance of the half hour for drinking.

TITLEY, TATHAMS, & WALKER.

#### ANSWERS of SAMUEL WarBURTON, Lady Lane, Leeds.

No. 189.  
Sam. Warburton.

A. 1.—Worsted spinner.

A. 2.—In February, 1830.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Fourteen-horse power. Only part.

A. 5.—Twenty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 6        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3d. | 2s. 10d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s.     | 3s. 8d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 5s. 10d. |

A. 7.—Four persons, under twenty-one years of age; viz. one male, earning 13s., and three females, earning 7s. per week, in a regular week of thirteen hours a day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Begins at six in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Two hours less on Saturdays, which are made up in the dinner hours in the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed at dinner-time, which is from half-past twelve to one o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops during the whole of the dinner time.

A. 15.—Generally by one hour extra per day.

A. 16.—All wages paid during absence by sickness or accidents.

A. 17.—About nine.

A. 18.—Always paid for holidays; no time made up.

A. 19.—No fines; only stopped for absent time.

A. 20 & 21.—No.

A. (APP.—C. 1.)

A. 22.



Yorkshire.

Sam. Warburton.

A. 22.—No, by no means.

A. 23.—Does not require children under twelve years of age; that age or above will equally answer.

A. 24.—Six days of the week, from six o'clock in the morning till seven at night, except Saturdays, and on that day from six to five.

A. 25.—The previous questions fully answer this.

A. 26.—Never asked any question under 5, 6, 7, 8; therefore do not know to what they allude.

A. 27.—My opinion is, that working twelve hours a day has not been at all injurious to any of the children under my employ; for, in general, they are hearty, healthy, and cheerful, and mostly free from sickness or infirmity. I am sorry the Commissioners did not call at my mill, as, if they had, I have no doubt they would have observed that the cleanliness and regulation practised therein was more conducive to the children's health than most of their own homes, as I believe is the case in most other mills with which I am acquainted.

SAMUEL WARBURTON.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. W. and E. WILKINSON, Leeds.

No. 190.  
W. & E. Wilkinson.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—Erected in 1824, applied to its present purpose in 1827.

A. 3.—Steam-power.

A. 4.—We take our power from adjoining premises; the engine is twenty-four horse power, of which we have seven.

A. 5.—Forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | 6        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 years | 3s. 2d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 7s.      |

A. 7.—Twenty-two persons, twenty-one years of age and upwards; viz. sixteen males, earning 13s., and six females, earning 7s. 6d. per week, in a regular week of twelve hours a day.

A. 8.—Thirty women and children are paid by an overlooker; the remainder are paid by ourselves.

A. 9.—We never run over-hours, as we have no agreement with our landlord to that effect.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock, A. M., and terminate at seven, P. M.

A. 12.—We give over at five o'clock, P. M. on Saturday; the lost time is not made up.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 14.—The engine stops during the dinner hour; our workpeople take their breakfast and drinking while attending the frames and piecing the ends which break.

A. 15.—We do not in general run up any time lost by stoppages. If the stoppage does not exceed a few days, we pay the hands their regular wage; but if it exceeds a week, we pay them about half, to prevent them leaving us.

A. 16.—We do not pay our hands when absent on account of sickness; but if they meet with an accident in our mill, we pay them their usual wages.

A. 17.—They have a holiday on Christmas-day, and about six or eight half days in the year.

A. 18.—They are paid for holidays the same as if they were working, and the time that is lost is not run up.

A. 19.—Hands are fined for irregularity, if a quarter of an hour later or upwards. We have no fines for enforcing obedience.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never employed but one set in a day; children would not come to work half a day, if they could get a full day's work.

A. 22.—Some overlookers chastise the children in this way; but the one we have at present does not, to our knowledge.

A. 23.—We have no work which requires children under twelve years of age; we should think, when younger children are employed, it is owing either to the want or cupidity of the parents.

A. 24.—Our machinery has been at work six days per week during the three years mentioned.

A. 25.



A. 25.—Our machinery has been at work seventy hours per week during the same period.

A. 27.—We think ten or eleven hours would be quite long enough for children from ten to twelve years, and that there should be a general limitation of factory labour.

W. & E. WILKINSON.

Yorkshire.

W. & E. Wilkinson.

## ANSWERS of O. WILLIAMS and Sons, Holbeck, Leeds.

No. 191.

Williams & Sons.

A. 1.—Altogether woollen.

A. 2.—Erected at different times; the first and principal part about forty years since: always employed as a woollen mill.

A. 3.—All steam power.

A. 4.—About seventy-horse power; we employ the whole ourselves.

A. 5.—Four hundred and seventy-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 11     | 13       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 17     | 13       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 20     | 16       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 19     | 15       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 23     | 17       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 19     | 23       |
| 21 and upwards        | 222    | 45       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 10d. | 3s. 4d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.      | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 8d.  | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 5d. | 7s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s.     | 7s.      |

A. 7.—Two hundred and thirty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3, earning 3s.        | —                   |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1, earning 5s.        | —                   |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —                     | 5, earning 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 years | —                     | 15, earning 6s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3, earning 17s. 8d.   | 21, earning 6s. 3d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 130, earning 19s. 9d. | 58, earning 6s. 1d. |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Only cloth drawers (adult males), varying in number from four to eight, according to work.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Our regular day's work is from six o'clock in the morning to seven in the evening, for five days in the week; Saturdays, from six to five o'clock.

A. 11.—We have no water power.

A. 12.—Yes; the time is not made up in any other way.

A. 13.—Half an hour to breakfast, at eight o'clock in the morning; one hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock at noon; half an hour for tea, at four in the afternoon, except Saturday afternoon, no time for tea.

A. 14.—No; eighteen scribbler-feeders (ages from eleven to fifteen years) are required to work during part of the meal-times.

A. 15.—When our work requires it, we make up our lost time in the best way we can, by working over-time one or two hours per day; the workpeople are paid for such over-work, according to their regular rate of wages.

A. 16.—In some cases it is allowed, but not generally.

A. 17.—Christmas, one day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; Leeds summer fair, half a day; Holbeck feast, two half days.

A. 18.—We do not pay for holiday-time, nor is it made up in any other way.

A. 19.—Those workpeople paid by the piece have no fines for irregularity or absence; and those paid by time are deducted for the time they are absent; five minutes are allowed after the regular time of commencement before any deductions are made.

A. 20.—In the fulling department we do occasionally: we have one set for night, and another for day.

A. 21.—No; our hours of working do not require it.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—There is no absolute necessity to employ children at an earlier age than twelve years; but in one branch of our manufactory, children called pieceners are usually preferred.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 L

at



Yorkshire.

Williams &amp; Sons.

at eight or ten years, because they do the work quite as well, and at a less price than those at twelve years.

A. 24.—We have no account earlier than 1832. In the 1st quarter of that year we worked 77 days; in the 2d quarter, 79; the 3d quarter, 81; the 4th quarter, 70; making 307 days.

A. 25.—In the 1st quarter of 1832, 731 hour; the 2nd quarter, 736; the 3d quarter, 782; the 4th quarter, 741; making 2,990 hours.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—None.

PETER WILLIAMS.

No. 192.

W. Sheepshanks.

ANSWERS of Messrs. YORK and SHEEPSHANKS, Kukstell-new-road, Leeds,

A. 1.—Scribbling and carding wool, fulling and finishing woollen cloth.

A. 2.—1826.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Forty-horse. Employ the whole.

A. 5.—One hundred and eighty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 11     | 7        |
| 12 and under 14       | 9      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16       | 14     | 5        |
| 16 and under 18       | 6      | 14       |
| 18 and under 21       | 4      | 14       |
| 21 and upwards        | 69     | 27       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

| MALES.                        | FEMALES.               |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 8 years to 13 - 3s.           | 8 years to 14 - 3s.    |
| 13 years to 18 - 6s.          | 14 years to 18 - 6s.   |
| 21 and upwards - 20s. to 34s. | 20 years - 8s. to 10s. |

A. 7.—Thirty-five persons, viz.

| MALES.                                     | FEMALES.            |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years - 5, earning 2s. 6d. | —                   |
| 12 and under 14 - 6, earning 4s.           | —                   |
| 14 and under 16 - 13, earning 5s.          | —                   |
| 16 and under 18 - 3, earning 6s. & 7s.     | 3, earning 7s. 9½d. |
| 18 and under 21 - —                        | 5, earning 7s. 9½d. |
| 21 and upwards - —                         | —                   |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—From six to seven.

A. 12.—From six to five o'clock, and not made up.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight to half-past; dinner, twelve to one o'clock; tea, scibblers four to half past, finishers half past four to five.

A. 14.—Stocks and scribblers run at meal-times; but the millers only obliged to attend.

A. 15.—Lost by masters and servants.

A. 16.—Optional.

A. 17 & 18.—Good Friday, Christmas-day, and any day appointed by the public authorities, are given and paid for.

A. 19.—Fifteen minutes given; if longer absent, deduct for the lost time in the same ratio they receive wages.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never; we are not certain we could obtain hands, and one set might injure the work of the other.

A. 22.—No; if unmanageable they are dismissed.

A. 23.—No; children above twelve might do equally well, if they could be got. Piecers, who take the cardings.

A. 24.—Generally very little lost time.

A. 25.—Usually the sixty-four hours and a half per week.

A. 26.—We are not aware of any, except sometimes having more machinery running and sometimes less.

A. 27.—Diminished hours of labour must lead to diminished wages, to enable the British manufacturers to compete with their rivals in the foreign markets; and, however desirous masters may be to curtail the hours of labour, and admit only children above a certain age into their mills, the burdens on trade must be lightened before the operatives can derive any benefit,



benefit, in our judgment, by the interference of Parliament, except so far as to restrain masters from working their children beyond the hours the commissioners find, from their enquiries, the woollen trade will bear.

WM. SHEEPHANKS.

Yorkshire.

W. Sheepshanks.

ANSWERS of THOMAS VARLEY, Sunlainbottom, Lingards.

No. 193.

Thomas Varley.

A. 1.—Woollen carding and slubbing.

A. 2.—Commenced woollen about eighteen years since.

A. 3.—Water power, on Bridly Brook.

A. 4.—Four-horse power; none let off.

A. 5.—Six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s.   | —        |

A. 7.—One male, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 15s., in a regular week of seventytwo hours.

A. 8.—None paid by the workpeople.

A. 9.—No over-hours worked.

A. 10.—In summer, at six o'clock in the morning; in winter, at daylight.

A. 11.—Depending on no other mill. In summer at six o'clock, in winter at daylight.

A. 12.—Saturdays are the same as on other days, except in winter. No lost time made up.

A. 13.—I allow one hour at dinner, from twelve to one; other meals taken during work. No persons take their meals at different times from others.

A. 14.—The moving power stops for dinner only; at other meals they assist each other.

A. 15.—I make up no lost time; do not pay for lost time. No attendance is required when accidents or loss of water occur.

A. 16.—I allow no time for sickness; for accidents I allow what I think is necessary. Have had no sickness or accidents for several years.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, two at Easter, two at Whitsuntide, and two for the feast in August; except in busy times, which seldom happen, when I do not allow so much as the above.

A. 18.—Holidays stated above. The workpeople are paid for no holidays except they work on the holidays. The holiday-time not made up.

A. 19.—No fines imposed.

A. 20.—No more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—Have employed no more than one set of hands. Objection answered in No. 27.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment not allowed.

A. 23.—My work requires no children under twelve years.

A. 24 & 25.—Have kept no time-book.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—Twelve hours a day is long enough to work.

THOMAS VARLEY.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WM. EMMOTT and others, Clough in High Town, Liversedge.

No. 194.

Emmott & Co.

A. 1.—Part with cotton, and remainder with wire-drawing.

A. 2.—1824.

A. 3.—By steam.

A. 4.—Ten-horse power.

A. 5.—Twelve persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
Emmott & Co.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 3d. | 3s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | —       | 4s.      |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

- A. 10.—Seven o'clock in the morning, till eight in the evening.  
A. 12.—Three hours less on a Saturday; time not made up.  
A. 13.—Half an hour allowed for breakfast; an hour allowed for dinner.  
A. 14.—Stop for dinner time, work during breakfast and tea.  
A. 15.—Occasionally work half an hour a day over; generally a loss to both.  
A. 16.—Only paid for as long as they work.  
A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; Feast, two half days; Christmas, two days.  
A. 18.—Not paid for holidays, nor made up at any other time.  
A. 20.—No.  
A. 21.—No; no objection to employ two sets of hands, providing public schools could be established for the education of the children the other six hours.  
A. 22.—No.  
A. 23.—Yes, in piecig cardings.  
A. 26.—No.  
A. 27.—My desire is, that no alteration should take place so as to alter the time of working; and I can confidently state, that the hands are satisfied with the hours of labour at this mill.

WILLIAM EMMOTT.

No. 195.  
Armitage & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. ARMITAGE, Brothers, and Co., Whiteley Bottom, Linthwaite.

- A. 1.—Woollen.  
A. 2.—About 1790.  
A. 3.—Water only; on the Calder.  
A. 4.—About ten-horse power; all in our occupation.

A. 5.—Sixteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s.    | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s.    | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 9s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.   | —        |

A. 7.—Four males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 15s. in a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

- A. 8.—Eight children.  
A. 9.—If the mill is worked over-hours the pay is in proportion to their regular wages.  
A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and ends at eight at night.  
A. 11.—In drougthy seasons, sometimes for two or three months together, this mill is short of water, and the principal reservoir being about seven miles off the first mill, beginning at six o'clock, A. M.; it is therefore ten or eleven o'clock, A. M., before the water reaches the mill. We therefore expect to be allowed to work three or four hours after that mill stops, or the water will run waste.

- A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturdays, and time not made up, nor deducted in wages.  
A. 13.—Breakfast, eight o'clock to half-past; dinner, twelve to one; drinking, half-past four to five. All take their meals at the same time.  
A. 14.—The moving power goes during meals sometimes, to run the scribbling engines.  
A. 15.—In consequence of the bad supply of water in dry seasons, the workpeople are paid according to the weight they turn out; and when no work is done, no wage is paid.  
A. 16.—No wages paid when absent from sickness or other causes. The parents having full work and good wages, generally are members of sick clubs, and have something handsome per week from them.

A. 17.—One day, Easter; one day, Whitsuntide; one day, Huddersfield fair; half a day, Longwood feast; half a day, Honley feast; and three days at Christmas.

A. 18.—The work being principally by weight, no wages paid when no work done, except to overlookers.

A. 19.—No fines whatever; but for misconduct or neglect, the parties reprimanded, and in some cases discharged.

A. 20.



A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; not having tried the experiment, can give no opinion.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment permitted.

A. 23.—Not absolutely necessary, provided a sufficient number of children can be procured from twelve to fourteen. In feeding the billies.

A. 24.—Having kept no time-book, cannot answer this question.

A. 25.—Answered above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Have no wish to employ children under ten years of age; but we ought to be allowed to work twelve hours per day, as the children are far more healthy and happy than those who work in private houses. If the moving power is not allowed to go during the night, for the purpose of fulling cloth, it will be the ruin of the woollen manufactory.

ARMITAGE, Brothers, & Co.

Yorkshire.

Armitage & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. ARMITAGE, Brothers, and Co., Spring Mill, Linthwaite.

No. 197.

Armitage & Co.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—In the year 1823.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—About twenty-horse power; all in our occupation.

A. 5.—One hundred persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 7      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 10     | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 12     | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 42     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 6d.  | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 9d.  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s. 3d.  | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 6d. | 7s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 6d. | —        |

A. 7.—Sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.           | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | —                | 3, earning 8s.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 53, earning 18s. | 5, earning 10s. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Twenty children.

A. 9.—If the mill is worked over-hours, the pay is in proportion to their regular wages.

A. 10.—Begin at six in the morning, end at eight at night.

A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturdays, and time not made up, nor deducted in wages.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight to half-past; dinner, twelve to one; drinking, half-past four to five. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—Yes, all.

A. 15.—If the engine is stopped for an hour or two only, the time is made up; but if longer, it is not. The men are paid according to their regular wage.

A. 16.—No wages paid when absent from sickness, or other causes: the parents having full work and good wages, generally are members of sick clubs, and have something handsome per week from them.

A. 17.—One day, Easter; one day, Whitsuntide; one day, Huddersfield fair; half a day, Longwood feast; half a day, Honley feast; and three days at Christmas.

A. 18.—The work being principally by weight, no wages paid when no work done, except to overlookers.

A. 19.—No fines whatever; but, for misconduct or neglect, the parties reprimanded, and in some cases discharged.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; not having tried the experiment, can give no opinion.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment permitted.

A. 23.—Not absolutely necessary, provided a sufficient number of children can be procured from twelve to fourteen. In feeding the billies.

A. 24.—Having kept no time-book, cannot answer this question.

A. 25.—Answered above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—See remarks in Whitley's mill return, to which we would add, if the unions are allowed to proceed in the way they are doing, other important interests in the state, as well as the commercial, will be endangered.

ARMITAGE, Brothers, & Co.



Yorkshire.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM WINTERBOTTOM and Co., Milnsbridge, Linthwaite.

No. 198.  
Winterbottom & Co.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—1825.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power; employed by William Winterbottom and Co., Joseph Armitage, Francis Wood, George Dawson, and John Shaw.

A. 5.—Fifty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16     | 2        |

A. 6.—None.

A. 7.—Fifty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 3s.     | 5, earning 3s.     |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3, earning 3s.     | 3, earning 3s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4, earning 4s.     | 3, earning 4s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4, earning 5s.     | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5, earning 6s. 6d. | 1, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3, earning 9s. 6d. | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16, earning 20s.   | 2, earning 20s.    |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—No over hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock at night; two hours allowed for meals.

A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturdays; the time not made up on other days.

A. 13.—Two hours in the day; half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for lunch.

A. 14.—Stops for all, with the exception of the fulling stocks.

A. 15.—No time made up; loss to both parties.

A. 16.—In case of sickness, relieved by a brief.

A. 17.—Three days, and three half days.

A. 18.—Five persons are paid.

A. 19.—No fines imposed.

A. 20, 21 &amp; 22.—No.

A. 23.—In feeding engines, and piecing cardings.

A. 24.—Not able to answer this question.

A. 25.—No time-keeper.

A. 26.—An increase of two scribbling engines, and one billey.

A. 27.—Masters and workpeople are satisfied to continue as they now are, without any change.

WILLIAM WINTERBOTTOM &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL COOKE, Mill Bridge, Liversedge.

No. 199.  
Samuel Cooke.

A. 1.—Spinning of carpet yarns and worsted, and winding and weaving the same into carpets. The weavers' and winders' time not being limited, we suppose they ought not to be included, having nothing to do with the mill.

A. 2.—Built in the year of our Lord 1812, and used for the same purpose as now named.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Eight horse power, fully employed by myself.

A. 5.—Twenty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 2s. 10d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 3d.  | 3s. 8d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —        | 4s. 4d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 6d. | 6s.      |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Three persons; viz. two males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 22s., and one female, fourteen and under sixteen, earning 7s. per week.

A. 8.—Seven children; viz.

|                            | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|
| From 10 to 12 years of age | 1      | 4        |
| 12 to 14 —                 | 1      | 1        |

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and ends at seven in the evening, the year round, when employed, except Saturdays.

A. 12.—Leaves off work on Saturday at five o'clock, instead of seven, in the evening.

A. 13.—Allowed for breakfast half an hour, from eight to half past eight o'clock; dinner, from twelve to one; drinkings, from four to half past four. All have their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—All stop during the meal-times.

A. 15.—Not in the habit of making up lost time; lost both to workpeople and employer.

A. 16.—No time is allowed for sickness; and accidents have seldom or ever occurred, that I have no rule for that.

A. 17.—Sometimes one, sometimes two days at Easter and Whitsuntide, generally two or three at Christmas, and generally two half days at feast time.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for holiday time, neither is the time made up.

A. 19.—No rules for fines for absence or irregularity; but deduct for lost time in ratio to the wages.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. I think children could not be obtained in sufficient numbers to employ two sets.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—The greatest number of young children I employ are employed in attending worsted-spinning frames, and pieceners to billies; but not necessary to have them younger than twelve.

A. 24 & 25.—Cannot answer these questions, not having an account to refer to; but the mill has generally been regularly employed working eleven hours per day, except Saturday, only nine. Seldom or ever any over-work.

A. 26.—None.

SAMUEL COOKE.

Yorkshire.

Samuel Cooke.

#### ANSWERS of MESSRS. ARMITAGE, Brothers, and Co., Bankhouse, Longwood.

No. 200.  
Armitage & Co.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—In the year 1830.

A. 3.—Water only. On the Calder.

A. 4.—About fifteen horse power; all in our own occupation.

A. 5.—Twenty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.    | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7s.    | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 16s.   | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 22s.   | —        |

A. 7.—Nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | —                   | 1, earning 6s. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —                   | 1, earning 8s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 7, earning 18s. 6d. | —              |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

A. 8.—Ten children.

A. 9.—If the mill is worked over-hours, the pay is in proportion to their regular wages.

A. 10.—Begin at six o'clock in the morning, and end at eight at night.

A. 11.—In drouthy seasons, sometimes for two or three months together, this mill is short of water, and the principal reservoir being about seven miles off, the first mill beginning at six o'clock, A. M., it is therefore ten or eleven o'clock, A. M., before the water reaches this mill. We, therefore, expect to be allowed to work three or four hours after that mill stops, or the water will run waste.

A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturdays, and time not made up, nor deducted in wages.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 13.



Yorkshire.

Armitage & Co.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight o'clock to half past; dinner, twelve to one; drinking, half past four to five. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power goes during meals; but no machinery works, except the fulling stocks, and sometimes one or two scribbling engines.

A. 15.—In consequence of the bad supply of water in dry seasons, the workpeople are paid according to the weight they turn out; and when no work is done, no wage is paid.

A. 16.—No wages paid when absent from sickness or other causes. The parents having full work and good wages, generally are members of sick clubs, and have something handsome per week from them.

A. 17.—One day, Easter; one day, Whitsuntide; one day, Huddersfield fair; half a day, Longwood feast; half a day, Honley feast; and three days at Christmas.

A. 18.—The work being principally by weight, no wages paid when no work done, except to overlookers.

A. 19.—No fines whatever; but for misconduct or neglect, the parties reprimanded, and in some cases discharged.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; not having tried the experiment, can give no opinion.

A. 22.—No corporal punishment permitted.

A. 23.—Not absolutely necessary, provided a sufficient number of children can be procured from twelve to fourteen years of age. In feeding the billies.

A. 24.—Having kept no time-book, cannot answer this question.

A. 25.—Answered above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—See remarks in Whitley's mill, and Spring mill returns.

ARMITAGE, Brothers, & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. THOMAS and JOHN BROOK, near Milnsbridge, Longwood.

No. 201.

T. & J. Brook.

A. 1.—Fulling and scribbling coarse woollen goods.

A. 2.—Time immemorial.

A. 3.—Water, produced from the river Colne.

A. 4.—Two wheels, both sixteen horse power; wholly employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—one male, 21 and upwards, 27s.

A. 7.—Two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 1, earning 16s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, earning 16s. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Six children.

A. 9.—No, it is not, because that agreement was not made.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and it terminates at or very near six in the evening, when there is plenty of work and of water; but when there is neither a sufficient quantity of work or of water, it is uncertain.

A. 11.—It is quite uncertain if a drougthy season.

A. 12.—Generally rather less, and it is not made up in any way the other five days.

A. 13.—Not any particular time, only at dinners, usually about twelve o'clock; so that the others are taken at their own leisure.

A. 14.—The moving power does stop sometimes at dinner-time; but if not, they are engaged with what they think proper.

A. 15.—Lost to both master and man; not made up at any time.

A. 16.—During sickness, time is allowed for their recovery, or for what is necessary.

A. 17.—I do not know positively.

A. 18.—They sometimes take the liberty themselves, and some of them are paid for their holiday-time.

A. 19.—We have no rules for the purpose of imposing fines on any one for their absence or irregularity, nor to enforce obedience.

A. 20.—No, we do not.

A. 21.—No, we have not; because we have only one set of adults and one of children.

A. 22.—No, not any.

A. 23.—Yes; there are four under twelve years of age, employed therein as carders, or card pieceners.

A. 24.



- A. 24.—It is uncertain how many days, and unknown.  
 A. 25.—Unknown how many hours.  
 A. 26.—No, not any these last twenty years.  
 A. 27.—As for my own part, I think that there is much more ado made than what is necessary, more than will do good, but, on the contrary, make ill worse.

Yorkshire.

T. & J. Brook.

THOMAS &amp; JOHN BROOK.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. ABM. and WM. HAIGH, New Mill, Longwood.

No. 202.

A. & W. Haigh.

- A. 1.—Woollen.  
 A. 2.—Not able to answer.  
 A. 3.—The power employed is both steam and water; supplied by water from Longwood Brook.  
 A. 4.—The power of the engine is twenty-five horse; when all the machinery is at work, we employ about sixteen-horse power; but there is none let off for other purposes.

| A. 5.—Thirty persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--------|---|---|----------|---|--|
| Under 10 years of age      | - | 5      | - | - | -        | 1 |  |
| 10 and under 12 years      | - | 2      | - | - | -        | 2 |  |
| 12 and under 14            | — | 6      | - | - | -        | — |  |
| 14 and under 16            | — | 3      | - | - | -        | — |  |
| 16 and under 18            | — | 1      | - | - | -        | — |  |
| 18 and under 21            | — | 2      | - | - | -        | — |  |
| 21 and upwards             | - | 8      | - | - | -        | — |  |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— |   | MALES.  |   |   | FEMALES. |         |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------|---|---|----------|---------|--|
| Under 10 years of age                 | - | 3s.     | - | - | -        | 3s.     |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - | 3s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 3s. 6d. |  |
| 12 and under 14                       | — | 4s.     | - | - | -        | —       |  |
| 14 and under 16                       | — | 6s.     | - | - | -        | —       |  |
| 16 and under 18                       | — | 10s.    | - | - | -        | —       |  |
| 21 and upwards                        | - | 18s.    | - | - | -        | —       |  |

- A. 7.—Ten males; viz.  
 18 and under 21 years - - - 2, earning 19s.  
 21 and upwards - - - 8, earning 19s.

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

The wages stated in this scale are clear for themselves.

A. 8.—Ten of the youngest children (carding-piecers), and two fulling-millers, are paid by the workpeople under whom they work.

A. 9.—If the mill works over-hours, the pay is in proportion to their regular wages.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, ends at eight o'clock at night.

A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturdays; and the time is neither made up nor deducted to those who receive regular weekly wages.

A. 13.—Breakfast, eight o'clock to half-past; dinner, twelve to one; drinking, half-past four to five. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—Moving power goes during meals; but no machinery works except the fulling stocks, and sometimes the scribbling engines.

A. 15.—When any time is made up by reason of accidents, the workpeople are paid according to their regular wages; but when the time is not made up, it is both lost to us and them.

A. 16.—Time is allowed during sickness or any other causes; but there are no wages paid when no work is done: the men in general are members of sick clubs, or secret orders.

A. 17.—Half a day on Shrove Tuesday, two half days at Easter, two half days at Whitsuntide, two days at Longwood feast, and two days at Christmas.

A. 18.—The workpeople being paid by the piece, when no work is done there are no wages paid, except to overlookers. The time is not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—No fines imposed whatever.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children: the only objection we should have to such a practice is, because we think it would be impossible to get more than one set of children in the neighbourhood.

A. 22.—The workpeople generally employing their own children, we never interfere with any kind of punishments.

A. 23.—Not absolutely necessary, provided a sufficient number could be procured above that age. The process in which the greatest number are employed is in piecing for slubbers.

A. 24 & 25.—Having kept no time-book, we are unable to answer these questions.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We should like to be allowed to work twelve hours per day; and the moving power to continue during the night, for the purpose of fulling cloth.

ABM. HAIGH.  
 WM. HAIGH.



Yorkshire.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN FISHER and Co., Longroyd Bridge, Lockwood.

No. 203.  
Fisher & Co.

- A. 1.—Spinning silks.  
 A. 2.—Application to its present purpose about ten years.  
 A. 3.—Both steam and water; the latter produced by the river Colne.  
 A. 4.—Steam-engine about thirty-horse power, water-wheels about twenty-horse power; the whole employed by ourselves.  
 A. 5.—Three hundred and sixty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |     |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|-----|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 5   | - | -        | 4  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 22  | - | -        | 24 |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 24  | - | -        | 44 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 19  | - | -        | 37 |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 9   | - | -        | 27 |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 4   | - | -        | 26 |  |
| 21 and upwards —      | -      | 106 | - | -        | 18 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |             |   | FEMALES. |             |  |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------|---|----------|-------------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 5, 2s. 3d.  | - | -        | 4, 3s.      |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 22, 3s. 1d. | - | -        | 24, 2s. 7d. |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 24, 3s. 6d. | - | -        | 44, 3s.     |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 19, 4s. 9d. | - | -        | 34, 3s. 8d. |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 9, 6s. 6d.  | - | -        | 21, 4s. 8d. |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 2, 7s.      | - | -        | 18, 6s.     |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 17, 23s.    | - | -        | 10, 7s. 3d. |  |

- A. 7.—One hundred and sixteen persons: viz.

|                       | MALES. |                      |   | FEMALES. |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|---|----------|--------------------|--|
| 14 and under 16 years | -      | —                    | - | -        | 3, earning 6s.     |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | —                    | - | -        | 6, earning 6s. 9d. |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 2, earning 23s.      | - | -        | 8, earning 7s.     |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 89, earning 27s. 6d. | - | -        | 8, earning 7s. 3d. |  |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours and a half.

- A. 8.—There are eighty-six children employed in this way.  
 A. 9.—It is the same.  
 A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock, A. M., and terminates at eight o'clock, P. M. No alteration.  
 A. 11.—We are not dependent on water.  
 A. 12.—The regular day's work on seventh day (Saturday) is from six o'clock, A. M. to five o'clock, P. M. The difference of time is not made up on any other day or days.  
 A. 13.—For breakfast half an hour, from eight to half-past eight o'clock; dinner one hour, from twelve to one o'clock; afternoon meal half an hour, from five to half-past five o'clock. All have the same time set apart for taking their meals.  
 A. 14.—The moving power stops only during the hour of dinner. There are a very few hands who watch the machinery in one of the rooms during the other two half hours allotted for meals, and for which they are paid one hour each day extra wages, or half a day per week, although they have plenty of time to take their meals whilst seeing that the machinery goes on regularly.  
 A. 15.—We rarely make up any lost time. We do not pay the workpeople generally when prevented from working. The time that may be lost, from accidents or other causes, is lost both to ourselves and to the workpeople.  
 A. 16.—Answered in No. 15.  
 A. 17.—Our workpeople have generally one regular holiday, and four half holidays, in the year.  
 A. 18.—Answered in No. 15.  
 A. 19.—We mostly deduct the wages for the time any may improperly absent themselves from their work. We have no established fines for any irregularities.  
 A. 20.—We employ two sets of hands in some parts of the works. The latter set commence at eight o'clock, P. M., and work till half-past seven in the morning (excepting half an hour for refreshment about one o'clock in the morning): where this set work, which are only forty-nine in number, the day-set only commence at half-past seven, A. M., and terminate at eight, P. M.  
 A. 21.—We have not been accustomed to employ more than one set of children during the work of the same set of adult hands: we never thought it necessary; and consider that more real disadvantages would arise from such a practice than any probable good.  
 A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned by us, and are expressly forbidden.  
 A. 23.—Yes, it does. The greatest number of young children are employed in joining the ends of silk that break in the winding or spinning of them.  
 A. 24 & 25.—In reply to these, we must refer to the answers Nos. 10 & 12, which state our regular times for working, and in which we cannot recollect any variation during the years quoted, excepting unavoidable accidents or holidays, of which we have no particular account kept for each distinct quarter of a year.  
 A. 26.—We know of no alteration to require noticing.

JOHN FISHER &amp; Co.



## ANSWERS of JOSEPH SYKES, Clough Bottom, Longwood.

Yorkshire.

No. 205.

Joseph Sykes.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, spinning, and slubbing coarse wool.  
 A. 2.—In the year 1822.  
 A. 3.—Water power exclusively; name of stream Longwood Brook.  
 A. 4.—Dimensions of water-wheel, diameter thirty-three feet, breadth three feet six inches;  
 no part let off for other purposes.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 6      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  |
|-----------------------|---------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 5s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s.     |

A. 7.—Cannot ascertain the hours of a week's work, on account of scarcity of water at sometimes, and at other times scarcity of work; and for the same reasons, cannot tell the average amount of week's wages.

A. 8.—Nine children, both boys and girls, employed as piecers of cardings.

A. 9.—Precisely the same.

A. 10.—When we have water and work, we begin in the summer time at six o'clock in the morning, and give over at seven in the evening; in winter at seven in the morning, and terminate at eight o'clock at night.

A. 11.—Cannot answer this question, on account of the very fluctuating state of work, and the supply of water.

A. 12.—Our usual custom is, to work an hour less on Saturday than other days, and not to require the time to be made it up.

A. 13.—Breakfast, dinner, and afternoon drinking, each half an hour; taken at half-past eight, half-past twelve, and half-past four in each day; in a small mill like mine, usually taken together.

A. 14.—At dinner-time only.

A. 15.—The time on these occasions is lost to both.

A. 16.—Always have paid those who receive weekly wages, as if they had been at work.

A. 17.—Cannot answer in my case.

A. 18.—Not paid for time lost by regular holidays.

A. 19.—We have no rules of this description.

A. 20.—Employ no more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—Have never employed more than one set of children; and, after having had forty years of experience in this business, have invariably found the children as capable of sustaining the fatigue of their department, as the adults are to sustain theirs.

A. 22.—It has always been my invariable practice to offer rewards for good behaviour and industry, and not to inflict punishment, or allow it to be inflicted.

A. 23.—It does require the employment of children under twelve years of age; and such are employed in piecing cardings, in which work they are always in an erect or standing posture.

A. 24.—Cannot answer for the reasons opposite Question 7.

A. 25.—See above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—It appears to me to be extremely difficult to frame a law for the regulation of labour in factories, especially for water mills employed by country work, or by the domestic manufacturer; the irregularity of the power, and the fluctuations of trade, sometimes having no work, at others very little power to work with, renders it necessary both for masters and those employed under them to be very attentive, and of course to work when they can, otherwise this species of property will sink into insignificance and be lost.

JOSEPH SYKES.

## ANSWERS of ISAAC BOTTOMLEY, for Schofield, Kenworthy and Co., Marsden.

No. 206.

Isaac Bottomley.

- A. 1.—Scribbling and slubbing.  
 A. 2.—Erected 1788.  
 A. 3.—Water. River Whessenden.  
 A. 4.—Four-horse power.  
 A. 5.—Fourteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 4      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
Isaac Bottomley.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— |   | MALES.  |   | FEMALES. |        |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------|---|----------|--------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | - | 4, 3s.  | - | -        | 2, 3s. |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - | —       | - | -        | 1, 3s. |
| 12 and under 14                       | — | 4, 4s.  | - | -        | —      |
| 18 and under 21                       | — | 1, 11s. | - | -        | —      |
| 21 and upwards                        | - | 2, 21s. | - | -        | —      |

A. 7.—All under twenty-one are paid weekly, as above, and the wages of adults will average 21s. weekly, in a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—All are paid by the proprietors.

A. 9.—The wages are the same for over-hours as for regular time.

A. 10.—The day's work commences at six, and ends at eight, with one half hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for afternoon drinking.

A. 11.—The supply of water is regular; but in drougthy seasons we work according to circumstances.

A. 12.—The day is two hours less on Saturday, and is not made up by additional labour on other days.

A. 13.—From eight to half-past eight in the morning is allowed for breakfast, from twelve to one for dinner, and from four to half-past four for afternoon drinking, and none take their meals at a different time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during meal-times.

A. 15.—No loss falls upon the workpeople in consequence of stoppages; the loss is borne by the proprietors. No time is ever made up.

A. 16.—When sick workpeople are not paid, their place is supplied by others.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas; Collop Monday, and Shrove Tuesday, half a day each; Good Friday, Easter Monday and Tuesday, each half a day; Whitsuntide, the same; wakes, or feasts, four days; 5th of November, half a day; and half a day at each of the three fairs held at Marsden.

A. 18.—Workpeople are not paid for holidays; nor is it made up at any other time.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands are employed.

A. 21.—Only one set of children have been employed.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is seldom inflicted: when children are negligent or refractory they are sent home (dismissed from employ).

A. 23.—Children from nine to twelve are more active at the branch they are employed in, than at any other period. They are employed in piecing or joining cardings.

A. 24.—In 1830 the machinery, &c. was employed five days each week on an average.

1831 - - - - - four days and a half.

1832 - - - - - four days and a half.

A. 25.—In 1830 - - - - - 780 hours per quarter.

1831 and 1832 - - - - - 702 hours per quarter.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place in this mill since 1830.

A. 27.—We are of opinion, that in the woollen business there is no occasion for the interference of the legislature to regulate the hours of labour.

ISAAC BOTTOMLEY.

No. 207.  
Scholes & Co.

#### ANSWERS of MESSRS. SCHOLES, VARLEY, and Co., Holme, Marsden.

A. 1.—Carding and spinning of cotton wool.

A. 2.—Employed in carding and spinning of cotton wool twenty-one years.

A. 3.—Water power; on the river Colne.

A. 4.—Fifteen horse power; we employ the whole power.

| A. 5.—Seventy-three persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|
| Under 10 years of age             | - | 1      | - | -        | 2 |
| 10 and under 12 years             | - | 6      | - | -        | 4 |
| 12 and under 14                   | — | 13     | - | -        | 9 |
| 14 and under 16                   | — | 7      | - | -        | 9 |
| 16 and under 18                   | — | 1      | - | -        | 2 |
| 18 and under 21                   | — | 1      | - | -        | 3 |
| 21 and upwards                    | - | 8      | - | -        | 7 |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— |   | MALES.   |   | FEMALES. |         |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------|---|----------|---------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | - | 2s.      | - | -        | 2s.     |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | - | 2s. 3d.  | - | -        | 2s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14                       | — | 3s. 8d.  | - | -        | 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16                       | — | 4s. 8d.  | - | -        | 4s. 4d. |
| 16 and under 18                       | — | 5s. 6d.  | - | -        | 4s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21                       | — | 9s. 6d.  | - | -        | 4s. 9d. |
| 21 and upwards                        | - | 16s. 6d. | - | -        | 5s. 6d. |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Fourteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.            | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - — - -           | 1, earning 4s. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - — - -           | 1, earning 6s. |
| 21 and upwards - - -  | 6, earning 15s. - | 6, earning 6s. |

Yorkshire.

Amos Ogden.

A. 8.—Three employed as piecers, two at mules, and one at twisting.

A. 9.—We allow them after the rate of ten per cent. more than their regular wages.

A. 10.—In summer, our regular day's work begins at six o'clock, and terminates at half past seven; in winter, our regular day's work begins at half past seven o'clock, and terminates at half past eight.

A. 11.—We are not dependent on water from other mills for three hours in the morning, in drouthy seasons; after that time we are dependent on a supply from other mills. Any time lost after is worked up according to the regulations stated in Sir J. Hobhouse's Bill.

A. 12.—We only employ them nine hours on a Saturday: the time is not made up in any manner on the other five days.

A. 13.—The time allowed for meals is, thirty minutes for breakfast, from half-past seven to eight o'clock, in summer; in winter, they take it before they come to their work; at dinner, one hour, from twelve to one o'clock, during the whole year. No person allowed to take their meals at any other time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops all the time they take their meals.

A. 15.—Our practice with regard to the time lost by accidents to machinery, and water mills by defect and excess of water, or injuries done to the dams or watercourse, is made up as allowed by the late act in such cases; if not worked up, is a loss to both them and us. Time so worked up is paid for to the hands at the same rate as their usual wages.

A. 16.—Nothing allowed for sickness or accidents; our rule is, to pay the surgeons, and take them again into our employment when recovered.

A. 17.—Holidays allowed in one year, seven days and a half; viz. at Christmas, three days; at Shrovetide, half a day; at Easter, two half days; at Whitsuntide, two half days; and at the feast, two days.

A. 18.—Nothing paid for holidays, neither worked up.

A. 19.—No fine imposed for absence or irregularity, only reprimanded.

A. 20.—Only one set of adult hands employed.

A. 21.—We have not employed more than one set of children. Our opinions are, that twelve hours per day are sufficient; to work adult hands much longer time, would require two sets of children, and would cause a reduction in their wages.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is not allowed with us at any age.

A. 23.—Our work does not require children under twelve years of age.

|                                            |   |          |   |   |               |
|--------------------------------------------|---|----------|---|---|---------------|
| A. 24.—From January 1st to April 1st, 1832 | - | 75½ days | - | - | 13 Saturdays. |
| April 1st to July 1st,                     | — | 75 —     | - | - | 13 —          |
| July 1st to October 1st                    | — | 71 —     | - | - | 12 —          |
| October 1st to January 1st, 1833           |   | 74¾ —    | - | - | 13 —          |

A. 25.—Machinery at work during one year, 1832.

|                                        |            |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| First quarter, commencing 1st January, | 867 hours. |
| Second — 1st April                     | 861 —      |
| Third — 1st July                       | 816 —      |
| Fourth — 1st October                   | 858 —      |

N. B.—We omit the two former years, having kept no regular time-book until the time that Sir J. Hobhouse's Bill was enacted.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place in this mill since 1830.

A. 27.—Our opinions are, that twelve hours' work per day, for five days in the week, and nine hours on the Saturday, are not injurious to the health of children employed in cotton factories; and that ten hours per day would be very detrimental to the manufacturer himself, as it would decrease the produce of his machinery, and also the value of mill property, at the least one sixth, and would therefore reduce the wages of the workpeople in the like proportion. We think all mills ought to be made equal in the time of working, and that the number of hours above stated are the best for factory labour, with an effectual fine to enforce obedience—the fine to be laid on the moving power; and that all night-working be disallowed. We have also duly considered the twenty-ninth and thirtieth clauses, as stated in Lord Ashley's proposed bill for regulating the labour of children in factories, as very objectionable, as we think it almost impossible that accidents can always be prevented, as they generally arise through carelessness and want of proper attention, however careful or attentive the masters may be.

AMOS OGDEN.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN EASTWOOD, Millmoor, Meecham.

No. 209.

John Eastwood.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, fulling, and finishing woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected A. D. 1818.

A. 3.—Both; Meecham Dike stream.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 O

A. 4.



Yorkshire.

John Eastwood.

A. 4.—Engine twenty horse-power, and twenty the wheel.

A. 5.—Thirty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 12     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 13s. 4d. | 3s. 4d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 16s. 8d. | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | —        | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 24s.     | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 22s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 43s.     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8l. 8s.  | —        |

A. 7.—Four males, twenty-one years and upwards, earning 4l. 12s. in a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—Twelve croppers, one miller, four slubbers, eight piecers, five feeders, and one assistant feeder.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and terminate at eight at night.

A. 11.—This mill has an engine to supply the defects of water.

A. 12.—Croppers, or finishers, cease to work at five o'clock on Saturdays, and slubbers, &amp;c., at six o'clock, and do not make it up afterwards.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking; eight, A. M., twelve at noon, and half-past four, P. M. The manager and assistant feeder to keep things in proper order, and scribble wool, so that the work may not be hindered, which would otherwise be the case.

A. 14.—They do not stop, nor does any person eat and work at the same time, the manager and assistant feeder attending them at meal-times, and eating when others are at work.

A. 15.—The time is lost both to master and workmen, and not made up at all.

A. 16.—We make no allowance for sickness or absence at all.

A. 17.—Eight holidays, and two half-holidays.

A. 18.—No allowance for them, nor are they made up at any time.

A. 19.—No fines are inflicted for any crime, nor set time after the time of attendance; any person continuing unruly lose their place eventually.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No, because we have no occasion for such practice in our business.

A. 22.—No such practice allowed.

A. 23.—Yes, piecers for slubber, and Lewis's knife-tenters used in finishing cloth.

A. 24.—We have never kept any account of such things as these, therefore we cannot ascertain.

A. 25.—We cannot answer this question.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We suppose that our present system of twelve hours is sufficient; and nowise injurious to the workpeople.

JOHN EASTWOOD.

No. 210.  
J. Bracken.

## ANSWERS of J. BRACKEN, Dean Mill, Midgley.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning.

A. 1.—1792.

A. 3.—Water power; Suddenden Brook.

A. 4.—The wheel is about eight horse power, none let off.

A. 5.—Thirty-two persons; viz.

|                        | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under ten years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years  | 2      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14        | 3      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16        | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18        | 0      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21        | 0      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards         | 2      | 7        |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d. | - | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d. | - | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | - | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.     | - | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | - | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | - | 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s.    | - | 6s.      |

Yorkshire.

J. Bracken.

A. 7.—Three persons, twenty-one years and upwards, viz.; one male, earning 15s. and two females 6s., in a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—One male and two females.

A. 9.—Never work over-hours.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock, and terminates at a quarter past seven, when the supply of water is sufficient; excepting Saturdays, when it terminates a quarter before five.

A. 11.—Not dependent on other mills only in drouthy seasons; and then we get all the time we can, between half past five in the morning and eight in the evening.

A. 12.—The regular time on Saturdays is ten hours.

A. 13.—Allow half an hour for dinner, and fifteen minutes for breakfast; being the time most approved by our hands for the winter season; and in summer, half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner.

A. 14.—The moving power stops for dinner and breakfast.

A. 15.—It is lost to the master, and not to the hands.

A. 16.—Seldom make abatement for absence by sickness, or accidents happening in the mill.

A. 17.—Two days and nine half days.

A. 18.—Make no abatement for holiday-time, make up the lost time by working half an hour over five days in the week.

A. 19.—Have no fining; for repeated irregularity abate them for the lost time.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Have not, nor do we consider it necessary, as the children's work is easier than adults generally.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—It does not; but those who learn before that age make the best hands: frequently take children under twelve years of age, to relieve their parents.

A. 24.—Six days a week, excepting holiday-time.

A. 25.—Have run full time, excepting holidays.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Consider that eleven hours a day, or sixty-six hours per week, for the moving power, the best time that could be fixed, and let Saturday's time, holiday-time, meal-times, and the time for beginning and concluding work be made agreeable between masters and workpeople; and especially for water mills, the value of which would be greatly decreased by any restrictions as to the time of beginning and concluding work.

JONATHAN BRACKEN.

#### ANSWERS of NUSSEY SYKES, Low-mill, Mirfield.

No. 211.

Nussey Sykes.

A. 1.—Coarse and fine wool.

A. 2.—Rebuilt in 1813, after being burnt down.

A. 3.—Two water-wheels, on the river Calder.

A. 4.—About eighteen horse power; in our own hands.

A. 5.—thirty-six persons; viz.

|                        | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |
|------------------------|--------|---|----------|
| Under ten years of age | 5      | - | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years  | 6      | - | 5        |
| 12 and under 14        | 9      | - | 2        |
| 14 and under 16        | 3      | - | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 3d. | - | 3s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3d. | - | 3s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 6d. | - | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s.     | - | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 9s.     | - | —        |

A. 7.—Eight males, twenty-one years and upwards, earning 25s., when fully employed. Under this head we have three willowers; one fifty-eight years old, 15s., one twenty-seven years, 12s., and one dwarf-jobber 6s. In a regular week of eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—We never work over-time.

A. 10.—We begin at half-past six in the morning, and work till eight at night, allowing half an hour for each drinking, and an hour for dinner.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 11.



Yorkshire.  
Nussey Sykes.

A. 11.—In the summer time we have great hindrance for want of water; and at these times we frequently work till we can see no longer, say ten o'clock at night; and sometimes we are under the necessity of beginning to work by three in the morning; but in many cases we cannot make above seven or eight hours a day, with being put to that inconvenience.

A. 12.—Less by three hours on Saturdays.

A. 13.—For breakfast half an hour, dinner one hour, and drinking half an hour.

A. 14.—The carders' and billies' work stops during meals; but occasionally the scribblers work part of the meal-times.

A. 15.—We never work over-hours to make up lost time; and are not very exact to an hour in the payment of children, but always pay for full more than they work.

A. 16.—We pay the wages of those children who may meet with any misfortune in the mill, and likewise the doctor.

A. 17.—Christmas, two days; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two days; Good Friday, one day; Mirfield feast, two half days.

A. 18.—They are not paid for holidays; nor is it made up by any extra labour.

A. 19.—We have no fines; but when unreasonably late, we sometimes turn them home till noon, when they lose that half day's wages.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never.

A. 22.—We do not allow any corporal punishment; but if the children be not manageable, we send them home, and generally the parents come back with them, and they are better; if not we turn them off.

A. 23.—We find by practice that children about eight years old, if of a moderate stature for their age, make the best pieceners, the process in which little ones are worked.

A. 24.—As we never work over-time, nor ever work on Sundays, this will answer the questions 24 & 25 as honestly as I could do any other way.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—As for the hours of labour, my opinion is, ten hours in each day, and eight hours on Saturdays, would be quite enough for any purpose of manufactory, as carried on at the present time.

N. B.—The above alludes to children working in the mill, and not to men weaving, &c.; and as for fulling, which is done by men, there should not by any means be any restriction upon that department.

NUSSEY SYKES.

No. 212.  
William Stancliffe.

#### ANSWERS of WILLIAM STANCLIFFE, Hopton, Mirfield.

A. 1.—Woollen mill; scribbling, carding, and slubbing.

A. 2.—Erected at different times: the first part about 1779. The present steam-engine, 1792. Employed from the first as a woollen mill.

A. 3.—The first power employed was a horse; afterwards water, from a small brook; at present, steam.

A. 4.—About six-horse power employed. No part let off.

A. 5.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 7        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —       | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.     | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 5s.      |

A. 7.—Three males; viz.

|                   | MALES.          |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21 — | 1, earning 18s. |
| 21 and upwards    | 2, earning 20s. |

In a regular week of sixty-six hours.\*

A. 9.—After the same rate, but paid to the children themselves for pocket-money, who are always pleased to have an opportunity of earning it.

A. 10.—In summer, begins at seven o'clock, terminates at eight o'clock; spring and autumn, begins at seven o'clock, and terminates at dark; winter, begins at daylight, and terminates at eight o'clock.

\* Sixty-six hours, deducting all meal-times.



A. 12.—Less. In summer, the Saturday's work terminates at six o'clock; in winter, at dark. The time is not made up.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner, viz. from twelve to one o'clock; about twenty minutes for breakfast (when required\*); twenty minutes at tea-time, from four to five o'clock; the exact time not fixed.

A. 14.—The engine and machinery stop during the dinner hour, from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 15.—When the machinery stands, and the children are not at the mill, no wages are paid; but, in cases of accidents stopping the machinery less than half a day, the children remain at the mill, and receive their regular wages; the time is not made up: but if, on account of orders which must be executed in a given time, it is necessary to work extra hours, these extra hours are paid for, to the children, as mentioned before; viz. to themselves, as pocket-money.

A. 16.—Not as a general rule, in case of sickness; but, in case of accidents happening at the mill, an allowance has been made both for time and medical attendance, but this depends on the circumstances of the case.

A. 17.—About ten or twelve days, not including holidays occasioned by accidents, or want of work.

A. 18.—Not paid for holiday time, and not made up.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—No; such a practice would be attended with difficulty to the mill-owner, and with loss to the children. It would be next to impossible for two children following each other in succession, so to lay the wool on to the machine, as to produce an exactly equal thread; and the children could then receive only about one half their present wages; for it must be evident, that whatever abridgment is made in the time of the children's labour, there must be an equal reduction in the wages paid for it.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—It does; and out of the sixteen children whom I at present employ, ten are under twelve years of age; one half are under ten. These children are employed in piecening cardings, which they take from the carding machine to the spinning machine; and, unless they begin when young, they never learn to do the work with ease to themselves, or to the satisfaction of their employer. The best pieceners, I have noticed, have begun under seven years of age, and these have continued the most active and healthy children; but then, three children have been employed to perform the same work that, in some manufactories, two have been required to perform: and, if the labour required of children in factories be in proportion to their years, it is better that they should enter at an early age, say seven years, and be allowed to leave early, than that they should enter late, and continue there till arrived at almost adult age; for the moral injury that the female character would sustain by girls remaining too long, would be much greater than any physical injury children suffer by going too soon.

If children were not allowed to be employed in factories till nine or ten years of age, very few parents amongst the poor in the manufacturing districts, would be able to bring up their families without obtaining parochial relief, whilst their children were acquiring habits of idleness it would be very difficult afterwards to overcome.

A. 24, 25, & 26.—As sometimes one machine, and sometimes another, has had to stand for want of work, I am not able to answer these questions.

WILLIAM STANCLIFFE.

Yorkshire.

William Stancliffe.

#### ANSWERS OF JOHN TYAS and Co., West Mill, Mirfield.

No. 213.  
Tyas & Co.

A. 1.—Fine and coarse woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Rebuilt and enlarged in 1814.

A. 3.—Power is by water, on the river Calder.

A. 4.—One wheel for scribbling and carding is eight-horse power; one wheel for fulling is twelve-horse power; one wheel for grinding corn is ten-horse power; we employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Thirty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 8      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | —        |

\* When time is not required for breakfast, it is allowed in the middle of the forenoon.



Yorkshire.  
Marshall & Co.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s.    | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Five males, twenty-one and upwards, earning 30s. in a regular week of eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour.

A. 10.—We begin work at seven o'clock and terminate at eight.

A. 11.—We work the wheel for scribbling and carding in drouthy seasons, where children are employed, in the day-time, and the other two wheels for fulling and corn, where men are employed, in the night.

A. 12.—The day's work is less on a Saturday than on the other days: we begin at seven o'clock and terminate at five; the time is not made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—Quarter of an hour for breakfast at eight, one hour for dinner at twelve, and half an hour in the afternoon at five.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during the meal-times except we are short of scribbled wool; then the scribblers work. Those who attend them are fourteen years old and upwards.

A. 15.—Should we be much put about by reason of accidents, or defect or excess of water, or injuries to the dam, &c., we might perhaps work an extra hour in the day to gain the lost time, and pay for it at the same rate per hour.

A. 16.—If, from misfortune, any get injured so that they cannot attend their work for a time, we pay them their wages and also their medical attendant.

A. 17.—We allow five days and three half days as holidays in the year.

A. 18.—We only pay for the time they loose.

A. 19.—We are never nice to a few minutes; if they are much too late we turn them back for half a day.

A. 20.—Never.

A. 21.—We have not employed more than one set of children for one set of adult hands. We consider the children are as able to do their work and with as much ease as the adults theirs.

A. 22.—We never allow corporal punishments.

A. 23.—We employ children under twelve years of age as pieceners.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We consider eleven hours work a day is as much as either men or children are able comfortably to bear, and that children of nine years of age will stand their work of piecening full as well as the men will stand theirs.

JOHN TYAS & Co.

No. 214.  
Joseph Wheatley.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH WHEATLEY, Mirfield.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing of wool, milling and finishing of cloth.

A. 2.—17, but rebuilt in 1803-4, and enlarged in 1829, for the finishing of cloth.

A. 3.—Water only. The Calder.

A. 4.—About thirty-horse power, or may be a little more. I employ the whole.

A. 5.—Seventy persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 11     | 9        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | —        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | 7        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | 6        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s.     | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s.     | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s.    | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 31s.    | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                 | MALES.                   | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 18 and under 21 | —                        | 4, earning 5s. to 6s. |
| 21 and upwards  | 15, earning 20s. to 21s. |                       |

In a regular week of eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 8.



- A. 8.—Fifteen pieceners, paid by the slubber.  
 A. 9.—The same exactly with all, save two who have a standing weekly wage.  
 A. 10.—Six o'clock, and ends at half past seven in summer time; in winter at half past six, and ends at eight o'clock.  
 A. 11.—Not often short of water, but a good deal troubled with back-water; in a very wet rainy season a day or two at once.  
 A. 12.—Yes, only from six o'clock to five. The time is not made up in any way.  
 A. 13.—Half an hour at breakfast and drinking, and an hour at noon.  
 A. 14.—At noon, always; at breakfast and drinkings, not; the scribblers generally run, and if very busy the carders also, and the cardings piled up by the children in turns.  
 A. 15.—If busy, it is made up or partly so by working one or two hours, never more, per day. The hands are deducted for short time, and paid for over-time at the same rate.  
 A. 16.—Paid for the time they work; as for accidents I am happy to say there has been none of any consequence.  
 A. 17.—Some seven or eight days.  
 A. 18.—Only two, who have a standing weekly wage; if not, a regular holiday is made up if busy the same as if caused by back-water.  
 A. 19.—Have no particular rule; if very late, and often so, deduct the time lost.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No, I think children can bear to work as long as men, being much easier and lighter work in proportion.  
 A. 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Yes, in piecening the cardings for the slubber, and had rather have a child eight years old than ten, being steadier and more attentive than when older.  
 A. 24.—I cannot tell; working part for the country, it sometimes happens one or more of the machines are standing.  
 A. 25.—I cannot tell.  
 A. 26.—None.  
 A. 27.—I should say that eleven hours or eleven hours and a half of labour would never injure either children nor up grown, as they are wrought in my factory.

JOSEPH WHEATLEY.

Yorkshire.  
 J. Wheatley.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. WILLIAM DIXON and Sons, Crank Mill, Low Moor, Morley.

No. 215.  
 Dixon & Sons.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, slubbing, and fulling.  
 A. 2.—1793.  
 A. 3.—Steam only.  
 A. 4.—Fifteen-horse power.  
 A. 5.—Forty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 12     | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16     | —        |

- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 6d.  | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —        | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s. 9d. | —        |

- A. 7.—Ten males, twenty-one years and upwards, earning 23s., in a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.  
 A. 8.—One boy, paid by the head fuller.  
 A. 9.—At the same rate for over-hours.  
 A. 10.—At six in the morning and seven at evening.  
 A. 12.—On Saturdays they work nine hours and a half, and the time is not made up at any time.  
 A. 13.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner an hour, afternoon half an hour; morning eight o'clock, noon twelve o'clock, afternoon half past four o'clock.  
 A. 14.—Stops only at noon one hour; the seven scribbler-fillers work while they take breakfast and drinking.  
 A. 15.—It is lost both to the master and men.  
 A. 16.—We have no regular system in this respect, but act according to circumstances.  
 A. 17.—Christmas-day, the feast-day, and Whit-Monday afternoon.  
 A. 18.—Some are paid, and some are not.  
 A. 19.—Not any fines.  
 (APP.—C. 1.)

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

Dixon & Sons.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never more than one set, because the children can work as long as the adults.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—In piecing rovings together.

A. 24.—Every day of the week, except Sunday, during the whole period, and except holidays, and in case of the engine or machinery needing repair.

A. 25.—

|         | 1st Quarter. | 3d Quarter. | 3d Quarter. | 4th Quarter. |
|---------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| In 1830 | - 674        | - - 564     | - - 630     | - - 850      |
| 1831    | - 685        | - - 905     | - - 861     | - - 630      |
| 1832    | - 696        | - - 883     | - - 861     | - - 718      |

A. 27.—We have been in possession of this mill upwards of twenty years, and have never heard any complaint, either by adult or child, when working a regular day, viz. thirteen hours, with two hours allowed for meals out of the thirteen hours; and we think eleven hours working is as long as will do us any good.

WILLIAM DIXON &amp; Sons.

No. 216.

Webster & Sons.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WEBSTER and Sons, Rods Mill, Morley, near Leeds.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth.

A. 2.—1825.

A. 3.—Steam alone, forty-horse power.

A. 4.—Forty-horse power.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 4    | - - -    |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 15   | - - 6    |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 15   | - - 8    |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 15   | - - 3    |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 12   | - - 2    |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - 13   | - - 1    |
| 21 and upwards        | - 32   | - - 2    |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 3s.     | - - -    |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 3s.     | - - 3s.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - 4s. 6d. | - - 5s.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - 6s.     | - - 6s.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - 7s. 6d. | - - 6s.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - 14s.    | - - 6s.  |
| 21 and upwards —      | - 21s.    | - - 6s.  |

A. 7.—Twenty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - - - 1, earning 5s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - - - 3, earning 5s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - - - 3, earning 5s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - - - 2, earning 8s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - - - 1, earning 9s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | - - - 12, earning 28s.   |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Three men and one boy, employed in fulling cloth, who are paid by the head miller, and he takes the work by the piece.

A. 9.—At the same rate.

A. 10.—Six A. M. and seven P. M.

A. 12.—On Saturday they work nine hours and a half only.

A. 13.—Breakfast half an hour, dinner an hour, and afternoon half an hour. About half the works stand for breakfast, from eight to half past, and the other half from half past eight to nine, rather than throw all the weight off the engine at once; at dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; in the afternoon, from four to half past.

A. 14.—Only while the shafts are oiled, in order to keep the fulling-stocks at work.

A. 15.—It is lost both to masters and men, excepting the overlookers, who are paid by the week.

A. 16.—We have no regular practice in this respect, but act according to circumstances.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, the feast-day, and Whit-Monday half a day.

A. 18.—Some are paid and some are not paid for holidays, which are not made up at any time.

A. 19.—If behind the time, a quarter of an hour is abated; if more than a quarter of an hour too late, half an hour is abated.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never more than one set: our objections are, that it would be attended with inconvenience and extra expence.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.



A. 23.—In pieceners of rovings together.

A. 24.—Every day of the week, excepting Sundays, holidays, repairs, and ten or twelve days when the workpeople struck, in order that some hands might be discharged for not joining the Trades' Union.

| A. 25.— | 1st quarter. | 2d quarter. | 3d quarter. | 4th quarter. |
|---------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| In 1830 | - 836        | - - 808     | - - 858     | - - 847      |
| 1831    | - 880        | - - 792     | - - 847     | - - 803      |
| 1832    | - 759        | - - 869     | - - 671     | - - 539      |

A. 26.—Only what have been dictated by the Trades' Union, which in many instances have compelled the masters to discharge women in some branches of the trade; besides other kinds of dictation, which the trade have been obliged to submit to.

A. 27.—We think young children should not work more than eleven hours a day, and that period we think will not injure them, especially in the woollen branch.

J. WEBSTER & Sons.

Yorkshire.

Webster & Sons.

# ANSWERS of Messrs. THOMAS and LAZARUS THRELFALL, Morton.

No. 217.

T. & L. Threlfall.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning.

A. 2.—Erected at several times, first part in 1779; ever since which, I believe, it has been appropriated to some branch of the manufacture of cotton wool.

A. 3.—Both steam and water. The water called Morton Beck.

A. 4.—Engine twenty horse, water wheels about thirty horse when fully supplied with water.

| A. 5.—One hundred and one persons :— | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                | - 2    | - 1      |
| 10 and under 12 years                | - 5    | - 12     |
| 12 and under 14 —                    | - 9    | - 12     |
| 14 and under 16 —                    | - 7    | - 8      |
| 16 and under 18 —                    | - 9    | - 5      |
| 18 and under 21 —                    | - 3    | - 8      |
| 21 and upwards                       | - 7    | - 13     |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— | MALES.     | FEMALES.    |
|----------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age                  | - 2s. 7½d. | - 2s. 6d.   |
| 10 and under 12 —                      | - 3s. 10d. | - 3s. 10½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —                      | - 4s. 2d.  | - 4s.       |
| 14 and under 16 —                      | - 5s. 0¼d. | - 4s. 10d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —                      | - 6s.      | - 6s. 1d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —                      | - 7s. 6d.  | - 6s. 10½d. |
| 21 and upwards                         | - 19s. 8d. | - 7s. 9d.   |

A. 7.—Don't pay any by piecework.

A. 8.—Not any.

A. 9.—Don't work any over hours, except warpers, who are paid in proportion to wages paid for regular time.

A. 10.—Our day begins for five days at six, and ends at half after seven o'clock; on the Saturdays at half after five, and ends at four o'clock.

A. 11.—Being the highest mill upon the stream, have not to wait for water from other mills; but in drouthy seasons lose very considerably in time from scarcity of water.

A. 12.—It is; the time is not in any way made up, being disallowed by Act of Parliament.

A. 13.—All take their meals at the same time, for which half an hour is allowed in the morning, from half past seven to eight o'clock, and one hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving powers stop for both breakfast and dinner.

A. 15.—After an accident to the machinery, we work one hour extra for ten days; but where time has been lost for want of water, half an hour per day for six months has been regained, and the remaining part deducted from the wages of the workpeople.

A. 16.—No time allowed when accidents have occurred through carelessness of the workpeople.

A. 17.—Three days, and two half-days.

A. 18.—The whole of the people are paid for the time above stated, and no part is made up in any manner.

A. 19.—We are not in the habit of fining for irregularity when any reasonable excuse is made; and when fined, half an hour is suffered to elapse after the moving power is set in motion.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Have never attempted: it would be totally impossible in country situations, as hands are at present exceedingly scarce. Should any bill pass to put a bonus on working two sets of hands, it would be the ruin of many country spinners; this objection will apply equally to night-working.

A. 22.—They are not sanctioned at any age.

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3 Q

A. 23.



Yorkshire.  
T. & L. Threlfall.

A. 23.—The nature of our manufacture does not absolutely require children under twelve years of age, greater part of which are employed in picking and sorting cotton, picking up bobbins, sweeping floors, &c. &c., which we could not pay older ones the same wages for doing.

A. 24.—It was at work during the first quarter of 1832 seventy-seven days, the second quarter seventy-seven days, the third quarter seventy-eight days, and the fourth quarter seventy-seven days; fifty-two of which were Saturdays.

A. 25.—During the year 1832 it was at work three thousand two hundred and forty-six hours.

A. 26.—The mill has not been occupied by us so far back as 1830, but no alterations, except as mentioned, have occurred since our occupation.

A. 27.—We think it very desirable that night-work should be dispensed with altogether, and that water-mills should have the advantage of working up at least as much time as is allowed in the present Act of Parliament for regulating the hours of labour.

THOMAS & LAZARUS THRELFALL.

#### ANSWERS of JOSHUA ROBINSON, Thongsbridge, Netherthong.

No. 218.  
Joshua Robinson.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and fulling; it is no factory, neither am I a manufacturer, but work the mill for the country domestic manufacturers: there is no spinning or weaving carried on at this mill.

A. 2.—I believe it was first erected for a corn mill; but cannot give the date of its application to the woollen.

A. 3.—By water, and in drought partly by steam: the river Holm, if it deserves the name of a river; the stream is small, and I am not far from its rise.

A. 4.—The engine turns seven horse power, in case of drought; I consider the power of water about fourteen horse, when a regular supply of water: I employ the whole for country work, or domestic manufacturers.

A. 5.—Twenty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | —        |

A. 6.—We have no standing weekly wages.

A. 7.—Twenty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, earning 3s. 6d. | —                  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 3s. 6d. | 2, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4, earning 3s. 6d. | —                  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4, earning 5s.     | —                  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1, earning 8s.     | —                  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, earning 15s.    | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 7, earning 15s.    | —                  |

A. 8.—The children are provided by the slubbers and engineer, and paid by them.

A. 9.—I employ none by the week, but by the piece.

A. 10.—I have no stated hours, they begin at pleasure; they work by the piece.

A. 11.—If water fails, we assist with the engine.

A. 12.—Less, and not made up.

A. 13.—I have no specified time, nor do I confine them to any given time.

A. 14.—Stop at meals.

A. 15.—Not made up; lost to them and to me, as they work by the piece.

A. 16.—If it is of any continuance, I am obliged to supply the place, as it would oblige three or four more to stop work.

A. 17.—As many as they think proper, for they never ask the question.

A. 18.—Not paid for; not made up.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; nor do I think it necessary in a domestic mill, as they are not strictly confined, only in factories; no children are healthier on earth, or look better, than children that work in domestic mills. I believe that parents would not send their children for half a day, and receive half a day's wage: it might be very different in a cotton factory, where they are worked in a high temperature of heat, and are constantly inhaling the flyings of the cotton with every breath they draw. If I had small children, and under necessity, I would rather send them to a woollen domestic mill for double the hours of that of a cotton factory: neither worsted or flax is so healthy as the woollen; this is a fact which cannot be denied with truth.

A. 22.—They are neither approved of nor allowed by me.

A. 23.



- A. 23.—From nine to twelve will suit us; all employed in the scribbling, or as pieceners.  
 A. 24.—I am no manufacturer, and cannot answer the question, as I never take down any lost time.  
 A. 25.—Cannot answer this, as we never keep account of time.  
 A. 26.—No.

Yorkshire.

Joshua Robinson.

A. 27.—The factories eleven hours; the domestic mills twelve hours, as they are never confined close for a quarter or half an hour when they choose, nor yet rung on and off like those of the factories. The factory system is a bad system; it is a wicked system, for it is a corrupting system; it collects large bodies of all sorts of people, men, women, and children together, corrupting each other: if you had seen as much of it as I have, you would be disgusted with it; I can tell the time when there was no factories, the middle classes and the poor were then happy and prosperous. The domestic manufactory is the best, for it makes the most of the community prosperous.—The factory man is merchant, manufacturer, stapler, drysalter, oil-drawer, and dyer, and cloth dresser; he engrosses as much of all the different branches of trade as would make a hundred families comfortable: the poor spinners and weavers have not escaped their pernicious hand, for they have to go one, two, and three miles all round the country, leaving their families at home, and some of the children to carry a canteen at noon, large distances from home, with their fathers' dinners, instead of all being dining at home together. It would make your heart bleed within you to see it; instead of having their spinning and weaving at home, and bringing their families up under their own eye and care; instead of that they are left all day without a guide, instead of being able to assist in any thing to be useful, as it was used to be under the domestic manufactory long since. This is a fact which cannot be denied; for if you were to ask any of the poor families they would answer in the affirmative.

JOSHUA ROBINSON.

## ANSWERS of JAMES AKROYD, Old-lane, Northowram.

No. 219.  
James Akroyd.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning and manufacturing.  
 A. 2.—Began to build the mill in 1825, and finished it ready for working Dec. 1828.  
 A. 3.—Steam.  
 A. 4.—Sixty-horse power; none let off.  
 A. 5.—Five hundred and fifty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 5      | 7        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 13     | 29       |
| 12 and under 14       | 10     | 41       |
| 14 and under 16       | 10     | 50       |
| 16 and under 18       | 12     | 51       |
| 18 and under 21       | 8      | 99       |
| 21 and upwards        | 71     | 144      |

- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.    | FEMALES.  |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 8½d.  | 1s. 11½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 4d.   | 2s. 3d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | 2s. 10d.  | 3s.       |
| 14 and under 16       | 3s. 4d.   | 4s. 0½d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 4s. 3d.   | 5s. 6½d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 10s. 7½d. | 6s. 6d.   |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 2½d. | 6s. 10d.  |

- A. 7.—Five hundred and fifty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —                   | 1, earning 1s.        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, earning 3s.      | 7, earning 3s. 2½d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 3s. 3d.  | 26, earning 3s. 10½d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 4, earning 7s. 2d.  | 41, earning 5s. 1½d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 11, earning 7s. 6d. | 44, earning 6s. 5½d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 3, earning 7s. 4d.  | 85, earning 7s. 5½d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 8, earning 7s. 5d.  | 132, earning 7s. 7½d. |

In a regular week of seventy-five hours.

- A. 8.—None are paid by the workmen.  
 A. 9.—Exactly the same.  
 A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at half past seven in the evening. No difference in point of time.  
 A. 11.—Being steam power, there is always a sufficient supply of water.  
 A. 12.—Yes, the hours of labour on Saturdays are only ten, including a quarter of an hour for breakfast. The time lost on those days is made up on the other five days of the week,—making twelve hours and a half for the five days, and ten for Saturdays; averaging per day, for six days, twelve hours and five minutes. This time includes breakfast and tea, and holidays; viz. five days and a half per year.  
 A. 13.—At eight o'clock, a quarter of an hour for breakfast; at twelve, one hour for dinner; at half past five, a quarter of an hour for tea. The hands employed in this mill all take  
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Yorkshire.

James Akroyd.

take their meals at the same time, with this exception, that some few of them, such as mechanics, &c., have half an hour allowed for breakfast and tea; they only work eleven hours per day, their work being much more laborious than any of the other hands employed in the mill.

A. 14.—The moving power only stops one hour, and that is for dinner. The power is going on whilst they take their breakfast and tea, though about five sixths of the hands are allowed to stop their machines, and sit during the time they are so employed; the other part (spinners) assist one another, and they have a number of spare hands, who relieve them by turns. The spinners take their breakfast and tea while at work; but are assisted by spare hands, who relieve them so as to enable them to sit down while at meals.

A. 15.—It is made up either by working half an hour or an hour per day over, until it is made up, or deducted from the workman's wages; in the latter case it is a serious loss to master as well as to the workman. No allowance for lost time.

A. 16.—No time is allowed to the hands when absent from the mill, either arising from accident or otherwise; if any time was allowed from sickness, they would scarcely ever be well.

A. 17.—Five days and a half during the year, for which they receive their wages; viz. Christmas, one day; New Year, one day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter Monday, one day; Whit Monday, one day; and Halifax fair, one day.

A. 18.—Five and a half days' holidays are allowed, as above; all other holidays are either worked up or deducted for.

A. 19.—Formerly, double the amount of their wages were deducted as a fine for irregularities; at present they are only deducted for the actual loss of time, which is in the same proportion as their wages. Ten minutes are allowed after the time specified for attendance, before any deduction is imposed.

A. 20.—Only one set of adult hands are employed.

A. 21.—Have never employed more than one set of hands. The objection would be, that I should have to pay two sets of hands for the same work; consequently, each set would have to be paid a day's wage (be what it might) in producing the same quantity of work; and, besides, the same set of hands could not work more than six or eight hours each day, except they were to run day and night.

A. 22.—In moderation, not otherwise; they are generally dismissed if they will not do without correction. Hands from nine to fifteen years of age are most liable to want correction. I consider it would be totally impossible to do without correction where so many children come together.

A. 23.—Yes. Children from nine to fifteen years of age are the most useful; when they begin at nine years of age, they often make the most active and clever hands.

A. 24.—In answer to this question, see Answers 12 and 13. The mill has not varied during the whole of this time; and also that the occupier has been concerned in worsted mills for upwards of thirty years, and has always employed his machinery the same length of time.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—I consider a ten hours' bill will injure those most whom it is intended to serve; and that if any such bill pass into a law, it will effectually drive trade into other countries where manufacturers are not limited. Curtailing the hours of labour in mills must throw as many hands out of employment as the time is reduced; that is, those who are depending upon the quantity of material produced in mills. It would require a number of years to build a sufficient number of mills to produce the same quantity of work as is produced at present.

JAMES AKROYD.

No. 220.

R. Dewhirst.

ANSWERS of R. DEWHIRST, for Messrs. Wheatley, Overend, and Collet, Spring End, Ossett.

A. 1.—Woollen for cloth, and stocking yarn.

A. 2.—About thirty years.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Fifteen horse power.

A. 5.—Thirty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.    | £s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4s.    | 4s.      |

A. 7.—Six males, slubbers, 21 and upwards, earning from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per day of twelve hours.

A. 8.



- A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—No over hours.  
 A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and they terminate at seven o'clock in the evening.  
 A. 12.—Two hours less, and not made up in any other way.  
 A. 13.—One hour at noon only.  
 A. 14.—Only at noon.  
 A. 15.—A loss to both parties.  
 A. 16.—Nothing allowed.  
 A. 17.—Two half days at Whitsuntide; two half days at Easter; and two half days at Christmas.  
 A. 19.—No rules.  
 A. 20.—None.  
 A. 21.—We do not employ above one set of children.  
 A. 22.—No punishments.  
 A. 23.—We consider that a child from seven years of age to twelve years, is capable to piecen or join cardings for a slubber, and has always been practised in our factory.  
 A. 24.—We cannot say.  
 A. 25.—No time has been kept.  
 A. 26.—None.

Yorkshire.  
R. Dewhirst.

R. DEWHIRST, Book-keeper.

## ANSWERS of MESSRS. GEORGE BINNS and SON, Wheatley, Ovenden.

No. 221.  
Binns & Son.

- A. 1.—Silk spinning.  
 A. 2.—Began to be used for this purpose in the year 1826.  
 A. 3.—Steam, and water power; the steam is called Hebble Beck.  
 A. 4.—The power is let off to us; part of the power of the engine is occupied by the owner for the purpose of fulling and finishing cloth.

A. 5.—Sixty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 7      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 27     | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 3d. | 2s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | —       | 2s. 7d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 3d. | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 8d. | 3s. 9d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s.     | 4s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 5s. 9d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 19s.    | 5s. 9d.  |

A. 7.—Twenty-three males, 21 and upwards, earning 27s. 2d. in a regular week of twelve hours. Out of the above average, they have to pay the children they employ under them.

A. 8.—The spinners have seventeen children, part boys and part girls; and the dressers have three lads.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and stops at half past seven o'clock in the evening. In spring and autumn, we commence half an hour earlier, to avoid lighting up in the evening.

A. 11.—Having steam, we are not dependent upon the supply of water.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturday is less, but it is made up at the rate of half an hour per day, the other five days.

A. 13.—Breakfast at eight, and have twenty minutes allowed; dinner at twelve, one hour allowed; drinking at five, twenty minutes allowed.

A. 14.—The moving power only stops for dinner; during breakfast and drinking, the card room machinery is kept running.

A. 15.—Whatever time is lost by reason of accidents to the steam-engine or water-wheel, is made up by working extra hours, as circumstances require, by half an hour or one hour per day. The workpeople are paid for the time.

A. 16.—We get a substitute, when convenient, for the hands whose absence, from sickness or accident, is likely to be long.

A. 17.—Holiday on Christmas-day: half holidays, New Year's Day, Shrovetide, Easter, Whitsuntide, Midsummer, Illingworth, Rushburying.

A. 18.—They are paid for part of the holidays, and the other part is made up either before or after.

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3 R

A. 19.



Yorkshire.

Binns &amp; Son.

A. 19.—When they become too irregular or disobedient, we then discharge them. We have no system of fines.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Have never employed more than one set of children; but, in the contemplated act of parliament for the regulation of children's labour, we beg earnestly to recommend it may contain a clause, allowing two sets of children to be worked in any factory on one day; and we think that seven hours would not be too great to allow to each set of children. A clause of this kind, we think, would operate to check some of the evils which may fairly be anticipated to the general interests of the country, which a too restrictive act might produce.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes. Carding and spinning.

A. 24.—Six days in the week from 1831 to 1832, and as many Saturdays as weeks.

A. 25.—1831. From January 1st to March 31st - - - 1104 hours.

March 31st to June 30th - - - 1092 —

June 30th to September 30th - - - 1032 —

September 30th to December 31st - - - 936 —

1832. From January 1st to March 31st - - - 936 —

March 31st to June 30th - - - 936 —

June 30th to September 30th - - - 948 —

September 30th to December 31st - - - 924 —

A. 27.—We are not opposed to an act of parliament for a general limitation of the hours of children's labour in all factories; but it is our decided opinion, that a ten hours' bill would be more injurious than beneficial to a majority of those whose advantage it is proposed to legislate for.

GEORGE BINNS & Son.

No. 222.

Dewhurst &amp; Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. W. and L. DEWHIRST and Co., Shaw-lane, Ovenden.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning.

A. 2.—About forty years.

A. 3.—Both; Ovenden Beck.

A. 4.—Steam-engine fourteen horse, water-wheel about the same, when plenty of water; we employ the whole.

A. 5.—Seventy-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 8        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 9      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 14       |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | 9        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s. 6d. | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s.    | 6s.      |

A. 7.—We have no piece-workers, except reelers, warpers, and winders; of this description we have eleven hands, who average about 9s. in a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—As we work by act of parliament at present, we never work over hours, excepting for lost time.

A. 10 & 11.—When our time-book is straight, or when we are no time behind, we generally begin at six in the morning, and stop at half past seven in the evening: in short-water time, we sometimes in the summer season call part to their work at five o'clock in the morning, and work till about noon, and then the other part come in; but in no case work more than twelve hours, on the average.

A. 12.—We work twelve hours for five days, and nine on Saturdays.

A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour, from half past seven to half past eight; dinner, one hour, from twelve to one.

A. 14.—We stop for dinner, and sometimes for breakfast; we generally keep a few extra hands, who work (what we call shift) at breakfast, when we do not stop.

A. 15.—We strictly adhere to act of parliament, which allows, in case of loss of time from any accident to the engine, an extra hour per day for ten days; in case we lose more than ten hours, we have no alternative but to abate them: but if the loss arises from scarcity of water, we work half an hour per day, or three hours per week over, till the lost time is made up.

—We sometimes pay a poor person his week's wage, in this case; but invariably, if the accident has not been owing to the party's wilful negligence.

A. 17.



- A. 17.—Two whole days, and four half days.  
 A. 18.—We pay them as if they were working, and work it up at the rate of half an hour per day.  
 A. 19.—We have no fines; if we cannot do without it, we turn them off.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No, excepting as before stated, at breakfast.  
 A. 22.—No, not at all.  
 A. 23.—The greatest number of young children are employed in doffing; they are requisite for two reasons—the first, because we get them at less wage; and secondly, because it is easier work for them than it would be for adults, on account of having so far to stoop.  
 A. 24.—We really cannot answer this question, as our time-book for those years cannot be found: but we have worked by the act as near as we could.  
 A. 27.—Our opinion is, that the legislature ought not to interfere between master and servant, as respects the number of hours; we think it ought to be left to themselves: competition, same as in business, will always find its level.

W. &amp; L. DEWHIRST.

Yorkshire.

Dewhirst & Co.

## ANSWERS of JAMES HEGINBOTTOM, Jumpes, Ovenden.

No. 223.  
J. Heginbottom.

- A. 1.—Preparing and spinning of cotton.  
 A. 2.—First employed for the present purpose in 1816; a portion was erected in 1829; cannot say for the other part.  
 A. 3.—Both steam and water; Hebble-brook is the name of the stream.  
 A. 4.—The power of the steam-engine is eight horse, and water-wheel eight or ten.  
 A. 5.—Sixty-two persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 10       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 4      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 24     | 7        |
- A. 6.—As our spinners pay their own piecers, or employ their own children, I cannot return the separate earnings of all the hands; but the average earnings of all, both young and old, including both sexes, is 10s. 3d. each, per week.  
 A. 8.—The spinners all pay their own piecers; and they employ children of both sexes, from ten years of age to eighteen years; the number employed by them, of both sexes, including their own children, is eighteen.  
 A. 9.—We never work over-hours, only in case of accident or other casualty.  
 A. 10.—We commence work at a quarter past six, and stop at a quarter before eight.  
 A. 11.—Steam and water, which enables us to work regularly.  
 A. 12.—We conform to the present factory bill, as near as we can.  
 A. 13.—We allow half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; breakfast at half past eight o'clock, and dinner at half past twelve o'clock.  
 A. 14.—We stop the moving power during breakfast and dinner, but not during the after-noon drinking.  
 A. 15.—We make it up extra time, by half an hour per day; they are after the same rate their regular wages.  
 A. 16.—We never dismiss hands and take on new ones in case of sickness.  
 A. 17.—Three whole days and six half days.  
 A. 18.—Some part of the small hands we pay for holidays; those who work by the piece are paid by the piece.  
 A. 19.—We never exact any fines.  
 A. 20.—No, we only work one set of hands.  
 A. 21.—We never employ more than one set of children; neither do I consider it necessary to do so for regular hours of work.  
 A. 22.—No, not under any circumstance whatever.  
 A. 23.—No; but should children under twelve years of age be excluded, it would bring a heavy charge upon their respective townships, as few parents could support a large family to that age, if not allowed to set some of them to work before they attain the age of twelve years.  
 A. 24.—We strictly conform to the present factory bill, or as near as we can.  
 A. 25.—Answer as above.  
 A. 26.—No alterations have taken place in our works.  
 A. 27.—On this head, I beg leave to say, that I have been churchwarden of Illingworth, township of Ovenden, the last two years; and in consequence of holding that office, I have made some enquiry into the situation and circumstances of the poor, and I find that those who are connected with the mills and factories are in better circumstances than those that are not; and as a proof of this, I find, in looking over the town's books, that out of upwards of two hundred cases, which now stand in those books, there are only seven that are at all connected with mills or factories, and those seven are widows and widowers that have been left with families of small children.

JAMES HEGINBOTTOM.

APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

ANSWERS of Messrs. BLACKBURN, CAUTHERAY, and Co., Pudsey.

No. 224.

Blackburn & Co.

A. 1.—Woollen cloth; scribbling, carding, and slubbing, and fulling of cloth.

A. 2.—1827; applied from that time to the above-mentioned purposes.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Forty horse power; the whole employed as above.

A. 5.—Forty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 10     | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14       | 7      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 12s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 1l. 1s. | —        |

A. 7.—Ten males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 1l. 5s. in a regular week of sixty-three hours.

A. 8.—Thirty children.

A. 9.—Neither paid for over-hours, nor abated for short time or holidays, except the firer, who is paid for over-time.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and ending at seven in the evening. Note, from November 1st to February 28th, at seven o'clock in the morning, and ending at eight in the evening, when there is sufficient work; when not, begins at daylight.

A. 11.—Steam power.

A. 12.—Less time by three hours, and not made up in any manner.

A. 13.—Half an hour for each meal; dinner, one hour. Breakfast, at eight o'clock; dinner, at twelve; drinkings, at four. None at any other time.

A. 14.—Stops at noon. Fulling stocks work during the other meal-times; but the straps of the machines are thrown off when the children work.

A. 15.—Nothing pulled off.

A. 16.—Never had such a case.

A. 17.—Christmas, one day—two half days; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; and at the feast-time, two days.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines inflicted.

A. 20 &amp; 21.—No.

A. 22.—No punishment allowed.

A. 23.—Yes. If large children, they would in time grow crooked, as they have to stoop and lean to the right side in piecing of cardings.

|                      |         |                  |
|----------------------|---------|------------------|
| A. 24.—First quarter | 62 days | } 156 Saturdays. |
| Second quarter       | 69 —    |                  |
| Third quarter        | 68 —    |                  |
| Fourth quarter       | 62 —    |                  |
| Fifth quarter        | 73 —    |                  |
| Sixth quarter        | 62 —    |                  |
| Seventh quarter      | 69 —    |                  |
| Eighth quarter       | 68 —    |                  |
| Ninth quarter        | 46 —    |                  |
| Tenth quarter        | 41 —    |                  |
| Eleventh quarter     | 44 —    |                  |
| Twelfth quarter      | 60 —    |                  |

Note, this is answered by the quarters of a year.

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| A. 25.—First quarter | 786 hours. |
| Second quarter       | 753 —      |
| Third quarter        | 852 —      |
| Fourth quarter       | 786 —      |
| Fifth quarter        | 907 —      |
| Sixth quarter        | 786 —      |
| Seventh quarter      | 863 —      |
| Eighth quarter       | 852 —      |
| Ninth quarter        | 610 —      |
| Tenth quarter        | 501 —      |
| Eleventh quarter     | 588 —      |
| Twelfth quarter      | 764 —      |

A. 26.



A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think no lesser number of hours is any way necessary for the children than what we work; viz. sixty-three hours. *Note.* All over-time the children are paid for themselves, as the parents allow them it for pocket-money; therefore they rejoice when there are any over-hours. We never yet had the least sickness belonging to the mill.

Yorkshire.

Blackburn & Co.

BLACKBURN, CAUTHERAY, & Co.

ANSWERS of WILLIAM FORSTER, Plompton, near Knaresborough.

No. 225.

William Forster.

A. 1.—Flax spinning and making linen thread.

A. 2.—April, 1831.

A. 3.—Water power; water-wheel turned by the river Nidd.

A. 4.—Twenty horse power, partly employed by grinding corn.

A. 5.—Fifty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 7      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5      | 5        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 12       |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 5        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.     | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s.     | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 7s.     | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.    | 6s. 6d.  |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 7 & 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same, if over-time is made; but it is of very rare occurrence.

A. 10.—In summer, at six o'clock, when a proper supply of water is ready; but being dependent on a corn mill not more than four hundred yards higher up the river, in a drouthy season, cannot commence till the corn mill begins; and the mill stops at seven o'clock at night, or later, if it starts later than six o'clock in the morning, being regulated by working twelve hours each day: in autumn and winter, as soon as daylight permits, and terminates at the end of twelve working hours.

A. 11.—Very irregular in a drouthy season; very often cannot obtain a supply of water for more than eight or nine hours.

A. 12.—Eleven hours on Saturday; one hour's work lost to the employer.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner, during which time the water wheel is at rest. Breakfast at eight o'clock; no stoppage of the machinery; about half the hands retire into a room appropriated to that purpose, containing an oven and cooking utensils: half an hour allowed. The other half retire in turns. The work of piecing ends in the spinning department is carried on by one spinner paying attention to the spinning frame of another, an operation that requires no physical power. Tea-time conducted in the same manner.

A. 14.—The water wheel stops during dinner hour only.

A. 15.—If the accident is of a trifling nature, that forces a cessation for an hour or less, the time is made up by an extra length of labour; if the stoppage is more serious, arising from back water in a flood, or short water in a drought, the hands go home, and are paid only for the time they are at work.

A. 16.—Never had any accident; but if such had taken place, the party injured would have been paid regular wages. No wages paid during sickness.

A. 17.—One whole day and eight half days, besides half a day for a tea party on the first Monday after Whitsuntide, when all the hands are treated with tea and cakes, and a moderate supply of punch.

A. 18.—No work, no wages. Holiday time lost; never made up at any other time.

A. 19.—No fines. Very badly supplied with hands. Only two spinning mills at Knaresborough; and out of a population of seven thousand, cannot obtain a sufficiency of hands. Often compelled to employ some of the dregs of society. The generality of hands are refractory, and bad to govern. I often wish Michael Sadler and Richard Oastler had my mill hands to govern; if they had, they would, I am persuaded, soon abandon their visionary opinions.

A. 20 & 21.—No.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments allowed.

A. 23.—Yes; almost all the young hands are employed in knotting thread; that is, making it into small skeins, which is very light work.

A. 24.—Five days each week on an average. Cannot tell how many Saturdays, as I make no difference between Saturdays and other days, except what is stated in reply to Question 12.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 S

A. 25.



Yorkshire.

William Forster.

A. 25.—Sixty hours per week on an average, making seven hundred and eighty hours for each quarter.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—If the hours of labour be less than twelve working hours, a great injury will be inflicted on both the employer and employed: on the employer, by lessening the quantity of work done; on the employed, by lessening the amount of wages received, as profits are so very small as totally to preclude giving six days' wages for five days' work. Besides, the youngest child employed by me is never exhausted by twelve hours' labour, which they abundantly manifest, by commencing playing and romping when the hours of labour terminate.

WILLIAM FORSTER.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. BEAUMONT, HARRISON & Co. Albion Mill, Crimbles, Pudsey.

No. 226.

Beaumont & Co.

A. 1.—This mill is employed in scribbling wool and fulling cloth.

A. 2.—Erected and applied to its purpose in 1823.

A. 3.—Moved by steam only.

A. 4.—Thirty-horse engine, and no part let off.

A. 5.—Sixty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 9      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 10     | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18     | —        |

A. 6.—Twenty-four persons at 3s. each, seventeen at 5s., two at 6s., one at 10s., one at 13s., two at 14s., two at 17s., and one at 24s.

A. 7.—Twelve males, twenty-one years and upwards; viz. eight slubbers and four millers, earning 12l., in a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-four piecers; are paid by the slubbers.

A. 9.—All are paid for over-hours, and receive the same per hour for over-hours as during the regular time.

A. 10.—The regular day's work begins at six in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening, during the summer season; and begins at seven and terminates at eight during the winter season.

A. 11.—Worked by steam.

A. 12.—Saturday less by two hours than other days of the week, and not made up on any other days of the week.

A. 13.—Two hours are allowed for meal-times; viz. half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking. The meals are usually taken at eight in the morning, at twelve at noon, and at half after four in the afternoon.

A. 14.—The moving power stops half an hour at noon; nine scribbler fillers take breakfast and drinking whilst at work.

A. 15.—Time lost by reason of accidents is lost to us and to them, and made up by working extra hours, and paid for after the rate of other day-work.

A. 16.—No allowance for lost time or absence during sickness.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, and half of each day immediately following; half a day on Shrove Tuesday; Easter Monday and Tuesday, each half a day; Whit-Monday and Tuesday, half a day each; the first Monday and Tuesday after the 21st of August, and half a day on the 5th of November; being six days in the whole.

A. 18.—Nothing paid for holidays; made up, if necessary, and paid in over-hours.

A. 19.—No fines enforced.

A. 20.—One set of adult hands only.

A. 21.—Never employed more than one set of children; always found them willing and able to work during the over-time, and would increase the machinery rather than employ two sets.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments not sanctioned; and should they be discovered, the person so offending is discharged from the premises.

A. 23.—Children under twelve years of age are required for piecers.

A. 24.—Machinery been at work for the purpose of the manufacture, in 1830, during the quarters beginning January 1st, seventy-days; April 1st, seventy-seven days; July 1st, seventy-five days; October 1st, seventy-six days. In 1831, January 1st, seventy-seven days; April 1st, seventy-seven days; July 1st, seventy-six days; October 1st, seventy-six days. In 1832, January 1st, seventy-four days; April 1st, seventy-seven days; July 1st, seventy days; October 1st, sixty-six days.

A. 25.—

|                 | 1830.      | 1831.       | 1832.      |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| January 1st - - | 936 hours. | 1008 hours. | 840 hours. |
| April 1st - -   | 930 —      | 996 —       | 921 —      |
| July 1st - -    | 939 —      | 1008 —      | 768 —      |
| October 1st - - | 900 —      | 1005 —      | 792 —      |

A. 26.



A. 26. No alteration since January 1830.

A. 27. Should wish for eleven working hours, and two hours for meals; and for children to be allowed to be piecers at eight years of age.

Yorkshire.

Beaumont & Co.

Beaumont, Harrison & Co. pro WILLIAM SHARP.

ANSWERS of Messrs. MUSGRAVE, RAYNER, GOODSON & Co. Crawshaw Mill, Pudsey.

No. 227.

Musgrave & Co.

A. 1.—Scribbling and fulling of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected in the year 1831; commenced operations in the description of work above mentioned in July 1832.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Twenty-five horse power. No part is let off.

A. 5.—Forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 15     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s.      | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s.      | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s.      | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s. 6d. | —        |

A. 7.—Six slubbers, who average about 10*l.* per week, and four cloth-millers, averaging about 4*l.* per week, in a regular week of seventy-six hours; but this last class of workmen are extremely various in their earnings, owing to circumstances over which they have no control.

A. 8.—Eighteen pieceners, paid by the slubbers, at 3*s.* per week, regular time. This is the only class of persons paid by the workmen.

A. 9.—It is the same; except the wool-dryer, the firer or engineer, and the overlooker; the first has 15*s.*, the second 23*s.*, and the latter 28*s.* per week, without any regard to time. All the others are paid the same per hour for over-hours as during the regular time.

A. 10.—Begins at six in the morning, and terminates at seven in the evening.

A. 12.—It is less by two hours: it is not made up on the other five days in any manner whatever.

A. 13.—At eight o'clock in the morning, half an hour for breakfast; at twelve at noon, dinner one hour; afternoon, at four o'clock, drinking half an hour. All take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during all the meal-times.

A. 15.—It is a loss to both parties; but if the time be made up by working extra hours, the hands of course are paid for it.

A. 16.—No allowance in this respect.

A. 17.—Easter Monday and Tuesday, half holidays; Whit Monday and Tuesday, half holidays; Pudsey feast, two holidays; Christmas-day, holiday; and some other quarter holidays, depending on circumstances.

A. 18.—They are not paid for it, nor is it made up at any other time; but if an abundance of work requiring to be done should render it necessary to work over-hours, they are paid for their over-hours in proportion to their regular time. Under all circumstances they are paid for the time they work.

A. 19.—We have no rules in this respect.

A. 20.—One set only.

A. 21.—No, never more than one set; in our concern we see no occasion for it.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Yes, as pieceners.

A. 24.—From the beginning of August to October 1st, 1832, forty-four days, of which nine were Saturdays; from October 1st to December 31st, 1832, sixty-eight days, of which thirteen were Saturdays.

A. 25.—From the beginning of August to October 1st, 1832, four hundred and twenty hours; from October 1st to December 31st, 1832, seven hundred and sixty-four hours.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—No remarks.

For Musgrave, Rayner, Goodson & Co. JOHN DUFTON.



Yorkshire.

Rider &amp; Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. RIDER, DEAN, CARR and Co., Little Moor Bottom, Pudsey.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, and fulling of cloth.

A. 2.—December 1st, 1826.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Thirty-horse; none let off.

A. 5.—Fifty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 7      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 17     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 7, 3s.  | 4, 3s.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7, 3s.  | 6, 3s.   |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6, 5s.  | 2, 5s.   |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3, 5s.  | 2, 5s.   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2, 5s.  | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, 11s. | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 5, 20s. | —        |

A. 7.—Twelve males, 21 years and upwards, earning 26s., in a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-four children, called piecers, whose wages are paid by the slubbers whom they piece for.

A. 9.—The over-time is calculated at eleven hours per day, and two hours are lost for meals.

A. 10.—They begin at six o'clock in the morning and end at seven in the evening in summer; in winter, they begin and end an hour later.

A. 12.—By two hours, but is not made up.

A. 13.—Rung off at twelve o'clock for dinner, and are again to work at one o'clock; half an hour off at breakfast and drinking.

A. 14.—It stops during the dinner hour only. The four persons in the fulling mill can take meals whilst the stocks are at work. Straps are thrown off the machinery during breakfast and drinking in the scribbling mill.

A. 15.—The workpeople are not paid if they are not working; and if they make over-time, they are paid for it as aforesaid.

A. 16.—None.

A. 17.—Three whole days and four half days.

A. 18.—Not paid for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines used here: they are discharged if they make a common practice of irregular attendance.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands are worked here.

A. 21.—No; we do not find it convenient to work the mill more than seven days in one week, and that only seldom.

A. 22.—Children cannot be kept under subjection without reasonable chastisement, any more here than in our regular day-schools up to twelve or thirteen years.

A. 23.—It does, only in that of piecing.

A. 24.—Our machinery has been at work every day in each week throughout the whole time, either all or part of each day, except Sundays and two days at Pudsey feast, and one on Christmas-day, which happens in the last quarter of each year; but if the mill stop for want of work, it is always in the afternoons, and often on that of Saturday; but the following answer shows the time wrought:—

|                               | HOURS.    | HOURS.    | HOURS. |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| A. 25.—1st Quarter, 1830, 832 | 1831, 854 | 1832, 781 |        |
| 2nd — 854                     | — 942     | — 698½    |        |
| 3rd — 807                     | — 953     | — 786½    |        |
| 4th — 704                     | — 843     | — 577½    |        |
| Total 3147                    | 3592      | 2842½     |        |

If the meaning of the question be the number of days in each quarter, it will be as follows:—

|                       | DAYS.    | DAYS.    | DAYS. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|-------|
| 1st Quarter, 1830, 78 | 1831, 80 | 1832, 71 |       |
| 2nd — 80              | — 88     | — 63½    |       |
| 3rd — 75              | — 89     | — 71½    |       |
| 4th — 64              | — 79     | — 52½    |       |
| Total 297             | 336      | 258½     |       |

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—The most children are capable of performing the work called piecing at the age of eight years, though we have now only five under nine years of age.

SAMUEL RYLEY.

WILLIAM MOORHOUSE.



ANSWERS of Messrs. GILES and MARK ANDREWS, Brookbottom, Saddleworth, Quick.

Yorkshire.

No. 229.

Mark Andrews.

A. 1.—Cotton preparing and spinning.

A. 2.—One half in 1825, the other half in 1829.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Engine twenty horse power. Own occupation.

A. 5.—One hundred and eleven persons; viz. MALES.

FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|---|
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 12 | - | - | - | 7 |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 8  | - | - | - | 4 |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 9  | - | - | - | 6 |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 10 | - | - | - | 6 |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 6  | - | - | - | 5 |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 32 | - | - | - | 6 |

These are exclusive of the reelers, all females, twenty-eight in number, whose average weekly wages amount to 11s. 6d. per week each, and whose ages range from sixteen to fifty years of age; they are not employed in the mill, but over the warehouse.

A. 6.—The average weekly wages are:—

MALES.

FEMALES.

|                       |   |             |   |   |             |
|-----------------------|---|-------------|---|---|-------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 1, 3s. 6d.  | - | - | 3, 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | — | —           | - | - | 3, 3s. 10d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 1, 5s.      | - | - | 2, 7s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 3, 8s. 8d.  | - | - | 4, 8s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | — | —           | - | - | 4, 8s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 2, 19s. 6d. | - | - | 5, 8s. 2d.  |

A. 7.—Eighty-three persons; viz.

MALES.

FEMALES.

|                       |   |   |                    |   |   |                |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------------------|---|---|----------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | 11, earning 4s.    | - | - | 4, earning 4s. |
| 12 and under 14       | — | - | 6, earning 4s.     | - | - | 1, earning 4s. |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | 8, earning 4s. 3d. | - | - | 4, earning 5s. |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | 7, earning 8s.     | - | - | 2, earning 8s. |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | 6, earning 8s.     | - | - | 1, earning 8s. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | 32, earning 26s.   | - | - | 1, earning 8s. |

In a regular week of seventy-four hours.

A. 8.—Principally in piecing; thirty-one in number, ranging from 4s. to 8s. weekly.

A. 9.—Never work overtime.

A. 10.—Half past five o'clock in the morning, leaves off at half past seven, five days in the week, and four o'clock on Saturdays.

A. 11.—Answered in Question 3.

A. 12.—Answered in Question 10.

A. 13.—Twenty minutes for breakfast for adults, and half an hour for children; three-quarters of an hour for adults for dinner, and an hour for children, or more. We are not very exact as regards their time; some eat their meals before meal-times, and some after, according to their having them ready, but it is optional with them.

A. 14.—The engine stops, as stated in Question 13.

A. 15.—We very seldom do stop any, but if only a few hours, we make all or a part of it up; but if more, we reduce the hands according to the time they are off; but we often find them something to do in the way of cleaning the machinery.

A. 16.—If weekly hands are off through sickness, we reduce their wages: if through accidents, we pay them their wages until they come to their work.

A. 17.—Generally from one to two weeks.

A. 18.—They are reduced for holidays, and the time is not made up; excepting the carder and engineer—they are not reduced at all.

A. 19.—Never do fine under any circumstances; we have no way of punishment but that of discharging them. We should like to see fining abolished; we think it is unjust.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—We think the time we work sufficient for adult hands, and not too much for children, because the work of children is not at all laborious in our mill.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Children under twelve are generally employed as piecers.

A. 24.—It would be difficult to answer this question; all we can state is, we have seldom varied our time, having few or no accidents, and the holidays come the same in each year, or very nearly so.

A. 25.—Cannot exactly state.

A. 26.—Do not understand to what this question alludes.

A. 27.—We think a shortening of the hours of labour will be injurious both to masters and men, inasmuch as it will (we fear) lead to further reductions in the wages, and add very materially to the cost of the manufactured article.

G. &amp; M. ANDREWS.



Yorkshire.

## ANSWERS of JOHN BUCKLEY, Shelderslow Quick, Saddleworth.

No. 230.  
*John Buckley.*

A. 1.—Spinning cotton yarns by mules.

A. 2.—In the year 1823.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power engine; a part let off, but for the same purpose as above, spinning.

A. 5.—Eighty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 32     | 15       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.       | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.       | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.       | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s.       | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9s.       | 8s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s. 1½d. | 9s.      |

A. 7.—Twenty males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 24s., and two females, earning 12s., in a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Fourteen males, eighteen females, piecers.

A. 9.—We never work any over hours.

A. 10.—At half past six in the morning in summer, and terminates at half past seven at night; in the winter season we begin half an hour later, and work half an hour longer at night.

A. 12.—We work nine hours on the Saturdays and twelve hours on the other days.

A. 13.—We stop one full hour for dinner, from half past twelve to half past one o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power only stops at noon; but half an hour is allowed in the forenoon and half an hour in the afternoon, for the weekly hands.

A. 15.—Lost time by accidents is made up by working one hour per day longer, or half an hour, according to the quantity of time lost; the hands are paid as at other times.

A. 16.—If any fall sick, or are absent, they find another in their place, if they can; if not, we find one; we never had any accidents.

A. 17.—Eight holidays in the year, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for the holidays nor the time made up; we only pay them for the time they work.

A. 19.—We have no fines; if they will not attend, we turn them away.

A. 20.—Only one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We never employed more than one set of children during the labour of the adults; we never saw any necessity for it.

A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishments at any age.

A. 23.—It is not the age, but the price we can pay, as stretching, creeling, or bobbin setting-in will be done by children as well as older hands.

A. 24.—We work six days in the week in every quarter of the year, and no more, taking out the holidays as follows: three days for Christmas, one day at Easter, two days at Whitsuntide, and two days at our wakes.

A. 25.—We work sixty-nine hours per week, in every quarter, and no longer; the holidays excepted, as above.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—It is my opinion that any legislative enactment for regulating factory labour, that does not prohibit the moving power from working more than a certain number of hours per day, will be evaded, whatever may be the provisions thereof; it will be, like a badly made machine, often out of tune, and when in tune, will not work well.

JOHN BUCKLEY.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. WM. HEGINBOTTOM and Brothers, Horest, Quick.

No. 231.  
*Heginbottom & Brothers.*

A. 1.—Cotton spinning and power-loom manufacture.

A. 2.—Twelve years since first applied to spinning, and about twelve since a part of the mill was applied to power-loom weaving.

A. 3.—The power employed is steam only.

A. 4.—The power of engine is six horse; and the whole of it is employed by ourselves.

A. 5.



| A. 5.—Thirty-eight persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years            | 4      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —                | 4      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —                | 2      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —                | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —                | 3      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards                   | 12     | 1        |

Yorkshire.  
Heginbottom &  
Brothers.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.    | FEMALES.  |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 3s. 1½d.  | 3s. 1½d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —                     | 4s. 4½d.  | 4s. 4½d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | 4s. 10½d. | 4s. 10½d. |
| 16 and under 18 —                     | 5s. 8d.   | 5s. 8d.   |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | 7s. 8½d.  | 7s. 8½d.  |
| 21 and upwards                        | 13s. 6d.  | —         |

A. 7.—Eleven males, twenty-one years old and upwards, earning 15s. 8½d., and one female, earning 10s. in a regular week's work of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—There are eight of the persons at standing weekly wages who are paid by the workpeople themselves, five piecers and three loom tenters; but are not included in the average weekly wage of the piece-work people, as stated in answer to Question 7.

A. 9.—We never make any over-hours at any time.

A. 10.—We begin our regular day's work, during the summer months, at six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at seven o'clock in the evening; and during the winter months at seven in the morning, and terminate at eight in the evening, Saturday excepted, which terminates three hours sooner.

A. 12.—Our regular day's work on Saturday is three hours less than any other day, without any time being made up in any manner on the other five days.

A. 13.—We allow one half hour for breakfast, as may suit the convenience of the workpeople; and one hour for dinner, from half past twelve o'clock to half past one o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during the dinner-hour; and no person takes his meals while at work.

A. 15.—We never make up any time lost by reason of accidents to any machinery, at any time.

A. 16.—When sick, we allow them to go home, and return again as soon as they are able to stand their work.

A. 17.—They have six whole holidays and four half holidays in the year, besides Sundays.

A. 18.—We do not pay the workpeople for any holiday-time; nor do we get that time up at any other time.

A. 19.—We do not fine any person in our employment for irregularity, or to enforce obedience.

A. 20.—We only work one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children to one set of adult hands.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not allowed at all, in our mill, to any age.

A. 23.—The nature of our work does not particularly require the employment of children under twelve years of age; and the greatest number under that age are employed in what we call piecing.

A. 24.—We are not able to answer this question.

A. 25.—We are also not able to answer this question.

A. 26.—There has no alteration taken place in this mill since 1830; only the power-loom manufacture has begun since the above time.

A. 27.—As Lord Ashley's Bill is intended to protect infant labour, yet by that bill the restrictions will fall upon the adults and lower their earnings, we think, and are of opinion, that the greatest injury to infants is early rising in the morning to commence their work, in the winter months. Working through the night we consider very injurious, both to the health and morals of children and adults, and think it advisable to lay restrictions upon the moving power for more than sixty-nine hours in the week.

W. HEGINBOTTOM & Brothers.

#### ANSWERS of WM. KENWORTHY and Sons, Quick.

No. 232.

Kenworthy & Sons.

A. 1.—Carding, preparing, spinning, and reeling cotton wool into yarn, for the export trade; and carding, slubbing, and spinning sheep's wool.

A. 2.—Erected in 1824, and applied to its present purpose the year following.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Twenty horse power, and employed wholly by ourselves.

| A. 5.—One hundred and three persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                     | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years                     | 5      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —                         | 13     | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —                         | 4      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18 —                         | 2      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —                         | 9      | 8        |
| 21 and upwards                            | 22     | 14       |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
Kenworthy & Sons.

## A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4s. 6d.  | 5s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s. 8d.  | 5s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s. 11d. | 5s. 8d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 9s.      | 8s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.     | 9s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 12s.     | 9s.      |

## A. 7.—Thirty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | —                   | 2, earning 8s. 9d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, earning 12s. 6d. | 4, earning 9s. 3d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 18, earning 30s.    | 12, earning 9s. 9d. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—There are thirty-three persons whose wages are paid by the workmen (spinners and rovers): nineteen between the ages of nine and fourteen, who are paid 4s. 6d. to 5s. per week; fourteen between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one, who are paid 9s. per week; twenty-four are males, and nine females. The youngest persons of both sexes employed in the mill are employed by the workmen; in fact, their own parents.

A. 9.—The same; but over-hours have not occurred for several years.

A. 10.—The regular time of starting the moving power is half past five o'clock in the morning, and ceases working at half past seven at night; but, in the winter, it is often varied half an hour later, chiefly on account of the weather and dark mornings.

A. 12.—The time is invariably nine hours and a half on Saturdays; no extra time is worked on the other five days on account of Saturday.

A. 13.—Fifteen minutes are allowed for breakfast, at eight o'clock in the morning; one hour for dinner, at twelve o'clock at noon; and fifteen minutes for tea, at five o'clock in the afternoon. On Saturday, half an hour is allowed for breakfast, as no time is required for tea. No person is allowed to take their meals at any other time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops the whole of the time for meals.

A. 15.—Time lost from accidents to the steam-engine or main gear is worked up at the rate of one hour per day, except Saturday; it is allowed and paid for to the workpeople, and worked up as above stated.

A. 16.—No time lost by sickness or absence is allowed or paid for.

A. 17.—They have eight whole days.

A. 18.—The weekly hands paid by ourselves are paid their holiday-time; but those who are paid by the workpeople are not. Holiday-time is not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—No fines are inflicted; but an immediate discharge is held out for irregularity and disobedience.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never. In a country place, it is scarcely practicable, and extra wages could not be paid; or else it could not be objectionable.

A. 22.—Corporal punishment is not allowed; but are discharged if refractory and disobedient.

A. 23.—It is not necessary they should be under twelve years old; all under that age are employed by the workpeople as little piecers and setters-in.

A. 24.—It is hardly possible to answer this question, nor does it appear necessary. We follow one uniform practice; making six days to a week, from Monday morning to Saturday night, except when the holidays or some accident occurs.

A. 25.—This question must be answered by the preceding; seventy-two hours to a week, deducting holidays.

A. 26.—None.

WM. KENWORTHY & Sons.

No. 233.  
Mills & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. MILLS and Co., Quick.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—1782.

A. 3.—Both.

A. 4.—Ten horse engine, and water; say fifteen in the whole.

A. 5.—Twenty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 6d.      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 14s.         | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s. to 21s. | —        |

In a regular week of sixty-four hours.

A. 8.



- A. 8.—Not any.  
 A. 9.—Yes.  
 A. 10.—From seven to seven.  
 A. 12.—Two hours less, and not made up.  
 A. 13.—One hour for dinner, from half past twelve to half past one.  
 A. 14.—Yes.  
 A. 15.—Loss to both, and not made up.  
 A. 16.—If sick, he takes the time to himself and no wages.  
 A. 17.—Fifteen days in the whole.  
 A. 18.—No.  
 A. 19.—No fines.  
 A. 20, 21 & 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Yes; for piecing cardings, and for one end of a cross cutting machine for cutting woollen cloth.  
 A. 24.—The whole time employed.  
 A. 26.—No.

Yorkshire.

*J. & T. Mills.*

JOSEPH MILLS.  
 THOMAS MILLS.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS MILLS, Husteads, Quick.

No. 234.

*Thomas Mills.*

- A. 1.—Finishing woollen cloth.  
 A. 2.—Application to its present purpose in 1828.  
 A. 3.—Water power, Wade Hill brook.  
 A. 4.—Power of wheel, eleven horse. I employ the whole.

| A. 5.—Twenty-six persons; viz. |   |   | MALES. |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--------|
| 10 and under 12 years          | - | - | 5      |
| 12 and under 14 —              | - | - | 5      |
| 14 and under 16 —              | - | - | 6      |
| 16 and under 18 —              | - | - | 2      |
| 18 and under 21 —              | - | - | 1      |
| 21 and upwards                 | - | - | 7      |

A. 6.—The average amount of weekly wages paid to twenty-six persons is 13*l*.

| A. 7.—Twenty-six persons; viz. |   |   | MALES. | £. | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--------|----|----|----|
| 10 and under twelve years      | - | 5 | -      | 0  | 15 | 0  |
| 12 and under 14 —              | - | 5 | -      | 1  | 10 | 9  |
| 14 and under 16                | - | 6 | -      | 2  | 8  | 0  |
| 16 and under 18                | - | 2 | -      | 1  | 1  | 0  |
| 18 and under 21                | - | 1 | -      | 0  | 13 | 0  |
| 21 and upwards                 | - | 7 | -      | 6  | 13 | 0  |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

- A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—No over hours.  
 A. 10.—Six in the morning, and eight at night, except upon a Saturday, and on that day at six without variation.  
 A. 11.—The mill occupied by me is a water mill, and except my reservoir is sufficiently full, to work the mill the whole time, I deduct from the hands accordingly.  
 A. 12.—The regular time, as stated above, upon a Saturday, is ten hours; and not required more.  
 A. 13.—Two hours per day allowed for meals.  
 A. 14.—Stops entirely during meal-times.  
 A. 15.—Except the hands work, they are not paid, nor are they required to make up any lost time.  
 A. 16.—No wages.  
 A. 17.—Agreeable to the custom of our township.  
 A. 18.—No, or are they paid for the time they don't work.  
 A. 19.—No fines.  
 A. 20, 21 & 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Five employed in hooking the cloth on the frames.  
 A. 24 & 25.—Kept no time book.  
 A. 26.—No.  
 A. 27.—I am perfectly satisfied, likewise my hands, and don't wish for any legislative interference.

THOMAS MILLS.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN NIELD and Sons, Roughtown, Quick.

No. 235.

*Nield & Sons.*

- A. 1.—Cotton spinning.  
 A. 2.—First erected in 1805; burnt down December 1830, rebuilt in the following year; joining to it is a woollen mill, part of which has been unoccupied some years.  
 (APP.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.  
Nield & Sons.

A. 3.—Water and steam; name of river the Tame, one of the sources of the Mersey.

A. 4.—Steam-engine, eight horse. The water-wheel is employed also in turning the adjoining woollen fulling-mill; the steam-engine is only employed to work the cotton-mill, and that only during a scarcity or overplus of water.

A. 5.—Forty-seven persons:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | 4      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | 8        |

This answer is compiled from the present list of hands, 10th June 1833, containing a greater proportion of young hands than on the 1st April.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years        | 4s. 6d.  | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s. 5½d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s. 9¾d. | 6s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 7s. 4½d. | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s. 6d.  | 7s. 8d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 7s. 6d.  | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 6d. | 8s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                | FEMALES.             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 2, earning 15s. 10½d. | —                    |
| 18 and under 21       | 3, earning 23s.       | 1, earning 7s. 3½d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 6, earning 22s. 2d.   | 7, earning 10s. 4½d. |

These are the earnings on an average of six weeks, though short of work more or less each week, in a regular week of seventy-one hours.

A. 8.—Weekly wages paid by the workpeople.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, earning 4s. 6d. | —                  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, earning 4s. 4d. | 1, earning 4s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 4, earning 6s.     | —                  |
| 14 and under 16       | 3, earning 7s. 6d. | —                  |
| 16 and under 18       | 1, earning 7s. 6d. | 1, earning 7s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, earning 7s. 6d. | —                  |

The above is a list of piecers who are paid by the workpeople, and who, in addition to the above seventy-one hours per week, are employed one hour each Saturday in cleaning; though for want of sufficient card room preparation, often lose several hours each week from the aforesaid time.

A. 9.—If we casually employ any children over-hours, they receive the same per hour as during the regular hours; but not so the men, who receive no addition to their wages, as over-hours are never resorted to but in extreme cases; and then partially, by a part of the hands only, to enable the other part to make regular hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening, except Saturdays. Before 1830, in winter half past six in the morning, summer six; winter eight o'clock in the evening, summer half past seven o'clock; this was not always the case up to 1830, time varying; the pressure of the times upon prices compelling us to all means of exertion to prevent loss upon our manufacture.

A. 11.—Having a steam-engine, we are not now dependent; but previously, in some seasons, for certain periods, could not make six hours per day.

A. 12.—Saturday, six in the morning, four in the evening; formerly, *i. e.* some years ago, half past four; time not made up on any other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner; eight to nine for breakfast, twelve to two for dinner.

A. 14.—Water-wheel does not always stop during meal-times, being engaged working stocks for fulling woolling-cloth. No persons take their meals whilst at work; some few take their meals whilst machinery is at work, choosing to play, rather than eat, in the allotted time; and to eat, rather than work, in the same perverse manner.

A. 15.—Formerly we made up lost time as well as we were able, latterly but seldom. If the lost time does not amount to half a day, the workpeople being weekly hands are paid, the master loses it; if half a day or more, both parties lose it: those who do piecework receive nothing if not at work.

A. 16.—In sickness, if half a day or upwards, the wages are reduced proportionally. In accidents arising from machinery, though such accidents invariably happen from the neglect of the parties themselves, we pay them full wages for the time they are absent, together with the whole of the surgeon's bill, and also permit the parties to choose their own or any other professional man to attend them.

A. 17.—Eight full days, and some shorter periods.

A. 18.



A. 18.—Holidays are not paid for, excepting three or four weekly hands, who may perhaps be wanted to assist in repairs, &c. The time is not made up in any way.

A. 19.—No fines imposed or paid on any pretext or ground whatever.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never. Two objections:—first, impossibility of obtaining them; secondly, only the same amount of wages to be divided betwixt them; which we fancy would not be very agreeable or very profitable to the parties receiving wages.

A. 22.—Nothing beyond an occasional box on the ear. We would ask, how it would be possible to make children, of all sorts and tempers, at all times sufficiently attentive and obedient without some control in prospective of that nature? If any of our sapient would-be legislators would point out any school, where nothing of the sort ever exists, we should be glad; but in the village school here, more blows are inflicted than in manufactories where the same number of children are employed.

A. 23.—No; excepting the impossibility of obtaining a sufficient number above that age, and parents with families requiring them to work as a matter of choice and necessity, also, to assist in maintaining themselves. Boys that are not set early to work often learn to be very mischievous, and acquire very idle habits. Greatest number of children are employed in piecing and card rooms.

A. 24.—We have worked regularly on six days in the week during that time, excepting regular holidays, and, perhaps, some casualties in machinery; also from the 11th December 1830 to the 23d of January 1831, a turn-out of spinners took place which totally suspended our works during that period.—(N. B. This was a turn-out about prices, not about hours of labour.) One Saturday in each week, if working at all.

A. 25.—Impossible to tell accurately; the answers to Nos. 10. 12, 13. 17. & 24. questions embody this.

A. 26.—None that we are aware of or can recollect.

A. 27.—First, theoretically, and, indeed, practically, I object to all legislative interference (as bad in principle) in manufactures; all such matters regulating themselves by experience, necessity, and the nature of different employments. Secondly, the operatives generally not wishing for such interference; and those who do are under the mistaken idea of obtaining as good wages for less time as they now get. That this is a mistaken notion must be obvious to all who attentively examine the subject; for though Parliament may legislate for the British dominions, it cannot legislate for foreign states: thus, by restricting the hours of labour here, giving a bonus of that amount to foreigners; and, let manufacturing establishments abroad be once on foot, we may in vain retrace our steps; foreign governments, long envious of British superiority, will not fail to cherish and encourage their increase by heavy protecting duties, and all other means within their power: when I say operatives, I mean not the discharged, but those actually in work, who make a trade of the credulity of their countrymen, and care not one rush either for their prosperity or happiness. I am borne out in my opinion of the operatives indifference by two facts, that there never was a turn-out in this neighbourhood about the hours of labour, though several for wages, and also, since the twelve hours' bill came partially into operation, that there has not been any petition from hence for legislative interference. Thirdly, that all legislative enactments betwixt masters and servants serve to create differences, are used only as instruments of revenge by the discarded workman, or become a new source of profit to common informers, and an instrument of oppression against small manufacturers, who first and principally suffer from them. Fourthly, though a bill professing to limit the hours of labour for children only, must also limit the labour of adults; the parties, from absolute necessity, being so blended in their employments, that adults cannot go on without children, and *vice versa*. Fifthly, personally I object to such a bill, because John Nield senior leased the premises he now holds for life, and that, too, before any legislative interference ever took place; such legislative enactment as a ten hour bill, if it ever takes place, ought to be accompanied by another, to release all parties from such engagements as the above.

For John Nield and Sons,  
JAMES NIELD.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. SAMUEL WRIGLEY and Brothers, Scout Head, Quick.

No. 236.

Wrigley & Brothers.

A. 1.—Carding, spinning, and weaving of cotton.

A. 2.—Erected in 1825.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Engine, twenty-four horse power: sixteen occupied by Samuel Wrigley and Brothers, in carding and spinning; eight horse power occupied by John and Richard Allen for weaving.

A. 5.—One hundred and forty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMAL. |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 6      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 3      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 10     | 19     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7      | 15     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9      | 11     |
| 21 and upwards        | 33     | 27     |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
Wrigley & Brothers.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 5s. 6d. | 5s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 6s. 6d. | 6s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 8s.     | 8s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 9s.     | 9s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 23s.    | 23s.     |

A. 7.—Weavers by power:—

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 6, earning 9s. 6d. | 14, earning 9s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, earning 9s. 6d. | 5, earning 9s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 9s. 6d. | 5, earning 9s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 4, earning 9s. 6d. | 4, earning 9s. 6d.  |

Spinners and doublers:—

|                |                  |                  |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 21 and upwards | 33, earning 24s. | 27, earning 15s. |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-two, about equal number male and female, who are paid by the spinners; ages from sixteen to twenty-one years.

A. 9.—There is no over-time.

A. 10.—In the summer, from six in the morning to half past seven in the evening; in the winter, from seven in the morning until half past eight in the evening.

A. 12.—Nine hours on Saturday, and not any time worked up.

A. 13.—At eight in the morning half an hour, and at one o'clock one hour. Meals all at one time.

A. 14.—The moving power stops the whole time.

A. 15.—We sometimes do make up lost time, and in that case they are paid in proportion to their weekly wages; but it seldom happens.

A. 16.—There are no wages allowed during that time: there is a subscription raised in the mill, of which about 4s. per week is paid to the sick person.

A. 17.—Christmas, three days; Easter, half a day; Whitsuntide, two days; the wakes, two days.

A. 18.—They are not paid, nor is the time made up.

A. 19.—The spinners are sometimes fined for allowing their piecers to spin during their absence from the mill: these are the hands in question, No. 8.

A. 20.—We have never worked the mill more than sixty-nine hours per week since its erection, and with one set of hands.

A. 22.—No punishments are sanctioned on any account.

A. 23.—We require but few of that age, and those to set in bobbins.

A. 24.—Our time does not vary from sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 26.—Some small reductions have taken place in the rate of wages.

A. 27.—Our opinion is, that should time be further diminished by Act of Parliament, a corresponding reduction in wages will take place; and in amount as the mill property is depreciated, it will be made up by further reductions, and must be injurious to the working class and trade generally.

JAMES WRIGLEY and Brothers.

No. 237.  
Shaw & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. SHAW and Co., Upper Mill, Saddleworth, Quick.

A. 1.—Scribbling and slubbing.

A. 2.—One part was erected A. D. 1783, and the other A. D. 1793.

A. 3.—Water; on the Tame.

A. 4.—About eight horse power: the whole power is employed for the purposes above mentioned.

A. 5.—Twenty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 7      | —        |

A. 7.—Twenty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | —                  | 1, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, earning 3s. 6d. | 2, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14       | 3, earning 5s.     | 4, earning 5s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 4, earning 12s.    | —                  |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 16s.    | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 7, earning 18s.    | —                  |

In a regular week of fifty-six hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-seven, as above stated. We have no standing weekly wages in our mill.

A. 10.—In summer, the work commences at six and ends at six, excepting on Saturdays and Mondays; commencing two hours later on the latter day, and giving over two hours sooner



sooner on the former. The time, however, is irregular, in consequence of being dependent upon the supply of water.

A. 11.—The time depends upon the supply of water.

A. 12.—Two hours less; the time is not made up in any way.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner, and half an hour each for breakfast and tea.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—The time is not made up.

A. 16.—Our work being by the piece, this question does not apply to us.

A. 17.—They take holidays when they think proper, not being paid weekly wages.

A. 18.—They are not paid for playing, neither is the time made up.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—We have only one child under ten, and six under twelve; the younger hands are principally employed in piecing ends of slubbings, and are the children of the elder workpeople.

A. 24.—We have no means of ascertaining.

A. 26.—No.

GILES SHAW.

Yorkshire.

Shaw & Co.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. R. R. WHITEHEAD and Brothers, Oak View, Quick.

No. 238.  
Whitehead &  
Brothers.

A. 1.—Woollen goods of various descriptions.

A. 2.—1812.

A. 3.—Water power only; a small rivulet without name.

A. 4.—From eight to ten horses, and the whole power is employed.

A. 5.—Sixty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 20     | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s. 6d. | 4s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —       | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —       | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 8s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 10s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s.    | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Forty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.              | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 8s.      | —                  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2, earning 10s.     | 2, earning 6s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3, earning 10s. 6d. | 3, earning 8s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4, earning 11s. 5d. | 4, earning 14s.    |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, earning 16s.     | 2, earning 16s.    |
| 21 and upwards        | 16, earning 18s.    | 6, earning 8s.     |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—They are paid in the same proportion.

A. 10.—At half past five in the morning, and terminates at eight at night.

A. 11.—According to circumstances: it is impossible to answer this question with any degree of correctness.

A. 12.—Saturday's work is four hours less, and is made up in the other five days.

A. 13.—All breakfast at half past eight o'clock, and are allowed half an hour; dine at twelve o'clock, and are allowed one hour; tea at five o'clock, and are allowed half an hour.

A. 14.—The moving power stops all the meal-times.

A. 15.—We have no regular practice as to making up time lost from scarcity of water, nor is any of it allowed to the workpeople; it is lost to us both, and not made up by extra hours.

A. 16.—It is not our practice to allow any time lost in this way. Most of our workpeople are members of clubs or friendly societies, which support them in sickness.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, one day at Shrovetide, two half days in Whitsun week, half a day at Easter, three days at the wakes, and half a day at the fair.

A. 18.—The workpeople lose all the time spent in holiday; some of them are allowed to work during holiday, and some are obliged to work in repairs, or cleaning out reservoir, &c.

A. 19.—We exact no fines for absence or irregularity; if any person is frequently absent, or otherwise irregular, he is discharged. Fines are imposed for bad work in proportion to the damage sustained; if any refuse to pay the fine, they are discharged.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 X

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

Whitehead &  
Brothers.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We have not. We know no objection to the practice but what would be raised by the parents or guardians of the children employed. If we would not give them full employment, they would take them where they could get it.

A. 22.—They are not sanctioned at all.

A. 23.—It does not; the youngest children are employed in piecing ends from the carders.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—We cannot answer these questions. We have, during these periods, worked our machinery full time, except in case of scarcity of water; we have sometimes worked night and day, for a few weeks, with a part of our machinery, when we could get extra hands.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Any restriction by act of parliament in the time of working our wheel would be injurious to us, as we work sometimes, as above stated, part of our machinery in the night, which enables us to give employment to the workpeople in drouthy seasons.

R. R. WHITEHEAD &amp; Brothers.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. GREENWOOD and WHITAKER, Greenholme, Burley.

No. 239.

Greenwood &  
Whitaker.

A. 1.—Spinning and weaving cotton.

A. 2.—One mill in 1792, and the other in 1811.

A. 3.—Water only; river Wharf.

A. 4.—The whole power employed by the proprietors; suppose one hundred and eight horse power.

A. 5.—Three hundred and sixty persons; viz. MALES. FEMALES.

|                       |   |    |   |   |   |     |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|---|---|-----|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 8  | - | - | - | 5   |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 13 | - | - | - | 12  |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 19 | - | - | - | 24  |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 10 | - | - | - | 16  |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 9  | - | - | - | 19  |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 10 | - | - | - | 39  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 45 | - | - | - | 131 |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.          |   | FEMALES.     |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---|--------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - 8, 2s.        | - | 2, 2s. 6d.   |
| 10 and under 12 years | - 13, 2s. 8½d.  | - | 4, 3s. 8½d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | — 19, 3s. 9¾d.  | - | 13, 4s. 9¾d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — 10, 5s. 1¼d.  | - | 7, 5s. 4¼d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | — 8, 6s. 11¼d.  | - | 6, 6s. 4½d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | — 10, 9s. 9¾d.  | - | 16, 7s. 2¼d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - 41, 17s. 4¼d. | - | 54, 7s. 3½d. |

A. 7.—One hundred and forty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                                 |   | FEMALES.              |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | - —                                    | - | 3, earning 3s. 5d.    |
| 10 and under 12 years | - —                                    | - | 8, earning 3s. 3¼d.   |
| 12 and under 14       | — —                                    | - | 11, earning 5s. 11⅙d. |
| 14 and under 16       | — —                                    | - | 9, earning 7s. 11⅙d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | — 1, earning 6s. 8d.                   | - | 13, earning 7s. 4¾d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | — —                                    | - | 23, earning 7s. 11⅙d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - 4, earning 17s. 8d.                  | - | 77, earning 8s. 1½d.  |
| Under 18 years of age | - spinners, 69 hours per week.         |   |                       |
|                       | - weavers, 69 and some 72 hours.       |   |                       |
| 18 and upwards        | - both spinners and weavers, 79 hours. |   |                       |
|                       | - mule spinners 72 —                   |   |                       |

A. 8.—Nine boys as mule piecers; viz. two of ten years of age, two of eleven, three of thirteen, one of fourteen, and one of eighteen.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Five to seven o'clock. Hands under eighteen have half an hour for breakfast, and leave the mills at half past six in the evening; and the spinners leave at half past three on the Saturday.

A. 11.—Regularly supplied, except occasionally to slacken the speed for the water coming down from Addington mill, six miles above; but not frequently.

A. 12.—The same as other days, except the hands under eighteen, who work only nine hours.

A. 13.—For hands under eighteen, answered by No. 10. The adults never stop but one hour to dinner; the speed of the wheel is slackened for breakfast. The workpeople prefer taking their meals when the mill is running, to stopping; and the children in winter complain of being sent home to their meals. Breakfasts are brought to the adults, from seven to nine o'clock, except the mechanics, who always go home to breakfast.

A. 14.—Never stops but at noon. Spinners, weavers, and all the adults, take their breakfasts and drinkings as the work proceeds; mule spinners stop, dressers slacken.

A. 15.



- A. 15.—Always paid, but lost time made up, conformably to Act of Parliament.  
 A. 16.—Always allowed for accidents. We have two sick lists, one for males and the other for females, from which the sick have an allowance.  
 A. 17.—We avoid all holidays, except Christmas-day, and for which the hands are paid.  
 A. 18.—None allowed, except Christmas-day; all other lost time made up, in conformity to act of parliament.  
 A. 19.—No fines imposed, but for bad work; disobedience is punished by sending the offender out of the mill for the parents to correct.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No; the parent would receive only as much for the labour of two as they now do for one child; and it would be difficult for the employer to obtain either good spinning or good weaving, from its being almost impossible to ascertain which set had injured the work, and which done their duty; but in country situations like ours, two sets could not be obtained.  
 A. 22 & 23.—No.  
 A. 24 & 25.—Thirteen hours a day the entire years, except Sundays and Christmas-day, and Otley and Burley feasts, which time has been made up by extra hours, and paid for.  
 N. B.—The time alluded to as being made up by extra hours is that lost on Otley and Burley feast days; Christmas-day is given to the workpeople, as stated in Question 18.  
 A. 26.—No.  
 A. 27.—Previously stated.

Yorkshire.

Greenwood &  
Whitaker.

I, Thomas Ardill, am ready to make oath, that I have carefully examined the wage-book belonging to Messrs. Greenwood and Whitaker, of Burley, and that in June, 1818, there were two hundred and eighteen hands employed, of whom twenty-three are dead, which is as one death in one hundred and forty-two per year, being fifteen years; that in June, 1823, there were three hundred and six employed, of whom twenty-four are dead, which is as one death in one hundred and twenty-seven per annum, being ten years.

Burley, June 15, 1833.

THOMAS ARDILL.

In June, 1818, we had - 147 apprentices.  
 When out of their apprenticeship 20 returned to London.

127

10 of the 127 are since dead, which is as 1 death in 190 per year.

GREENWOOD &amp; WHITAKER.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. J. R. and J. THOMPSON, Rawden.

No. 240.

J.R. &amp; J. Thompson.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing wool, and fulling of woollen cloth.  
 A. 2.—This mill was erected in 1793.  
 A. 3.—Steam.  
 A. 4.—Thirty-horse; the whole employed by ourselves.  
 A. 5.—Fifty-three persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards —      | 15     | 1        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —        | 6s. 4d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s.      | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.     | 6s. 8d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 7d. | 8s.      |
- A. 7.—Seven males (slubbers), 21 and upwards, earning 26s., in a regular week of sixty-four hours.  
 A. 8.—Not any.  
 A. 9.—They receive the same per hour for over-hours.  
 A. 10.—In summer, at six o'clock A.M., and terminates at seven o'clock P.M.; in winter, at seven o'clock A.M., and terminates at eight o'clock P.M.  
 A. 12.—It is two hours less, and not made up at any time.  
 (APP.—C. 1.)

A. 13.



Yorkshire.

J.R.&J.Thompson.

A. 13.—Breakfast, half an hour, from eight o'clock to half past eight; dinner, from twelve o'clock to one; and drinking, from four o'clock to half past four. They all take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—No; fulling and scribbling.

A. 15.—Lost time by accidents is not made up: it is lost to us and to them; neither is it made up by working extra hours.

A. 16.—There is, according to circumstances, and the necessity of the parties.

A. 17.—Four whole days, and several half days.

A. 18.—No wages paid to the workpeople for holidays, neither is that time made up at any other time.

A. 19.—We have no fines.

A. 20.—We do not work more than one set of hands.

A. 21.—No; we should altogether object to it.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—It does, for piecing cardings; and that is the only process in which such are employed.

A. 24.—We have generally employed our machinery six days in the week, except holidays. We cannot answer this question very correctly.

A. 25.—It is impossible for us to say how many hours it has been at work.

A. 26.—We have no alterations to notice.

A. 27.—We think eleven hours a day far more suitable than ten; we have been at work nearly forty years, and we may say, that we never found eleven hours' work a day to injure the health of any of the children employed by us.

J. R. &amp; J. THOMPSON.

No. 241.

Wm. Thompson.

## ANSWERS of WM. THOMPSON, Park Mill, Rawden.

A. 1.—The dressing of woollen cloth and the spinning of woollen yarn.

A. 2.—Erected in 1805, and applied to its present purpose in 1828.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Fourteen horse; I employ the whole.

A. 5.—One hundred and thirty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | 22     | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | 10     | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 11     | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 12     | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 60     | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.    | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.       | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 7d.   | 3s. 4d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 5d.   | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 2½d.  | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 7s. 9½d.  | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 11s. 0½d. | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s. 8d.  | 12s.     |

A. 7.—Six males (shearmen), twenty-one years and upwards, earning 21s. 2d., in a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 8.—Three; cloth drawers.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening, for five days in the week; and for Saturday, begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at five in the evening, no time being allowed for drinking.

A. 12.—Yes; not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast and drinking, each, and an hour for dinner; taken at eight, twelve, and half past four o'clock: all take them at the same time.

A. 14.—Stops during the whole of the meal-times.

A. 15.—It is not made up: it is a loss to both.

A. 16.—Time and wages are allowed in case of accidents by machinery, unless the individuals are not attending to their proper employment.

A. 17.—Three holidays and five half holidays.

A. 18.—Some are paid for holiday-time, others not: not made up.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed; but in case a workman is a quarter of an hour behind the appointed time, half an hour is deducted from his time; in many cases the absence of a workman not only prevents the machine working, but also other hands that are in attendance; in case of repeated irregularity, he is dismissed.

A. 20.



A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; from the nature of the employment, the children are as equal to the labour as the adults.

A. 22.—No; suspension from employment, for a short period, is practised in some cases.

A. 23.—It does not; carping, preeming, brushing, and assisting the cutters.

A. 24.— 1830. 1831. 1832.  
1st quarter, 77 days. - 1st quarter, 77½ days. - 1st quarter, 76½ days.  
2d „ 76½ — - 2d „ 77½ — - 2d „ 75 —  
3d „ 77 — - 3d „ 77 — - 3d „ 77 —  
4th „ 77 — - 4th „ 77 — - 4th „ 77 —

About one sixth Saturdays.

A. 25.— 1830. 1831. 1832.  
1st quarter, 935 hours. - 1st quarter, 866 hours. - 1st quarter, 848 hours.  
2d „ 848 — - 2d „ 898 — - 2d „ 860 —  
3d „ 896 — - 3d „ 986 — - 3d „ 885 —  
4th „ 831 — - 4th „ 891 — - 4th „ 993 —

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—My opinion is, that Parliament had best simply pass an act for prohibiting woollen factories working longer time than seventy-five hours and a half in six successive days, with a provision that there should be a suspension from labour at three different periods of the day for meals, which united should not be less than eighty minutes in winter, and two hours in summer. I have found by experience, that my workpeople, of all ages, prefer making over-time, as the wages they receive for such time is almost invariably considered as a fund belonging to themselves.

WM. THOMPSON.

#### ANSWERS of WM. THOMPSON, Larkfield Mill, Rawden.

No. 241.  
Wm. Thompson.

A. 1.—The scribbling, carding, and fulling of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Erected in 1825.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Thirty horse; I employ the whole.

A. 5.—Eighty-one persons, viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 10     | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 13       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 19     | 5        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 1½d. | 3s. 1½d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 1½d. | 3s. 1½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s. 0½d. | 5s. 0½d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s. 6d. | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s.     | 7s.      |

A. 7.—Ten males (slubbers), twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 29s. 7d., in a regular week of sixty-six hours.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening; in winter the engine commences working at seven o'clock in the morning, and ceases at half past seven o'clock in the evening; shorter time being allowed for meals, because more convenient and agreeable to the workpeople at that season of the year.

A. 12.—It is less by two hours and a half, and is made up by working extra time on the other five days, or by having less for meal-times, according to the season of the year.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking; and taken at eight o'clock, twelve o'clock, and four o'clock: they all take them at the same time.

A. 14.—Stops half an hour at noon; the fullers and scribbler-feeders take breakfast and drinking during the hours of work.

A. 15.—I am not in the practice of requiring the time to be made up: it is a loss to both.

A. 16.—In case of accidents by machinery, time or wages are allowed, unless the individuals are not attending to their proper employment.

A. 17.—Three holidays and five half holidays.

A. 18.—Some are paid for holiday-time, others not; not made up.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed; dismissed from work for repeated negligence.

A. 20.—No.

(APP.—C. 1.)

3 Y

A. 21.



Yorkshire.

Wm. Thompson.

A. 21.—No; as an employer, I have no objection to such a practice; but it would be very inconvenient to the parents of the children, supposing them to be educated when not at work; and if not educated, their morals would suffer greatly by being unemployed.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; piecing cardings.

A. 24 & 25.—In consequence of the mill and time-books being destroyed by fire, in March, 1832, I cannot answer these questions.

A. 26.—None.

WM. THOMPSON.

No. 242.  
W. Beaumont.

## ANSWERS of W. BEAUMONT, Austerlands, Saddleworth.

A. 1.—Spinning cotton yarn.

A. 2.—In the year 1819.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Sixteen-horse power; part let for spinning cotton yarn.

A. 5.—Sixty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 7        |
| 21 and upwards —      | 26     | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 2d. | 3s. 2d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s. 1d. | 6s. 1d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 3d. | 7s. 3d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.    | 8s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 11s.    | 8s. 8d.  |

A. 7.—Thirteen males, 21 years and upwards, earning 19s. 6d., in a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-two piecers.

A. 9.—We do not work over-time.

A. 10.—We begin to work at six o'clock in the morning in the summer, and half-past seven in the winter: I think it is soon enough for children to be at their work during the winter.

A. 12.—We work nine hours on a Saturday, and twelve hours on the other days in the week, except Sunday.

A. 13.—We allow one hour for dinner, from half-past twelve to half-past one: we do not stop the steam-engine for any other meals; the workpeople take them when most convenient.

A. 14.—We stop one hour for dinner; all the other meals the workpeople have they get while the steam-engine is working, except some of them get their breakfast before they come to their work in the morning.

A. 15.—We have had very few accidents at our mill. We have made up half a day, sometimes, by working three quarters of an hour per day over-time; if we do stop half a day in any week, we pay the weekly hands for the whole week, and pay them nothing extra when they make up the time.

A. 16.—If any hand is unwell, we get some one in their place until they get well.

A. 17.—Three days at Christmas, one day at Easter, two or three days at Whitsuntide, two or three days at what we call our wake.

A. 18.—We make up no time for holidays; not paid for holidays.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have not.

A. 22.—We use very little punishment at our mill.

A. 23.—We require few hands under twelve years of age.

A. 24.—Six days of the week.

A. 25.—Sixty-nine hours in the week.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place in our mill lately.

A. 27.—I would have the moving power limited to eleven hours, five days in the week; and nine hours on a Saturday; I would stop all night-work in mills; the hands should begin to work, in the summer, anywhere from six to seven o'clock in the morning, and stop at the same time at night, allowing one hour for dinner; in the winter, anywhere from seven to eight o'clock in the morning, and stop at the same time at night. If the Act was as above, tyrants would not have such an advantage over honest men.

W. BEAUMONT.



## ANSWERS of GEORGE BRAMALL, Quick, Saddleworth cum Quick.

Yorkshire.

No. 243.

George Bramall.

A. 1.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 2.—Date of erection I do not know: I presume it has stood upwards of twenty years; applied to its present purpose about three years ago.

A. 3.—Both; but principally steam; the water being collected in reservoirs only during rains.

A. 4.—About twenty-horse; none let off; but power only about half employed.

A. 5.—Fifty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16     | 11       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 8d.      | 3s. 8d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5s.          | 5s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s. 10d.     | 6s. 10d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s. 6d.      | 7s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s. 6d.     | 7s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s. to 25s. | —        |

The above are the averages of all the hands we have of the description.

A. 7.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES.                      |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | —               | 2, earning 10s.               |
| 21 and upwards        | 7, earning 25s. | 11, earning from 10s. to 12s. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Piecers eighteen, but included in foregoing statements.

A. 9.—We never work over-hours.

A. 10.—At six in the morning, and eight in the evening; a little sooner or later, according to the time of the year; generally a little later in winter.

A. 12.—Conclude at four o'clock on Saturdays: never made up. We are limited by act of parliament.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast and bagging, and one hour for dinner; eight o'clock to half-past; half-past twelve to half-past one; and half-past four to five o'clock. Most hands in the country come some distance, and we indulge them with taking breakfast and bagging as is most convenient to themselves, if it does not materially affect any part of the works.

A. 14.—Not, except at dinner. There are few or none at work whilst taking their meals; but we do not stop the moving power, because that would be very inconvenient to some, who, having their meals brought from a distance, could not always have it at the exact time.

A. 15.—Small accidents we should endeavour to make up, by working half an hour a day over-work, and paying for it; but larger must be lost to both.

A. 16.—Not for sickness. Accidents we do, according to what we think reasonable and considerate: my carder is now unable to work, through what might be said to be his own want of care; I consider him an honest and industrious man; I have hitherto, and shall continue to pay him his wages.

A. 17.—About eight days.

A. 18.—Holidays are neither paid for nor made up.

A. 19.—If ever we have recourse to fines, it is more for moral delinquency than any little irregularity; we should discharge any one who would not do without fining.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—They could not possibly be had in the country; the children stand their easy work better than the adults their harder work.

A. 22.—We do not allow it at any age.

A. 23.—It does not require it, if above twelve could be had, but I think they could not; and those under twelve can do as well, being only required to piece ends, and clean about the wheels.

A. 24.—We began these works only last July, and have not, to the best of my recollection, lost any days but holidays.

A. 25.—Sixty-nine hours per week, with about two days holidays in a quarter, which would be eight hundred and seventy-three; some trifling accidental stoppages, which we are always liable to, and of which we take no notice.

A. 26.—Of course not; only occupied by me since July last, as before stated.

A. 27.—I see no arrangement other than now is, but what will be alike detrimental to the operatives and the masters, and I am quite sure, if the workpeople could speak freely their own minds, and were not worked upon by the unprincipled and designing, they would wish for no interference of the legislature; and I have no doubt, if the present bill passes, they will be the first to petition for its removal. In my own case, I conceive it would be particularly injurious, having just entered upon the premises for nineteen years, and my rent is unalterable. There is a material difference between town and country mills; hands above

(APP.—C. 1.)

twelve



Yorkshire.

George Bramall.

twelve years could not be had here; and stopping the moving power precisely at any given moment, for breakfasts and bagging, would be very inhuman, and a serious evil to the hands in the country, who have such meals brought them from home, and could not be exact at the same time. There is a difference of clocks; some parents are busier than others; the time may be mistaken half an hour; sometimes they may want a convenience to send it; and if the masters were strict, and stopped the moving power,—if, at the time, any person's meal had not arrived, whatever was the cause,—they must be without till the next meal: this would be inconvenient and severe to the workpeople, to the master no inconvenience whatever.

GEORGE BRAMALL.

No. 244.

J. & T. Robinson.

## ANSWERS of MESSRS. JOHN and THOMAS ROBINSON, Wood Brook, Saddleworth.

A. 1.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 2.—1811.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse; part let off for cotton-spinning.

A. 5.—Ninety-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | 7        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 8      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 9      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 5      | 8        |
| 21 and upwards        | 30     | 10       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.                  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 8d.                  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s. 6d.                  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s. 9d.                  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 1d.                 |
| 21 and upwards        | 13s. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. |

A. 7.—Forty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                             | FEMALES.                           |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, earning 3s. 9d.                 | 1, earning 2s.                     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2, earning 4s. 6d.                 | 6, earning 5s. 1d.                 |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6, earning 4s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. | 3, earning 6s. 10d.                |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7, earning 7s. 4d.                 | 1, earning 8s.                     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2, earning 9s.                     | 5, earning 8s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 21, earning 29s.                   | 5, earning 8s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

Of the above twenty-one, seven are operative spinners, whose average weekly earnings are 2l. 1s. 10d. each, out of which they pay forty-two piecers, whose average of earnings is 6s. 5d. each, leaving the nett earning of the spinners 29s. each, as above.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—From Lady-day to October 1st, from six to half-past seven; from October to Lady-day, from seven to eight; because we think it better to allow the children one hour more bed in the winter season.

A. 12.—Three hours less, and not made up on the other five days.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast at eight, and one hour for dinner at one o'clock.

A. 14.—All.

A. 15.—In case of lost time by accident, we fetch up half an hour each day, and the workpeople are paid as per return in Question 9.

A. 16.—No wages are allowed during sickness or absence.

A. 17.—At Christmas, three days; Easter, one day; Whitsuntide, two days; wake or feast, two days.

A. 18.—The engineer only; time not made up.

A. 19.—No fines imposed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; our objections are, that the hands would be dissatisfied with half their present earnings, and we doubt whether a sufficient number of hands could be obtained.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—No; but by rejecting them from ten to twelve, it would add greatly to the claims upon the parishes, particularly in cases of widows and orphans. The greatest number are employed in piecing.

A. 24.—With the exception of the holidays enumerated in the answer to Question 17, we have worked each week, five days twelve hours each, and Saturday nine hours.

A. 25.—We refer you to the above answer.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Make the present law effective on all mills, by stopping the moving power; by further reducing the hours of labour, you will deprive the workman of the comfort which he now enjoys, and do a serious injury to our commerce.

JOHN &amp; THOMAS ROBINSON.



## ANSWERS of JOHN SCHOLES, Denshaw Hall, Saddleworth.

Yorkshire.

No. 245.  
John Scholes.

A. 1.—Calico-printing.

A. 2.—About four years.

A. 3.—Water-power, on the river Tame.

A. 4.—About ten-horse power; I employ the whole.

A. 5.—Fifty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 24     | 2        |

A. 6.—Sixteen males, whose average earnings is about 9s. per week.

A. 7.—Forty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3, earning 1s.     | 4, earning 10d.    |
| 10 and under 12 years | —                  | 6, earning 10d.    |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —                  | 1, earning 1s.     |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7, earning 4s. 6d. | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 20, earning 8s.    | 2, earning 2s. 6d. |

The number of hours is seventy-one for a full week's work in summer, and sixty-six in winter.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—From six to six in summer, and from seven to six in winter.

A. 11.—Wholly dependent on the mill's time of commencing or concluding; uncertain in drougthy seasons.

A. 12.—Less by one hour, and no time made up.

A. 13.—Breakfast, from eight to half-past, say half an hour; dinner, from twelve to one o'clock, say one hour. None.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—We have none.

A. 16 &amp; 17.—None.

A. 18.—If the men are off, it is their own loss.

A. 19.—If they are off, they are not paid; if not obedient, we discharge them.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; over-time is short, and work easy for children.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; they are for tear-boys to the block-printers.

A. 24.—Totally impossible with me.

A. 25.—Impossible to say.

A. 26.—No.

JOHN SCHOLES.

## ANSWERS of JAMES SEEL, Quick Mill, Saddleworth.

No. 246.  
James Seel.

A. 1.—Principally cotton; one part of the bottom room is occupied in the fulling of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—It has been built about five years, and working cotton about two years.

A. 3.—Water is the power employed; the river Tame.

A. 4.—Twenty horse power water-wheel.

A. 5.—Forty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 6      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | 6        |

A. 6.—Their weekly earnings altogether average 9s. 4d. per week each

A. 7.—Thirty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3, earning 4s. 6d. | 1, earning 4s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2, earning 4s. 6d. | 1, earning 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1, earning 4s. 6d. | —                   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2, earning 8s. 3d. | 2, earning 10s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3, earning 8s.     | 2, earning 10s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 10, earning 22s.   | 6, earning 10s. 1d. |

In a regular week of seventy-four hours.

A. 8.—There are about twelve whose wages are paid by the workpeople, called piecers.

A. 9.—We never work any over-hours, except fetching up time that is lost.

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3 Z

A. 10.



Yorkshire.

James Seel.

A. 10.—The day's work begins at six in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock at night.

A. 11.—We never make any difference in that respect.

A. 12.—We work nine hours on Saturday, and thirteen hours the other days.

A. 13.—One hour is allowed for dinner, at half past twelve o'clock; and breakfast, &c., are not stipulated.

A. 14.—It stops during the dinner hour, and for breakfast and drinking; they generally get up with their work beforehand, and then stop about half an hour each meal.

A. 15.—If it is only a few hours, we fetch it up at the rate of half an hour or an hour per day; but if a day or two, it is stopped from their wages: it is lost to both.

A. 16.—If any accident happens to the weekly hands, we always pay them their full wages during sickness.

A. 18.—We do not pay the workmen for holidays.

A. 19.—We do not fine at all.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; it would be too expensive.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—It requires the greatest number of young children in the carding and spinning.

Pro James Seel, SAMUEL SEEL, Jun.

No. 247.  
Taylor & Gibson.

ANSWERS of Messrs. TAYLOR, Son, and GIBSON, Springhead and Royal George Mills, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, and Bank Mill, Lancashire, under the same regulations.

A. 1.—Woollen.

A. 2.—The erection was burned down May 23d, 1831, and began to work again the same year.

A. 3.—Steam power, twenty-six and twelve horse, and sixteen horse water power; river Midlock and Tame water.

A. 4.—We employ the whole.

A. 5.—Springhead, - 254 males, and about 254 females.

Royal George 30 males, and about 32 females.

Bank Mill - 58 males, and about 59 females.

342 males.

345 females; total, 687.

A. 6.—We have kept no statement; depends on the occupation.

A. 7.—We have kept no account.

A. 8.—Piecers and feeders, one hundred and forty.

A. 9.—No over-hours.

A. 10.—Begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at half past seven at night; one hour and forty minutes off for meals.

A. 11.—Same as the 10th; and dependent on no other mill.

A. 12.—Stops at five o'clock in the afternoon, and nothing made up on other days.

A. 13.—Breakfast at eight o'clock in the morning, stop twenty minutes; dinner at one o'clock, stop one hour; drinking at five, and stop twenty minutes.

A. 14.—Stops one hour at noon.

A. 15.—No lost time made up.

A. 16 & 18.—None.

A. 19.—Time lost not paid for.

A. 20.—Part of machinery employed by two sets of hands, and the hours regularly divided.

A. 21.—Never.

A. 22.—None.

A. 23. In slubbing and spinning, as piecers.

A. 24 & 25.—No account kept.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—If the hours of labour are curtailed, we shall be compelled to reduce wages in proportion, which will throw many families into the workhouse.

TAYLOR, Son, & GIBSON.

No. 248.  
Waring & Sons.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN WARING and SONS, Pastures, Saddleworth.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning.

A. 2.—1808.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twelve-horse power.

A. 5.—Forty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 6        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 10     | 9        |

A. 6.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 9d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6s. 5d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s. 9d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s.     |

Yorkshire.  
Waring & Sons.

A. 7.—Twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.            |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 3s. 6d. | —                   |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1, earning 3s. 6d. | 1, earning 3s. 9d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2, earning 6s. 3d. | —                   |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —                  | 2, earning 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —                  | 1, earning 7s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 5, earning 29s.    | 7, earning 10s. 7d. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Of the twenty-one in question, five are operative spinners, whose average weekly earnings are 36s. each, out of which they pay seven piecers, whose average earnings are 5s. 10d. each, leaving the nett earnings of the spinners, 31s. 2d.; also seven reelers, whose average weekly earnings are 10s. 7d. each, as above.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—From Lady-day to October 1st, from six to half-past seven; October to Lady-day, from seven to eight, because we think it better to allow the children one hour more bed in the winter season.

A. 11.—Three hours less; and not made up on the other days.

A. 12.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight; and an hour for dinner, at one o'clock.

A. 14.—All.

A. 15.—In case of lost time by accident, we fetch up half an hour each day, and the work-people are paid as per return in Question 9.

A. 16.—No wages are allowed during sickness or absence.

A. 17.—At Christmas, three days; Easter, one day; Whitsuntide, two days; wake, or feast, two days.

A. 18.—The engineer and carders only; time not made up.

A. 19.—No fines imposed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; our objections are, that the hands would not be satisfied with half their present earnings, and we doubt whether a sufficient number of hands could be obtained.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—No; but, by rejecting them from ten to twelve, it would add greatly to the claims upon the parishes, particularly in cases of widows and orphans. The greatest number are employed in piecing.

A. 24.—With the exception of the holidays enumerated in answer to Question 17, we have worked each week, five days twelve hours each, and Saturday nine.

A. 25.—We refer you to the answer above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Make the present law effective on all mills: by stopping the moving power, by further reducing the hours of labour, you will deprive the workmen of the comforts they now enjoy, and do a serious injury to our commerce.

JOHN WARING & Sons.

#### ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN WRIGLEY and Brothers, Holly Grove, Saddleworth.

No. 249.  
Wrigley & Brothers.

A. 1.—Slubbing and fulling woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Rebuilt about twelve years since.

A. 3.—Water only. Diggle and Burn Clough streams.

A. 4.—About twenty-horse power; employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 1        |
| 12 and under 14 years | 3      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | 5        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3, earning 3s. 6d. | 1, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 years | 3, earning 4s. 6d. | 3, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5, earning 4s. 6d. | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 8, earning 14s.    | 5, earning 6s.     |

In a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—All paid by the workpeople under whom they work.

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A. 9.



Yorkshire.

Wrigley & Brothers.

- A. 9.—They are all paid according to the time they work.  
 A. 10.—About seven, morning and evening.  
 A. 11.—About eight hours a day in dry seasons.  
 A. 12.—About the same as other days, and no lost time made up.  
 A. 13.—One hour for dinner, and a quarter for each lunch.  
 A. 14.—The fulling part does not stop, but the slubbing part does.  
 A. 15.—Loss to the owners and workpeople: not made up by working extra hours.  
 A. 16.—No time allowed.  
 A. 17.—It is optional with them.  
 A. 18.—The workpeople not paid, nor time made up.  
 A. 19.—No fines.  
 A. 20.—One set only, except in the fulling mill, and they change according to their own pleasure, day and night.  
 A. 21.—We have not been accustomed to it.  
 A. 22.—Not sanctioned.  
 A. 23.—In piecing cardings for the slubbing department.  
 A. 24.—In bad trade there is not full employment, and no account has been kept.  
 A. 25.—No account has been kept.  
 A. 26.—No alterations.  
 A. 27.—We are satisfied with the Twelve Hours Bill, and are desirous that milling or fulling woollen cloth be continued day and night, as it cannot be done to advantage when left off before finished.

JOHN WRIGLEY &amp; Brothers.

No. 250.  
Vipont & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN VIPONT and Co., Knaresborough Old Mills, Scriven.

- A. 1.—Flax and tow spinning.  
 A. 2.—Applied to its present purpose 1st July, 1832.  
 A. 3.—The power employed is water, the river Nidd producing the same.  
 A. 4.—The power of the wheel is twenty-five-horse: we employ the whole of the power ourselves.

| A. 5.—One hundred and twenty persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years                      | 4      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —                          | 11     | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —                          | 8      | 11       |
| 16 and under 18 —                          | 2      | 8        |
| 18 and under 21 —                          | 3      | 10       |
| 21 and upwards                             | 15     | 35       |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 2s.     | 2s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —                     | 2s. 6d. | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | 3s.     | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —                     | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | 6s.     | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards                        | 16s.    | 6s.      |

- A. 7.—Twenty-three males; viz.  
 16 and under 18 years — 16, earning 6s.  
 21 and upwards — 7, earning 7s. 6d.

A. 8.—There is no description of persons employed in our mill whose wages are paid by the workpeople under whom they work.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Our regular day's work begins at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at seven o'clock in the evening; then, after the expiration of that time, we work an extra half hour each of the five days; and that time gained, entitles the hands to leave off work on the Saturday at five o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—As elsewhere stated, our mill was not applied to its present purpose until the 1st of July last, therefore we are not competent to answer this question.

A. 12.—The regular day's work is less on a Saturday than on other days of the week; the time is made up by working half an hour extra on each of the other five days.

A. 13.—The time allowed for each meal is,—breakfast, thirty minutes, from eight o'clock to half-past; dinner, sixty minutes, from twelve to one o'clock; tea, thirty minutes, from four o'clock to half-past.

A. 14.—The moving power stops at twelve o'clock at noon for sixty minutes, during the dinner hour. The moving power does not stop at breakfast, or tea-time in the afternoon; yet all the machinery in the mill is stopped at those times, with the exception of the spinning frames: thus the spinners, the doffers, and the jobbers, eat their meals whilst at work.

A. 15.—All time lost by reason of accidents to the machinery, or by default or excess of water, is made up in two ways, i. e. either by working extra hours, or by deducting lost time from the wages of the hands, at the ratio of their several wages. If the time lost is trifling, say



say thirty to sixty minutes; we generally make it up by working extra hours, for which we pay them in exact proportion to their standard wages.

A. 16.—It is our practice in this respect to allow one half; and if maimed in our service, to discharge the doctor's bill.

A. 17.—Our workpeople have one holiday, and five half holidays, besides Sunday.

A. 18.—Our general practice is, to deduct the whole of the holiday-time from the wages of the workpeople.

A. 19.—Our rule with respect to fining for absence is, to deduct the time lost at the rate of their weekly wages. The interval allowed to elapse beyond the proper time of attendance, before the fine is imposed, is ten minutes.

A. 20.—We work but one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed two sets of children; the objection is, the difficulty in procuring the requisite number.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—The greatest number of young children (indeed all) are employed in doffing the spinning frames, i. e. in removing the full bobbins, and replacing them with empty ones.

A. 24.—As before stated, our mill was not applied to its present purpose until 1st July, 1832.

A. 25.—See answer to Question 24.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We have no objection to a restriction in the hours of labour of children under twelve years of age.

JOHN VIPONT & Co.

Yorkshire.

Vipont & Co.

# ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN PROCTOR & Son, Settle.

No. 251.

Proctor & Son.

A. 1.—Cotton-spinning.

A. 2.—July, 1825.

A. 3.—Water only, by the river Ribble.

A. 4.—Twenty-horse power; the whole employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 16     | 15       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 10     | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5      | 7        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9      | 8        |
| 21 and upwards        | 22     | 10       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.     | FEMALES.   |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3, 1s. 9d. | 1, 1s. 9d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, 2s.     | 4, 2s.     |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3, 3s.     | 2, 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —          | 3, 3s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2, 6s.     | 1, 6s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3, 8s.     | 3, 8s.     |
| 21 and upwards —      | 5, 16s.    | 1, 16s.    |

A. 7 —Sixty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3, earning 3s. 6d. | 5, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4, earning 4s.     | 2, earning 4s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4, earning 5s.     | 4, earning 5s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2, earning 6s.     | 6, earning 7s.     |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 6, earning 7s.     | 5, earning 8s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 18, earning 8s.    | 8, earning 16s.    |

In a regular week of seventy hours.

A. 8.—Thirteen males, ten females.

A. 9.—No over-hours run.

A. 10.—Summer half year, from six to half-past seven o'clock; winter half year, from seven to half-past eight o'clock.

A. 11.—Seven o'clock in the morning, half-past eight o'clock in the evening.

A. 12.—Two hours less, and not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner.

A. 14.—Stops during meals.

A. 15.—If a few hours are lost, it is made up at the rate of half an hour per day; if more, it is a loss to us and hands.

A. 16.—None paid.

A. 17.—Six days holiday in the year, including Christmas-day.

A. 18.—Not made up, nor paid for.

A. 19.—If half an hour behind the time, they are abated according to their earnings.

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4 A

A. 20.



Yorkshire.  
Proctor & Son.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have not.

A. 22.—None allowed.

A. 23.—Yes, in piecing.

A. 24.—Our mill only ran, in 1830, to July 21st; when a misfortune took place by fire, and it did not run again till the latter part of 1831; in 1832, as follows: ninety days, from 1st of January to 1st of April, thirteen Saturdays; from 1st of April to 1st July, eighty-nine days, thirteen of them Saturdays; two days lost: from 1st of July to 1st of October, eighty-eight days, thirteen of them Saturdays; three days lost: from 1st of October to 31st of December, ninety days; Christmas-day lost.—N. B. Sundays are not thrown out, which will make this wrong.

A. 25.—First quarter, nine hundred and ten hours; 2d quarter, eight hundred and eighty-six hours; 3d quarter, eight hundred and seventy-four hours; 4th quarter, eight hundred and ninety-eight hours.

A. 26.—Yes; it being burnt down on the 21st of July, and not refitted till the latter part of the year 1831.

GEORGE OUTHWAITE.

No. 252.  
Joseph Rayner.

ANSWER of JOSEPH RAYNER, New Mill, Shipley.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—1820.

A. 3.—Water; the river Aire.

A. 4.—Ten-horse. I employ the whole.

A. 5.—Thirty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 6      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 3      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.      | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 6d.  | 4s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s. 6d.  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 6s.      | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 6d. | 7s.      |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 7.—None paid by piece work.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Six o'clock A. M., seven P. M., varying according to circumstances, short or over-water.

A. 11.—Not able to tell.

A. 12.—Less by two hours and a half, half an hour over on the other five days each.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner and no other allowance.

A. 14.—One hour at noon.

A. 15.—Sometimes runs a little over and part I lose; sometimes part stopped in wages.

A. 16.—Part allowed and part stopped.

A. 17.—Five days

A. 18.—Paid for the whole.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20 & 21.—Only one set.

A. 22.—No punishment.

A. 23.—Employed in spinning or piecing.

A. 24 & 25.—I cannot tell.

A. 26.—No alteration.

A. 27.—I approve of a stated time for every one to work the machinery.

JOSEPH RAYNER.

No. 253.  
Wilcox & Co.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WILCOX, BRADLEY, and Co., Low Well, Shipley.

A. 1.—Scribbling and carding wool, and fulling cloth.

A. 2.—1823.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Forty-horse. Whole power employed by us.

A. 5.



| A. 5.—Eighty-three persons; viz. |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--------|---|----------|--|
| Under 10 years of age            | - | 4      | - | 5        |  |
| 10 and under 12 years            | - | 12     | - | 9        |  |
| 12 and under 14                  | - | 3      | - | 3        |  |
| 14 and under 16                  | - | 8      | - | 4        |  |
| 16 and under 18                  | - | 1      | - | 2        |  |
| 18 and under 21                  | - | —      | - | 5        |  |
| 21 and upwards                   | - | 24     | - | 3        |  |

Yorkshire.  
 Wilcox & Co.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— |   | MALES.      |   | FEMALES.   |  |
|----------------------------------------|---|-------------|---|------------|--|
| Under 10 years of age                  | - | 4, 3s. 6d.  | - | 5, 3s. 6d. |  |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | - | 12, 3s. 6d. | - | 9, 3s. 6d. |  |
| 12 and under 14                        | - | 3, 3s. 6d.  | - | 3, 3s. 6d. |  |
| 14 and under 16                        | - | 8, 6s.      | - | 4, 6s.     |  |
| 16 and under 18                        | - | 1, 6s.      | - | 2, 7s.     |  |
| 18 and under 21                        | - | —           | - | 5, 7s. 3d. |  |
| 21 and upwards                         | - | 12, 18s.    | - | 3, 6s. 8d. |  |

A. 7.—Twelve males, upwards of twenty-one years, employed in stubbing, will average 25s. each, after payment of their piecers, in a regular week of sixty-four hours and a half.

A. 8.—Thirty-seven carding piecers, employed and paid by the slubbers.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—Six in the morning, and seven at night.

A. 12.—The day's work is an hour and a half less on Saturday.

A. 13.—The workpeople connected with carding engines, viz., slubbers, fillers, and piecers have from eight to half-past eight in the morning, from twelve to one at noon, and from four to half-past four o'clock in the afternoon. for meals, during which time the machinery about which they are employed is stopped. Nine persons employed in attending scribbling engines, which do not require unremitting attention, have only half an hour at noon.

A. 14.—Only half an hour at noon. Those who take their meals during work are employed in supplying wool to scribbling machines, which requires their attention only at intervals.

A. 15.—In the case of accidents to the machinery, time is lost both to the workpeople and ourselves, unless the supply of work renders it necessary to work over-hours afterwards, which is generally the case if none of the work has been removed to other mills during the stoppage.

A. 16.—It is our practice to pay for the time the hands are actually at work. During the ten years our mill has been running, none of our workpeople have suffered any accident whilst in our employ.

A. 17.—Usually about seven days in the year, but varying as the supply of work is less or greater.

A. 18.—Time is lost to the workpeople by holidays; but if the supply of work renders it needful to work over-time, either before or after a holiday, they have the benefit of that extra time towards making up their loss.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed in this mill, either for absence, irregularity, or to enforce obedience; workpeople so offending are reprimanded, and if incorrigible, dismissed.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—Never. It would be difficult to obtain a sufficient number of hands.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—In piecing cardings, children under twelve years are considered preferable to those who are older.

A. 24.—No means of ascertaining, not being in the habit of keeping a time-book.

A. 25.—No means of ascertaining any thing more than the fact, that, during the period referred to, our machinery has run far short of the regular time, owing to the scarcity of work.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—The undersigned beg to direct the attention of the Commissioners to the essential difference betwixt the machinery employed in the woollen, and that employed in the worsted and cotton manufactures. An alteration of the speed of certain parts of the spinning frames, which is easily effected by an exchange of wheels, is all that is required to adapt them to the spinning of the coarser or finer qualities of worsted or cotton yarns. In woollen mills, scribbling and carding engines clothed with cards of coarser or finer quality are requisite for different sorts of wool. Our machinery is, in this respect, as well adapted to our average supply of work as it can be; nevertheless, as it is employed solely in preparing wool for the domestic manufacturers, whose orders are various, we have sometimes a larger proportion of coarse, and sometimes of fine, wool to work, and should find considerable inconvenience in suiting our customers, if we were restricted by legislative enactment from running such of our machines as were adapted to the sort of work wanted. The variation is such, that we are occasionally obliged to run some of our machines over-time for two or three days; whilst for the remainder of the week we have not a sufficient supply of the same kind of work to run them full time. Sometimes the pressure will continue for a longer period before the equilibrium is restored; but if we were to find that a change of qualities was taking place which was likely to be permanent, we should find it our interest, although at considerable expense, to have our machinery suited to the change, so as to avoid the loss attendant upon continuing the motion of the moving power for working only a small part of the engines. This disadvantage, in a limitation of the time, we conceive would apply to all mills, which, like our own,

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have



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Wilcox &amp; Co.

have many employers, and would be felt in some degree by the proprietors of mills working them only for the purposes of their own manufacture; and as the former are far the more numerous class, we conceive it proper to draw the attention of the Commission to the subject.

WILCOX, BRADLEY, &amp; Co.

No. 254.  
W. Oldridge.

## ANSWERS of WM. OLDRIDGE, Embray, Skipton.

A. 1.—Mule-weft spinning, and no other manufacture.

A. 2.—To this I cannot speak positively, but either in the year 1795 or 1796.

A. 3.—Water alone; from a collection of small streams in the neighbourhood, the principal of which is called Whitefield Syke spring.

A. 4.—It is about three-horse power, the whole of which is wrought by water; in the sole employ or occupation of myself.

A. 5.—Twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|---|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 1      | - | - | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | — | 2      | - | - | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | — | 1      | - | - | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | — | 1      | - | - | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | — | 1      | - | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 7      | - | - | 3        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       |   | MALES.   |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|----------|---|---|----------|
| 18 and under 21 years | - | 15s. 6d. | - | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 14s. 6d. | - | - | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Five males (spinners), earning 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* in a regular week of eleven hours and a half per day.

A. 8.—There are nine who work for and under their parents, with whose wages and management we have nothing to do, as their parents work by the piece or pound, in spinning the cotton-weft on the mules, and they employ their own children as piecers.

A. 9.—They work no over-time at this concern; I never am able to get, the year through, more than ten hours and a half per day, although invariably paid the full for sixty-nine hours per week.

A. 10.—Six in the morning, in summer, till half-past seven in the evening; half past six, in winter, till eight o'clock, when it so happens we have no accident or want of water, save and except Saturdays, till four o'clock in the afternoon.

A. 11.—We begin in the morning at six, if we have water; and when finished, we stop at any time in the day,—summer and winter we invariably stop at any hour; for you must think we cannot run without a propelling power.

A. 12.—Answered in No. 9.

A. 13.—As our place is small, we do not in this case as well regulated mills are compelled to do; none of our workpeople eat in the mill at any time, without they choose, which scarce ever is the case: we have cottages attached to the premises for the workpeople to live in, and they invariably eat when they will and as they will at their own homes; egress, regress, and ingress at all times, the doors of the mill not being locked during the hours the mill is at work.

A. 15.—As before stated, the workpeople who are employed by the week are invariably paid the wages they agree for, without any abatement; the persons who work per pound are not allowed for, but we strive to get up the lost time, when water, at the rate of forty-three minutes per day, but never succeed to regain more than half the lost time.

A. 16.—Any time they may think necessary to take; but they have to abide by the consequent loss themselves, except subscriptions are made for them.

A. 17.—Four half days; but observe,—they are paid their wages for the time, I mean those who work at a fixed weekly wage: I never abate for holidays, accidents, &amp;c., the weekly hands.

A. 18.—They are paid for holidays; when we can attempt to get up lost time, we strive for forty minutes per day; but we are never able to get up one half the time we lose through the year.

A. 19.—We know nothing of such proceedings; for refractory conduct, discharge forthwith.

A. 20 &amp; 21.—No.

A. 22.—This, at our place, is too seldom resorted to, as all the small children are in the employ of their parents, and entirely under their care and management.

A. 23.—We have none under that age but what are assistants, and but one under the age of twelve years.

A. 24.—See No. 10.

A. 25.—See the former questions answered.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Should I attempt to give my opinion, I should say, let twelve hours be continued: the children or working adults are never hurt by it in small concerns; but the evil that is the cause of all this disturbance is in large concerns, where the heat is above the strength of the constitution to stand; and the great spinners have their machines so large and heavy that the



constitution cannot long stand it; but they will still try, because they make greater wages than in small places; and if they were to earn twice the present amount it would be little enough.

I beg to give this along with the above: I have been at my present situation twenty-three years,—have not, thank God, lost by death or sickness but one of our working hands the whole of the time, and his death was nowise attributable to his work. The rising generation at our place are fine and healthy: I sincerely thank God for it.

WM. OLDRIDGE.

Yorkshire.

William Oldridge.

### ANSWERS of JOHN B. SIDGWICK, Skipton.

No. 255.

J. B. Sidgwick.

A. 1.—The spinning twist on throstles, weft on mules, and in power-loom weaving; all in cotton.

A. 2.—The part turned by water was built in 1782, and the part turned by steam in 1825, and have been used for spinning, &c. cotton wool.

A. 3.—Both steam and water.

A. 4.—The whole power employed is about sixty horse power, and is employed by me.

A. 5.—Two hundred and sixty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | —  | - | - | -        | - | - | 1  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 8  | - | - | -        | - | - | 17 |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 25 | - | - | -        | - | - | 24 |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 20 | - | - | -        | - | - | 25 |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 11 | - | - | -        | - | - | 23 |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 9  | - | - | -        | - | - | 23 |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 32 | - | - | -        | - | - | 46 |

The ages of the persons employed are taken according to their own statements, as given by them to us; but there are, I believe, other two under ten years old, as stated in the list of persons employed.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |              |   |   | FEMALES. |          |   |        |
|-----------------------|--------|--------------|---|---|----------|----------|---|--------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | -            | - | - | -        | -        | - | 1, 2s. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8,     | 2s. 2½d.     | - | - | 13,      | 2s. 2½d. | - | -      |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 24, 2s. 4½d. | - | - | 20,      | 3s.      | - | -      |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 17, 3s.      | - | - | 19,      | 3s. 10d. | - | -      |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 8, 4s. 2d.   | - | - | 12,      | 4s. 6d.  | - | -      |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 5, 7s. 3d.   | - | - | 11,      | 6s.      | - | -      |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 25, 15s. 5d. | - | - | 18,      | 6s. 6d.  | - | -      |

A. 7.—Two hundred and sixty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |                     |   |   | FEMALES. |                 |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------------|---|---|----------|-----------------|---|---|
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | -                   | - | - | 4,       | earning 3s. 4d. | - | - |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 1, earning 3s. 4d.  | - | - | 4,       | earning 4s. 4d. | - | - |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 3, earning 5s. 8d.  | - | - | 6,       | earning 5s. 6d. | - | - |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 3, earning 6s. 1d.  | - | - | 11,      | earning 7s. 1d. | - | - |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 4, earning 8s. 1d.  | - | - | 12,      | earning 7s. 9d. | - | - |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 7, earning 22s. 2d. | - | - | 28,      | earning 8s.     | - | - |

In a regular week of sixty-eight hours and a half.

A. 8.—Nine children, as piecers for mule-spinners.

A. 9.—It is; but none but those above twenty-one years old make over-time.

A. 10.—We begin at seven o'clock in a morning, and finish at eight o'clock at night.

A. 11.—We are very little dependent upon others for water; but, in a very dry summer, we begin at six o'clock in a morning, and stop some part of the works for an hour in their turns through the day, keeping the remainder at work; by which means we save a little power in water.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturday is three hours and a half shorter than any other day, and is not made up during the week.

A. 13.—Those who do not get their breakfasts before seven o'clock, get them in the mill whilst it is at work; and one hour is allowed for dinner, from twelve to one.

A. 14.—The moving power stops at meal-times.

A. 15.—We pay the workpeople for the full time, and afterwards work it up at the rate of half an hour a day; but the time thus worked up will not exceed ten hours in a year.

A. 16.—We always pay the surgeon for accidents, and sometimes for sickness; but do not often allow the time, except in severe accidents, of which we have had none lately.

A. 17.—Christmas-day and Good Friday are always holidays, and we allow two days at Whitsuntide and two days at Martinmas, or else two half days, as is convenient to ourselves.

A. 18.—We do not make up holiday-time, nor do we pay for it.

A. 19.—If the hands are too late, and come within half an hour of the time, we fine them in proportion to their wages, as follows:—wages under 3s., fine 1d.; under 5s., 1d.; above 5s., 2d. If absent for a quarter of a day, or to the amount of a day at different times in the same week,—wages under 3s., fine 2d.; under 5s., 3d.; above 5s., 4d. If absent more than

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4 B

a day,



Yorkshire.

J. B. Sidgwick.

a day, we fine in proportion to their weekly wages, for all above these first four quarters; if absent from sickness, we stop the wages of weekly hands during the time they are absent; and to those who work piece-work, the loss is their time.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have not; in many places, two sets of children could not be got.

A. 22.—They are sanctioned, and we have no fixed age at which they cease.

A. 23.—As rovers, spinners, piecers, and winders.

| A. 24.—                    | 1830.   | 1831.   | 1832.   |                  |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|
| From Jan. 1st to April 1st | 78 days | 78 days | 77 days | } 153 Saturdays. |
| April 1st to July 1st      | 69 —    | 75 —    | 76 —    |                  |
| July 1st to Oct. 1st       | 78 —    | 80 —    | 77 —    |                  |
| Oct. 1st to Jan. 1st       | 78 —    | 74 —    | 75 —    |                  |

| A. 25.—                    | 1830.      | 1831.      | 1832.      |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| From Jan. 1st to April 1st | 890½ hours | 890½ hours | 878½ hours |
| April 1st to July 1st      | 789½ —     | 858 —      | 870 —      |
| July 1st to Oct. 1st       | 884½ —     | 914 —      | 878½ —     |
| Oct. 1st to Jan. 1st       | 894 —      | 843½ —     | 858 —      |

A. 26.—There has been a little alteration, about six months ago, in the fine for non-attendance, which used to be double the wages paid; the alteration was in favour of the hands.

JNO. B. SIDGWICK.

No. 256.

Holdsworth & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN HOLDSWORTH and Co., Shaw Hill, Skircoat.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—Erected at one time; first employed in August, 1831.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Forty horse engine; a small portion let off to a mechanic.

A. 5.—Two hundred and seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 15     | 21       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 24       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 8      | 29       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 8      | 25       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 13       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 20       |
| 21 and upwards        | 9      | 21       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.                                 | FEMALES.                               |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 7¼ <sup>3</sup> / <sub>15</sub> d. | 1s. 10¼ <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 10 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>10</sub> d. | 2s. 9 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>24</sub> d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.   | 3s. 6 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>29</sub> d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d.   | 4s. 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>25</sub> d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s. 6d.                                | 5s. 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>13</sub> d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 15s.                                   | 6s. 0 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>20</sub> d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s. 4d.                               | 6s. 5 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>21</sub> d.  |

A. 7.—Twelve females: viz.

|                       |                                                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 1, earning 4s. 11¼ <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1, earning 6s. 3d.                                |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4, earning 6s. 7¼ <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 6, earning 6s. 6¾ <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d.  |

These hands are expected to attend during the mill hours when they have work; we never note down any absence. The above is the average of their earnings during the last two weeks; whether they have worked the whole of the mill hours, we cannot tell.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—If any over-hours, they are paid for after the standing weekly wages; they rarely occur here. The mechanics have occasionally a few hours in altering or putting up gearing.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and ends a quarter before eight in the evening.

A. 12.—Three hours less, which is made up on the other five days, and is included in the time of working as above.

A. 13.—Three quarters of an hour for dinner only, from twelve o'clock to a quarter before one o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power stops only during dinner-time; spinners and twisters take their meals whilst at work, dinner excepted.

A. 15.—If a stoppage takes place, the hands are not deducted for it; but they make up the time lost by working a quarter of an hour extra each day, Saturday excepted.

A. 16.—No time allowed for sickness; the last accident had wages as if working. We very rarely have any accidents.

A. 17.—Christmas-day entire; the half day and other holidays have not been noted down, all being paid for as if worked.

A. 18.—They are paid for the holidays as if worked; how many are stated in answer to Question 17, which are paid for, and not made up in any way.

A. 19.



A. 19.—We have no regular rule for fining, to enforce obedience in the mill; for absence, according to time. A quarter of an hour in the morning is allowed before any deduction in the wages is calculated upon.

A. 20.—We work only one set.

A. 21.—We have not; hands for a change could not be got.

A. 22.—None allowed.

A. 23.—They are required and employed as piecers, bobbin-setters, doffers, and at such other jobs as they are fit for; if bigger children were employed at this work, they would be liable to grow crooked.

A. 24.—It is impossible to tell, not having noted down every holiday which has been paid for as if worked; if any stoppage, that generally gets worked up, of which we have no account.

A. 25.—Cannot answer this, for the reasons given in Question 24.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Our opinion is, that for our branch of business, thirteen hours from beginning to end, with an interval of half an hour for breakfast, an hour for dinner, and half an hour for the afternoon meal, will be satisfactory to all sides: that will be eleven working hours; less than that will not suit, nor will it suit to have any of the children dismissed before the adults, because the latter can do little, if any thing, without the children.

JOHN HOLDSWORTH.

Yorkshire.

Holdsworth & Co.

ANSWERS of SAMUEL NAYLOR, for John Sutcliffe, Willow Hall, Skircoat.

No. 257.

Samuel Naylor.

A. 1.—Cotton carding, spinning, and weaving.

A. 2.—My brick factory was erected about the year 1780, and was first employed as a cotton factory about the year 1800. My stone factory was erected about the year 1803, and commenced with cotton spinning.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Brick factory, steam-engine thirty-two-horse power; stone factory, steam engine twenty-five-horse power. All the power is employed by myself.

A. 5.—Three hundred and twenty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|----------|----|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 5  | - | -        | 2  |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 26 | - | -        | 12 |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 26 | - | -        | 30 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 22 | - | -        | 28 |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 11 | - | -        | 32 |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 10 | - | -        | 29 |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 50 | - | -        | 43 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |                            |   | FEMALES. |                             |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------------------|---|----------|-----------------------------|--|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | 5, 1s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.  | - | -        | 2, 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.   |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 26, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. | - | -        | 12, 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 26, 2s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. | - | -        | 30, 2s. 7d.                 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 21, 4s.                    | - | -        | 20, 3s. 10d.                |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 7, 5s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  | - | -        | 16, 4s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 1, 8s.                     | - | -        | 18, 5s. 5d.                 |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 12, 20s. 4d.               | - | -        | 26, 5s. 7d.                 |  |

A. 7.—One hundred and four persons; viz. MALES.

|                       | MALES. |                      |   | FEMALES. |                                   |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|---|----------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 14 and under 16 years | -      | 1, earning 7s.       | - | -        | 8, earning 6s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 4, earning 10s. 10d. | - | -        | 16, earning 7s. 10d.              |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 9, earning 14s. 2d.  | - | -        | 11, earning 8s. 7d.               |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 38, earning 18s. 6d. | - | -        | 17, earning 9s. 2d.               |  |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-nine mule spinners, who pay the piecers' wages themselves.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—My factories begin at six o'clock in the morning, and stop at half-past seven in the evening, except Saturday, on which day we stop at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon.

A. 12.—Saturday is three hours less than the other five days. I don't gain up these three hours.

A. 13.—At eight o'clock in the morning, my factories stop forty minutes, for breakfast; and at half-past twelve, they stop fifty minutes, for dinner. We stop all at once.

A. 14.—During breakfast and dinner times.

A. 15.—Suppose that by some accident I lose three hours, I pay the hands as if no time had been lost, and I gain it up at half an hour or a quarter of an hour a day; but my intention is generally to gain no time up.

A. 16.—It depends upon circumstances; my practice, in some cases, is to pay the full wages, in others part, in others nothing.

A. 17.—About nine days in the year.

A. 18.—My practice for a number of years has been, to pay wages for the holidays; but then I worked my factories from six o'clock till eight, with only one hour off for dinner. Now, I don't know that I can afford to pay any wages for holidays.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 19.



Yorkshire.

Samuel Naylor.

A. 19.—I allow ten minutes to elapse before any notice is taken of late comers; then, those who are later, and who are frequently so, have 3*d.* or perhaps 6*d.* taken off the fortnight's wages.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21 & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; there are several things in the card-room and spinning-rooms which would not be worth the attention of older persons.

A. 24.—Two years out of the last three, my factories have run thirteen hours a day, and nine on the Saturday; and one year, twelve hours a day, and nine hours on the Saturday; summer and winter alike.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—I consider that Mr. Hobhouse's bill would answer all the purposes, if it were extended to woollen, silk, &c. as well as cotton, and if it were strictly attended to.

For John Sutcliffe, SAMUEL NAYLOR.

No. 258.

Mary Horsfall.

## ANSWERS of MARY HORSFALL, Slaithwaite.

A. 1.—Scribbling and slubbing.

A. 2.—Built in the year 1807.

A. 3.—Water; Hawm Brook.

A. 4.—Eight-horse power.

A. 5.—Thirty-persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 8      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | —        |

A. 6.—All children under fourteen years of age receive 3*s.* per week who are employed by time, in a regular week of seventy-six hours.

A. 8.—Seventeen children employed in piecing, and paid by the slubbers under whom they work, 3*s.* per week each.

A. 9.—I make very little over-time; but when I do, the hands that are employed by the day are paid in the same proportion for their over-time as their day's work.

A. 10.—The mill commences running at six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock in the evening, five days in the week; and on Saturdays, at six o'clock in the morning, and closes at six o'clock at night.

A. 11.—We have no regular time for commencing work in drouthy seasons, but begin and end as we get a supply of water and its being spent.

A. 12.—The day's work on the Saturday is two hours less than the other five days. See answer to question No. 10.

A. 13.—The mill stops for one hour, from one to two o'clock, for dinner; the other meals are taken as the works proceed.

A. 14.—The wheel stops one hour for dinner (see the last answer), and the workpeople proceed with their work by deputy while they take their other meals.

A. 15.—When any time is lost by accidents or other obstructions, if trade is brisk, we make up the lost time at the rate of half an hour per day; but when trade is not very brisk, the time is lost both to us and the workpeople.

A. 16.—No time is allowed to hands that fall sick; their wages cease with their working; their work being always open to them when they are able to return.

A. 17.—New Year's-day, two half days at Easter, two half days at Whitsuntide, two days at the village feast, and Christmas-day and the day after.

A. 18.—The holidays are lost time both to us and the workpeople.

A. 19.—No fines are imposed for non-attendance.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands are employed.

A. 21.—Only one set of children are employed.

A. 22.—We do not allow children to be ill-used; but we allow them to be punished for wilful neglect or mischievous conduct.

A. 23.—Our work does not actually require the employment of children under twelve years of age, although we employ younger children out of charity to their wants: they are employed at piecing.

A. 24.—The mill has run the whole of the days in each quarter, with the exception of the holidays.

A. 25.—The whole of the hours, with the exception as above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—I am decidedly of opinion that a ten hours bill will be injurious to the labouring classes; for, if the legislature restrict the hours of children's labour to ten hours a day, or five days a week, the adults, whose labour depends upon the labour of children, will not be able to work more than five days a week; consequently they can expect to receive only five days' wages per week.

MARY HORSFALL.



ANSWERS of Messrs. W. J. and E. KENT, Blackmoor Holme Mill, Slaithwaite.

Yorkshire.

No. 259.

W. J. & E. Kent.

A. 1.—Smallware weaving.

A. 2.—Applied to the above work in April 1822.

A. 3.—Water power: Haum Brook.

A. 4.—Six-horse power; we employ the whole.

A. 5.—Seventy-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 6        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 11       |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | 19       |

A. 6.—Boys and girls under fifteen years of age, who are employed by time, receive 3s. a week.

A. 7.—All females, who work by the piece, average from 6s. 6d. to 7s. per week; and the males, about 17s. per week.

A. 8.—None; we pay the whole direct.

A. 9.—We make no over-time.

A. 10.—Our regular hour of commencing work is six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at a quarter before eight o'clock at night; but as we use candle-light just half the year, we are obliged, at the spring and latter end of the year, to commence as soon as we can see without candles, and terminate when it becomes dark, say half-past five in the morning, and terminate our work when dark.

A. 11.—In drouthy seasons we have no regular time of beginning or ending our work, but begin and end as our reservoirs are filled and emptied.

A. 12.—On Saturdays, from March 21st to September 21st, we close at six o'clock, being a loss in time of one hour and three quarters; and from September to March, we close on Saturdays when we can see to work no longer without artificial light. Seventy-two hours a week being our regular hours of labour, the lost time in the summer half-year is made up by a quarter of an hour each day for the other five days; what time is lost in winter, by closing our works before six o'clock at night, is lost altogether by us, but not by those hands who work by the day.

A. 13.—We stop our works at eight o'clock in the morning, for breakfast, half an hour; and at twelve o'clock at noon, one hour, for dinner; which makes twelve hours and a quarter work per day, for five days in the week. The hands take their afternoon tea, or luncheon, the time the mill is working.

A. 14.—We stop at breakfast and dinner (see the last answer). The principal part of our workpeople being weavers, and the looms going by power, can take their meals whilst their work proceeds; in consequence, they would rather take their afternoon meal at their work, which enables them to leave that much sooner at night: the winders and preparers, who work by hand, are allowed time to take this meal without any deduction or other inconvenience.

A. 15.—If any time is lost by reason of accidents, we make up the lost time, if but a few hours, at the rate of a quarter of an hour per day, and never more than half an hour per day: if any serious accident arises, which stops the works for more than a day, the time is wholly lost both to us and our hands or workpeople.

A. 16.—When any of our hands fall sick, their work and wages cease together; and when able to return, they always find their own work open to them. Never having had but one accident\* in the mill since we employed it, we have no practice in respect of that question.

A. 17.—New Year's-day, Christmas-day, and the day after, and two days at the village feast; two half days at Easter, two half days at Whitsuntide, half a day on Shrove Tuesday.

A. 18.—The workpeople are not paid for their holiday-time: the half day on Shrove Tuesday is made up by working a quarter of an hour each day until made up; the rest of the holidays are lost time both to us and the workpeople.

A. 19.—We impose a fine for non-attendance at the regular time; no interval is allowed beyond the proper time.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children during the labour of the same set of adult hands. We do not think that two sets of children could be got to supply the whole of the manufacturing districts; and if parliament curtail the hours of labour, and thereby make such a practice necessary, rest assured the period is not distant when the labour of children will be dispensed with altogether; for ingenious men, who will feel themselves aggrieved by this measure (if ten hours), will speedily get up machinery to do their work for them.

A. 22.—We allow children to be punished for wilful neglect or mischief, either by a box on the ear, or with any other light punishment, such as a schoolmaster would inflict upon a scholar: if this does not reform them, and make them attentive, we send them home; the idea of which is a greater punishment than any we ever allow to be inflicted.

\* The accident here spoken of was a fatal accident; no blame attributable to any one but the sufferer.



Yorkshire.

W. J. &amp; E. Kent.

A. 23.—Our work does not require the employment of children under twelve years of age; neither do we like to employ them under that age: the reason we do it principally is in charity to families who are left fatherless.

A. 24.—Every day has been employed, with the exception of the regular holidays.

A. 25.—Every hour has been employed, with the exception as above.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think, in fact we are satisfied, that a ten hours bill will be injurious to the labouring classes. We will venture to say, that our factory children, with seventy-two hours' labour a week, enjoy better health, and a greater flow of spirits, than the children of the more respectable inhabitants of this village; and we think that parliament ought to be very careful, that, while they are legislating to preserve the health and morals of the rising generation, they do not deprive them of their bread.

WM. JN. &amp; EDW. KENT.

## ANSWERS of SCHOLES, VARLEY, and Co., Waterside, Slaithwaite.

No. 260.

Richard Varley.

A. 1.—Carding and spinning of cotton.

A. 2.—Mill built in 1802, and ever since employed in the carding and spinning of cotton.

A. 3.—By water, on the river Colne.

A. 4.—About twenty horse power; all employed by Scholes, Varley, and Co.

A. 5.—One hundred and seventeen persons; viz.

|                         | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years - | 11     | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 7      | 9        |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 11     | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 — -     | 6      | 10       |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | 7      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards - -      | 30     | 17       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                         | MALES.   | FEMALES.  |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 10 and under 12 years - | 2s. 7d.  | 2s.       |
| 12 and under 14 — -     | 3s. 7½d. | 2s. 6½d.  |
| 14 and under 16 — -     | 4s. 1d.  | 3s. 9d.   |
| 16 and under 18 — -     | 4s. 8d.  | 4s. 6¾d.  |
| 18 and under 21 — -     | 6s. 7½d. | 5s. 9d.   |
| 21 and upwards - -      | 20s.     | 5s. 11¼d. |

A. 7.—Thirty-nine persons; viz.

|                         | MALES.                | FEMALES.            |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years - | 1, earning 10s. 6d.   | —                   |
| 21 and upwards - -      | 26, earning 17s. 5½d. | 12, earning 7s. 1d. |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-two, piecers to spinners and twisters.

A. 9.—We give more for over-hours, but never work them except through necessity; those who would have 4s. 6d. or 5s. per week, we give in proportion to 6s.

A. 10.—It begins at six o'clock, in summer, and terminates at half past seven o'clock at night; in winter, at seven o'clock, and terminates at half-past eight o'clock.

A. 11.—Our supply of water is very regular, in general; in dry seasons, we work up the time lost exactly by Sir J. Hobhouse's bill. We begin at the usual time if there is water; if not, we wait till we have a sufficient supply.

A. 12.—Only nine hours on a Saturday; the time is not made up on any of the other days.

A. 13.—Fifteen minutes for breakfast, from eight o'clock to a quarter past; at dinner one hour, from twelve to one; at tea fifteen minutes, from half-past four to a quarter before five o'clock: all the workpeople employed take their meals at the same time.

A. 14.—All the moving power stops during meal times.

A. 15.—Time lost by accident to the machinery, water-courses, &c., is made up by one hour per day; no abatement is made for the time lost, nor do we pay for extra time when worked up.

A. 16.—If any sickness or accidents happen, we pay the surgical expences, and take them again into employment when recovered.

A. 17.—We allow New Year's-day, half a day on Shrove Tuesday, two half days at Easter, two half days at Whitsuntide, two days at the feast, and at Christmas whole two days.

A. 18.—The workmen are not paid for the holidays allowed, nor do they make up the time lost.

A. 19.—We do not allow any time after the fixed time for beginning; if not there in time, they are liable to a fine, — men 6d., women 2d., and children 1d., each; but we have very seldom occasion to enforce them.

A. 20.—We do not work above one set of adult hands.

A. 21.—We do not employ more than one set of children.

A. 22.—We do not sanction or allow corporal punishments.

A. 23.—It does not require children under twelve years old; we sometimes take them when under twelve to oblige their parents, but never under ten years old; they are employed in the card-room, and as piecers to the throstles.

A. 24.



|                                               |                                       |    |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----|--|
| A. 24.—1830. From 1st January to 1st April, - | 76 days, of which 13 were Saaturdays. |    |  |
| 1st April - to 1st July -                     | 76                                    | 13 |  |
| 1st July - to 1st October                     | 77                                    | 13 |  |
| 1st October to 1st January                    | 78                                    | 12 |  |
| 1831. From 1st January to 1st April -         | 75½                                   | 12 |  |
| 1st April - to 1st July -                     | 76                                    | 13 |  |
| 1st July - to 1st October                     | 76                                    | 13 |  |
| 1st October to 1st January                    | 78                                    | 14 |  |
| 1832. From 1st January to 1st April           | 75½                                   | 13 |  |
| 1st April - to 1st July -                     | 76                                    | 13 |  |
| 1st July - to 1st October                     | 72                                    | 12 |  |
| 1st October to 1st January                    | 75                                    | 13 |  |

Yorkshire.

Richard Varley.

|             |            |                        |                        |
|-------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| A. 25.—     | 1830.      | 1831.                  | 1832.                  |
| 1st quarter | 873 hours. | 1st quarter 870 hours. | 1st quarter 867 hours. |
| 2d          | 873        | 2d 873                 | 2d 873                 |
| 3d          | 885        | 3d 873                 | 3d 828                 |
| 4th         | 900        | 4th 894                | 4th 861                |

A. 26.—There have been no alterations since 1830.

A. 27.—Our opinion is, that twelve hours per day, exclusive of meal-times (for which an hour and a half should be allowed), for five days in the week, and nine hours on Saturday, is not injurious to the health of children employed in factories; and that ten hours per day would be very detrimental to the manufacturer himself, as it would decrease the produce of his machinery at least one sixth, and would therefore reduce the wages of the workpeople in proportion. We think all the mills ought to be made equal in the time of working, the number of hours above stated, with an effectual fine to enforce obedience,—the fine being laid on the moving power, and all night-work being disallowed,—is the best number of hours for factory labour. We consider the 29th and 30th clauses in Lord Ashley's proposed bill, for the regulating the labour of children in factories, very objectionable and unjust: accidents cannot always be prevented or guarded against, however careful the master may be.

RICHARD VARLEY.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. J. &amp; J. FARRAR, Bankgate, Slaithwaite.

No. 261.

J. & J. Farrar.

A. 1.—Employed in scribbling and slubbing sheep's wool.

A. 2.—Erected on or about 1800, and always employed as at present.

A. 3.—A water mill, with a small supply of water, to which a steam-engine is attached, of twelve-horse power, occasionally used, situated upon Holm Brook.

A. 4.—The engine is twelve horse power; should suppose we take about eight horse power to turn the whole of the machinery. No power let off.

A. 5.—Forty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14       | 2      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 3      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 13     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 4s.    |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.    |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s.   |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s.   |

A. 7.—Thirty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.          | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3, earning 3s.  | 3, earning 3s. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 6, earning 3s.  | 5, earning 3s. |
| 12 and under 14       | —               | 3, earning 4s. |
| 14 and under 16       | 3, earning 4s.  | —              |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 4s.  | —              |
| 21 and upwards        | 8, earning 17s. | —              |

In a regular week of sixty-five hours.

N.B.—No. 6 and 7; the above return is the average of each individual.

A. 8.—Males fourteen, females eleven.

A. 9.—We make no over-time.

A. 10.—The regular day's work for the children commences at seven, and terminates at six, in summer; in winter, it does not commence for the children before it is light, and terminates at seven at night.

A. 11.—The water is very uncertain; we have a steam-engine to make up the deficiency.

A. 12.—We work till six in the summer, and about four in the winter, on Saturdays. No time made up.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 13.



Yorkshire.

J. & J. Farrar.

A. 13.—The moving power is not stopped for breakfast, which is generally got about eight. Allowed for dinner, one hour, from twelve to one. The moving power is not stopped for refreshment in the afternoon. The slubbers and children take refreshment as it happens to be brought by their relatives, and can stop the machine they work afterwards whenever they please.

A. 14.—The moving power stops only for dinner; slubbers, fullers, and piecers take their breakfast, &c. when brought, and can stop the machine they work afterwards whenever they please; some stop the machine, and some do not, just as they are disposed.

A. 15.—No time made up for accidents or deficiency of water; we set those hands that are by the week to any job we can find, until we can go on again; those by the piece-work it is a loss to them.

A. 16.—If a person be indisposed a few days, we generally allow his wages; but if we are obliged to fill up his place, his allowance ceases. We have had no accident of any moment.

A. 17.—New Year's-day, one; pancake Tuesday, half a day; Good Friday, one day; Easter, two half days; Whit Monday and Tuesday, two days; St. James, being the village feast, two days. Total, nine days and a half.

A. 18.—The workmen are not paid for holidays, neither is the time made up.

A. 19.—No fines for absence or irregularity; we discharge them if negligent.

A. 20.—We have one set begin work for the scribbling department at six o'clock in the morning, giving up at eight at night; the other commence at eight, and give up at six in the morning.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children. If we had two sets, the remuneration would be so small, I think they would not attend regularly.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned, any further than a very light correction; if that does not reform them, we send them home.

A. 23.—The nature of work being very easy for young children, viz., piecing the cardings, while they are employed, I consider they would do as well at ten as older, if the hours of confinement do not exceed ten or eleven hours per day.

A. 24.—We have kept no account of the time, but should say every day, or nearly so, has been employed, with the exception of the holidays. We work country work for hire, and are not always fully employed.

A. 25.—I cannot say the number of hours we have worked; we keep no time-book, neither are we always fully employed.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We are no advocates for long hours; should think eleven hours for five days, and nine on Saturday, sufficient to work; if you exceed those hours, the children will have too little time for improvement; if a less time, we are afraid it will cause a reduction in the wages.

Messrs. J. &amp; J. FARRAR.

No. 262.  
Varley & Dyson.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. VARLEY and DYSON, Shaw-car-wood, Huddersfield.

A. 1.—Cotton spinning.

A. 2.—Commenced spinning about the year 1807.

A. 3.—Both water and steam power, upon the river Colne. The engine only used when water is scarce.

A. 4.—Power of the engine twelve-horse; power of the wheel twenty-horse.

A. 5.—Eighty-five persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |    |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|---|----------|---|---|----|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | —  | - | - | -        | - | - | 2  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 6  | - | - | -        | - | - | 3  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 2  | - | - | -        | - | - | 9  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 1  | - | - | -        | - | - | 14 |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 2  | - | - | -        | - | - | 9  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 1  | - | - | -        | - | - | 6  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 11 | - | - | -        | - | - | 19 |

This number includes all, both those who are paid by the week and by the piece, except three in the warehouse.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |          |   |   | FEMALES. |   |   |          |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---|---|----------|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | -      | —        | - | - | -        | - | - | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2s. 6d.  | - | - | -        | - | - | 2s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 3s. 3d.  | - | - | -        | - | - | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 4s.      | - | - | -        | - | - | 3s. 10d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 5s.      | - | - | -        | - | - | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 7s.      | - | - | -        | - | - | 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 16s. 9d. | - | - | -        | - | - | 6s. 2d.  |

A. 7.—Eighteen persons; viz.

|                | MALES. |                     |   |   | FEMALES. |                      |   |   |
|----------------|--------|---------------------|---|---|----------|----------------------|---|---|
| 21 and upwards | -      | 6, earning 17s. 6d. | - | - | -        | 12, earning 6s. 11d. | - | - |

A. 8.—Seven children are paid by the spinners, and included in the above number of eighty-five persons.

A. 9.—We do not work over-hours.

A. 10.



A. 10.—The mill begins at six in the morning, about half the year, in summer, and gives up at half-past seven at night; and begins at seven in the morning in winter, and gives up at half-past eight at night. On Saturdays the mill stops three hours earlier.

A. 11.—We can generally begin at the proper time in the morning. When we have lost a little for the want of water, we work half an hour or an hour over at nights to make it up, being allowed to do so by the present act of parliament; when we lose more than one hour per day, we put the engine on.

A. 12.—We give up three hours earlier on the Saturday, and it is not made up on the other days.

A. 13.—Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; the mill stops at eight o'clock for breakfast, and twelve for dinner. They all take their meals at the times stated above.

A. 14.—It stops all the meal-times.

A. 15.—We make up no time for accidents to machinery, or dam, or watercourses; we only make up for loss by scarcity of water, as mentioned before: the hands are not paid for this extra time; it only occurs for a few weeks in the summer, on an average about four weeks.

A. 16.—No allowance during sickness; but when an accident has happened, we have paid the wages if the person was poor, and we always have paid the surgeon: we have not had one in two years on the average, and nearly all very slight ones.

A. 17.—Generally three whole days at Christmas, two days at Easter, and two at Whitsuntide; or sometimes only two half days at these two last, and two whole days at the feast-time in August.

A. 18.—None of the holidays are made up; it is deducted from the weekly wages, and those by the piece are paid for what they do, as at any other time.

A. 19.—If the children come a quarter of an hour too late, we fine them one penny, and if half an hour or more, we take off a quarter of a day: those by the piece are not fined.

A. 20.—We only work one set of hands, and the time is mentioned above.

A. 21.—We never employed two sets of hands, as we do not approve of working all night.

A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishment: we frequently tell the overlookers, if the children will not do right, to send them home, and not touch them in any way.

A. 23.—Our work does not require children under twelve years of age, though we take them under chiefly to satisfy the parents, who have larger children here. We can employ young ones both in the carding and spinning rooms.

A. 24.—From January 1st to April 1st - in 1832 - - 78 days.

April 1st to July 1st - - - - 76 -

July 1st to October 1st - - - - 76 -

October 1st to January 1st - - - - 77 -

We cannot answer to the years previous, as we did not keep a time-book.

A. 25.—From January 1st to April 1st - in 1832 - - 912 $\frac{3}{4}$  hours.

April 1st to July 1st - - - - 874 -

July 1st to October 1st - - - - 862 $\frac{1}{4}$  -

October 1st to January 1st - - - - 855 $\frac{1}{4}$  -

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place in this mill since the year 1830.

A. 27.—We would particularly advise the moving power to be stopped in all mills and factories (except corn-mills) during the night, from nine o'clock to six. As to the hours of labour, we believe that eleven or eleven hours and a half, exclusive of meal-times, and nine hours on Saturdays, would be better for the health of the workpeople; but if the time is shortened beyond that, the wages will be generally reduced: besides this, it will have a tendency to drive the English manufacturer, in a great measure, to other nations.

We consider, and so do most people we have conversed with on the subject, that it would be very arbitrary to make the masters, or we may say the employers of the poor, liable to be indicted and sent to a prison for manslaughter, in case of accidents which it is not possible always to prevent: it would in some cases stop the concerns, and throw the people out of work and out of bread, because it would take the active master away and the workpeople belonging to it.

VARLEY & DYSON.

# ANSWERS of JOHN and WILLIAM BALDWIN, Bayley Hall, Bank Bottom, Southowram.

No. 263.

John Baldwin.

A. 1.—Manufacturing of stocking worsted and woollen yarn.

A. 2.—1821.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power, and occupied by ourselves.

A. 5.—Sixty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 16       |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16       | —      | 10       |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 9        |
| 18 and under 21       | 1      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | 3        |

(APP.—C. 1.)

4 D

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
John Baldwin.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | —       | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | —       | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 4s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | —       | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Four females; viz.

|                       |   |   |   |   |                |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | - | - | - | - | 3, earning 7s. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | - | - | 1, earning 7s. |

In a regular week of seventy hours and a half.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—At six o'clock, and terminates at half-past seven o'clock in the evening; and in the middle of winter, at a quarter before eight, on account of working one hour and a quarter less on the Saturdays of the same period.

A. 12.—The day's work on Saturday is less, and is made up on the other five days by an extra half hour each day.

A. 13.—Fifteen minutes for breakfast, at half-past eight.

A. 14.—All stops.

A. 15.—It is made up by working extra time on the five days, and never exceeding half an hour each day.

A. 16.—The wages are paid for accidents, but not for sickness.

A. 17.—Six days and a half in the year.

A. 18.—They are paid for holidays, and not made up.

A. 19.—If they come after a quarter past six o'clock, they are deducted a fourth of a day's wages; this being the case, hands always remain at home till nine o'clock, the deduction then being the same, viz. a quarter of a day.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We have never employed two sets.

A. 22.—They are not.

A. 23.—It does; for spinning.

A. 24 & 25.—No account kept.

A. 26.—We have allowed fifteen minutes for breakfast for about eighteen months only, and which is not made up by the hands in extra time.

A. 27.—I think the time should be, each day eleven hours and a half for five days, and ten for Saturday.

JOHN BALDWIN.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES NOBLE, Ashgrove, Halifax.

A. 1.—Cloth dressing.

A. 2.—1825.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Twelve horse power

A. 5.—Forty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 11     | —        |
| 16 and under 18       | 5      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 4      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 28     | 6        |

A. 7.—Fifty-four persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.                   | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | 11, earning 6s. to 8s.   | —              |
| 16 and under 18       | 5, earning 10s. to 12s.  | —              |
| 18 and under 21       | 4, earning 15s.          | —              |
| 21 and upwards        | 28, earning 21s. to 30s. | 6, earning 7s. |

In a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour.

A. 10.—Six A. M., and eight P. M.

A. 11.—Steam.

A. 12.—Three hours less on Saturday; not made up.

A. 13.—Half an hour to breakfast, eight o'clock; one hour to dinner, half-past twelve o'clock; half an hour afternoon drinking, five o'clock.

A. 14.—All the meal-times.

A. 15.—Sometimes by extra hours, sometimes deducted per hour from the week's wage.

A. 16.—Yes.

A. 17.—Four holidays and a half in the year.

A. 18.—Not paid for the holiday-time; sometimes made up, sometimes deducted from wages.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20.

No. 264.  
James Noble.



- A. 20, 21 & 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—Does not.  
 A. 24.—Six days, twelve hours each.  
 A. 27.—Twelve hours per day, in our business, not too much for adults; if the time is shortened, wages must be reduced in proportion, or masters must become bankrupts.

JAMES NOBLE.

Yorkshire.

James Noble.

## ANSWERS of T. F. MACAULAY, Walterclough, Southowram.

No. 265.

T. F. Macaulay.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning.  
 A. 2.—Date unknown; spinning.  
 A. 3.—Water; Red Beck.  
 A. 4.—Thirty-horse; employed by two parties.

| A. 5.—Twenty-one persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age          | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years          | 4      | 7        |
| 12 and under 14 —              | —      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —              | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —              | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —              | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards                 | 1      | 1        |

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are :— | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                  | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years                  | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —                      | 4s.     | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —                      | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —                      | 6s. 6d. | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —                      | 21s.    | 9s.      |
| 21 and upwards                         | 24s.    | 9s.      |

- A. 7 & 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—Yes.  
 A. 10.—Six o'clock A.M., terminates at seven P.M.  
 A. 11.—According to quantity of water.  
 A. 12.—Less by one hour and a half. No.  
 A. 13.—One hour at noon; breakfast and other meals, save dinner, hands supply each other's places.  
 A. 14.—Stops at dinner.  
 A. 15.—Half an hour per day.  
 A. 16.—No.  
 A. 17.—Christmas, two days; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two days; Midsummer, two half days; Bryhouse feast one half day; November, half a day; Shrove Tuesday, half a day.  
 A. 18.—Yes. No.  
 A. 19.—No fine, but deduct the wages for short time.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No. None.  
 A. 22.—No; discharged.  
 A. 23.—Yes. Attending and piecing fine yarn.  
 A. 24.—All alike.  
 A. 25.—Cannot tell.  
 A. 26.—New water-wheel, of greater power.  
 A. 27.—It cannot be better.

THOMAS. F. MACAULAY.

## ANSWERS of JOHN and WALKER PRIESTLEY, Sowerby, near Halifax.

No. 266.

J. & W. Priestley.

- A. 1.—Woollens.  
 A. 2.—1782, and 1814. See Answer No. 3, former Queries.  
 A. 3.—Water only. Rybourn, a branch of the Calder.  
 A. 4.—Probably thirty or forty horse power. All in our own employ.

| A. 5.—Ninety persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age      | 11     | 9        |
| 10 and under 12 years      | 5      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —          | 4      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —          | 2      | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —          | 4      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —          | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards             | 32     | 10       |

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 6.



Yorkshire.  
J. & W. Priestley.

## A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d. | - | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.     | - | 2s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s.     | - | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.     | - | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | 5s.     | - | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 7s. 6d. | - | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 15s.    | - | 5s.      |

## A. 7.—Seventy-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             |   | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 8, earning 1s. 6d. | - | 9, earning 1s. 6d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2, earning 2s.     | - | 7, earning 2s.     |
| 12 and under 14       | 1, earning 3s.     | - | 1, earning 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 2, earning 4s.     | - | —                  |
| 16 and under 18       | —                  | - | 3, earning 5s.     |
| 18 and under 21       | 1, earning 7s. 6d. | - | 1, earning 5s.     |
| 21 and upwards        | 32, earning 15s.   | - | 10, earning 5s.    |

No time-book kept, but perhaps about fifty-six hours.

A. 8.—Thirty-six, chiefly children, as piecers and winders.

A. 9.—We seldom work over-time; but wages in proportion to the usual weekly and other wages are paid for such over-time, if we retain our workpeople longer than the usual hours.

A. 10.—Answered by No. 17 in the first list of Questions.

A. 11.—Uncertain, depending upon receiving the water from the mills above us; and conclude at the same period as when we have plenty of water, if the water lasts so long.

A. 12.—On Saturdays, we give up working at from four to five o'clock, according to the season, and no extra time is imposed for the deficiency.

A. 13.—Answered by No. 53 in the first list of Questions. They generally take their meals at one time, unless to suit their own convenience.

A. 14.—As far as regards the fulling mill, the moving power does not stop, as it would occasion a considerable loss.

A. 15.—We have no particular plan, but we endeavour to find employment in such cases for as many hands as possible, and pay wages for such work; and seldom make up for time so lost by extra hours, and both ourselves and workmen are losers.

A. 16.—When sickness is not of long duration, we generally allow the wages for the time; and if accidents occur at the mill, we generally pay for medical advice, and allow wages during the time absent.

A. 17.—About eight or ten.

A. 18.—Those persons who receive weekly wages, receive them the same as if at work, and no time is made up for such holidays.

A. 19.—We impose no fines.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Answered by No. 11, in the first list of Questions. In the card-room, piecers and winders.

A. 24.—We keep no time-book, but our mill was worked daily (Sundays excepted) during the periods you require, except the mill was standing for repairs, &c.

A. 25.—We keep no time-book.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—Answered by No. 79, in the first list of Questions.

JOHN & WALKER PRIESTLEY.

No. 267.  
W. H. Rawson.

## ANSWERS of W. HY. RAWSON, Sowerby.

A. 1.—Woollen manufacture, carding, spinning, milling, finishing, and dying.

A. 2.—About 1787, with various additions since; dye-house erected first about ten years since.

A. 3.—Water only; Ryburn Brook, falling at Sowerby Bridge into the River Calder.

A. 4.—All the water-wheels suppose from thirty to forty horse power. The whole power employed by myself.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 10     | - | 6        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | - | 7        |
| 12 and under 14       | 5      | - | 13       |
| 14 and under 16       | 7      | - | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | - | 19       |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | - | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 24     | - | 14       |

A. 6.



Yorkshire,  
W. H. Rawson.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. | 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.                | 2s.                |
| 12 and under 14       | 2s. 3d.            | 2s. 3d. to 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s.                | 3s. 6d. to 4s.     |
| 16 and under 18       | 6s. to 8s.         | 6s.                |
| 18 and under 21       | 9s. to 12s.        | 6s. 6d.            |
| 21 and upwards        | 18s. to 21s.       | 7s.                |

A. 7.—Fifty persons:—

|                       | MALES.                 | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 12 and under 14 years | —                      | 4, earning 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | —                      | 6, earning 3s. 8d. |
| 16 and under 18       | —                      | 15, earning 6s.    |
| 18 and under 21       | —                      | 4, earning 6s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 7 earning 18s. to 21s. | 14, earning 7s.    |

In a regular week of sixty to seventy hours.

The males are spinners and slubbers, the females are burlers and savers.

A. 8.—Thirty-four children.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—In summer from six A. M. to eight P. M.; I don't use lamps in the morning; so that as winter approaches, the mill begins later by degrees, and in mid-winter scarcely commences before eight A. M.; during Christmas, say from December 25th to January 7th, we don't work by lamp-light in the evening, but generally, for eight weeks before and eight weeks after Christmas, we work by lamp-light till eight P. M. This, however, depends much upon orders in hand for goods.

A. 11.—The water, during drought in summer, and frost in winter, is frequently very irregular, and depends much on the dams of the mills on the stream above mine. The latter part of the question I cannot answer, as we use the water when it comes down to us. We cannot work frequently in summer before ten or eleven o'clock A. M., and must work in the evening as long as the supply of water lasts.

A. 12.—The mill is stopped on Saturdays about four P. M., not later, and in the depth of winter rather earlier—three, or half-past three, P. M. The time is not made up during the other five days.

A. 13.—The regular dinner-hour is from half-past twelve to half-past one, one hour; for breakfast and afternoon drinking, about half an hour. In the long days of summer, breakfast is from eight to half-past eight A. M., and afternoon drinking from five to half-past five P. M. In winter, these two meals sometimes vary according to the time of commencing or giving over work.

A. 14.—Always during dinner, except sometimes in the fulling-mill.

A. 15.—The workpeople do not make up lost time by extra hours for any time lost in consequence of defect or excess of water. No deduction is made from the wages of the workpeople, nor for any short stoppage for repairs of machinery, &c.; but where repairs of much magnitude are required, we stop the wheels for a day or longer; then the wages are not paid, except to such as can assist in the repairs.

A. 16.—No; the work-people have sick clubs amongst themselves, for their mutual support in case of sickness, &c.; and they have likewise such occasional relief as their necessities appear to require.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, Easter Monday, Whit-Monday and Tuesday, and some of the country wakes or fairs. Christmas-day always, and the other days according to circumstances; when the mill is worked during any of the regular holidays of the country, the work-people are dismissed about four o'clock P. M.

A. 18.—None allowed except as above. The workpeople are not paid for holidays except for Christmas-day. The time is not made up at any other time. When the workpeople are dismissed a few hours earlier than usual, as above, the full day's wages are paid.

A. 19.—No fines except occasionally 2s. 6d. for absence by drunkenness. In case of frequent and continual complaints for absence or irregularity, I should discharge the person guilty of them from my employ, which would operate as a sufficient warning and check upon his fellow-workmen.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; as piecers or assistants to the slubbers and spinners, and also in the carding-room.

A. 24.—I keep no time-book; the work has been regular throughout, except in case of stoppage from drought, or for the short periods required for repairs.

A. 25.—Answered above, as far as I can answer the question.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—Whatever protection the legislature may conceive desirable for children employed in factories, I think they cannot either with justice or propriety interfere by any regulations with the hours of general factory labour wherein adults are employed; and especially in water mills, where the moving power is so uncertain.

W. HY. RAWSON.



Yorkshire.

No. 268.

Robert Wetham.

## ANSWERS of ROBERT WETHAM, Turvin Mill, Sowerby.

A. 1.—Carding, scribbling, spinning, and weaving low woollen cloth.

A. 2.—The different processes of this manufacture were begun in 1808.

A. 3.—Water power is used, and the supply dependant simply on the overflowing of a reservoir of the Rochdale Canal Company, and the draining from the moors.

A. 4.—The extent of power from eight to ten-horse, and the whole employed for the purpose of this manufacture.

A. 5.—Forty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 12       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 6      | 5        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16     | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d. | 1s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —       | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 13s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s.    | —        |

A. 7.—Nine persons; viz.

|                   | MALES.          | FEMALES.       |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 16 and under 18 — | —               | 1, earning 8s. |
| 21 and upwards —  | 6, earning 17s. | 2, earning 9s. |

In a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—The description of persons paid by the workpeople, are piecers and winders.

A. 9.—The wages paid for over-hours precisely the same as during the regular time.

A. 10.—Work commences at six o'clock in the morning and terminates at half-past seven o'clock in the evening.

A. 11.—Not subject to a diminished supply from other mills, being the highest on the stream. Hours of commencing and concluding work are regulated by the supply of water, which is precarious.

A. 12.—Saturday nine hours and a half, and the other five days twelve hours and a half.

A. 13.—The time allowed for meals is, for spinners and weavers, two hours; and those attending the carding engine one hour, part of their meals being taken whilst at work.

A. 14.—The power stops one hour for dinner; those who take part of their meals whilst at work attend the carding engines.

A. 15.—All lost time made up by working extra hours, and paid for at the same rate as for regular time.

A. 16.—No allowance during sickness, except from accidents.

A. 17.—Christmas-day.

A. 18.—All holidays are made up by extra hours, except Christmas-day.

A. 19.—No fines imposed for irregularity or absence, our plan being to discharge, or acquaint the parents of the children so offending.

A. 20.—No more than one set of adult hands employed.

A. 21.—It is not found necessary to employ more than one set of children during the labour of the same set of adult hands.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments not sanctioned.

A. 23.—The work in which children under twelve years are employed is attending the billies for the spinners, and piecing broken ends, which could not be done with the same ease and facility by any of riper years.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place in this mill since 1830.

A. 27.—From the experience of this establishment, can only state that there has been no cause to make legislative interference necessary by reason of any deterioration in the general health of the people employed.

For Robert Wetham, JOHN ATKINSON.

ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN WHITEHEAD, Sen. and JOHN WHITEHEAD, Jun.  
Lumb, Sowerby.

A. 1.—Cotton.

A. 2.—In the year 1807.

A. 3.—Water. The stream Lumb Clough.

A. 4.—The power of the wheel ten-horse, and we employ the whole power.

A. 5.—Fifty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 6      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 4      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 19     | 6        |

A. 6.

No. 269.

J. &amp; J. Whitehead.



A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2s. 3d. | 2s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5s.     | 5s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    | 9s.      |

Yorkshire.

J. & J. Whitehead.

A. 7.—Twenty-three males; viz.

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 4, earning 18s.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 19, earning 21s. |

In a regular week of sixty-eight hours.

A. 8.—Eight mule piecers that are paid by the spinners.

A. 9.—The children never work over-hours, and the adults seldom or ever.

A. 10.—The hours of beginning and ending a day's work, are according to the act of parliament.

A. 11.—That is according to the weather, sometimes more and sometimes less.

A. 12.—Eight hours' work on Saturday, and the other four hours are not made up in the other five days.

A. 13.—The time allowed for each meal is regulated by the act of parliament.

A. 14.—The moving power is stopped at meal-times.

A. 15.—It is lost to us and to them.

A. 16.—Our workmen have a subscription to support each other in sickness, and we get hands pro tempore to supply their deficiency.

A. 17.—Two regular; four half holidays.

A. 18.—We don't run over-hours to make up for holidays and pay them as usual.

A. 19.—We have no fines at all.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—No; in the present state of trade cannot afford it.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—In the card-room and piecers to spinners.

A. 24 &amp; 25.—Cannot answer.

A. 26.—No.

JOHN WHITEHEAD, Sen.

JOHN WHITEHEAD, Jun.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. JOHN HADWEN and Sons, Kebroyd Bridge, Soyland.

No. 270.

Hadwen & Sons.

A. 1.—Silk and cotton spinning.

A. 2.—One mill was erected about thirty-three years ago, and the other forty years, and applied to cotton spinning until 1826, when both silk and cotton were commenced to be spun.

A. 3.—Water; small brook with no particular name.

A. 4.—Of both wheels fifteen or sixteen horse power, and the whole in our tenure.

A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 9      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 9      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 8      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 6        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 61     | 12       |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d. | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 3d. | 3s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3s. 9d. | 3s. 9d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s. 6d. | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 9s.     | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    | 7s.      |

A. 7.—Two females, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 7s. per week, in a regular week of seventy-two hours.

A. 8.—Twenty-eight children, ten and under fourteen years old (chiefly the youngest), employed by the spinners as piecers, and whose wages are paid by the spinners.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—In summer, the mills commence work at six o'clock in the morning, and terminate at seven o'clock in the evening; in winter, the time is regulated according to the length of the day's work, commencing at daylight, there being no lighting up in the morning.

A. 11.—Entirely dependant upon a supply of water from the mills above us, one of which is a corn mill, which often works in the night; consequently, the water runs by, without being of any service to us. In drouthy seasons our hours of work are very precarious and uncertain, having to take advantage of the water when it comes.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 12.



Yorkshire.

Hadwen & Sons.

A. 12.—Nine hours: not made up; paid for same as any other day.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.

A. 14.—Stops during dinner hour. The hands have generally their breakfast and tea sent to the mills, and get them during the time the mills are working, relieving each other whilst getting them by changing turns; they are not at all confined to a specified time for them: this they prefer to have half an hour allowed and staying half an hour longer at night in lieu of it, as their residence is mostly at some distance from the mills.

A. 15.—All time lost for want of water we endeavour to fetch up at more plentiful seasons—never exceeding an hour's work per day more, and seldom so much for this purpose; our situation is, however, so peculiar, that we seldom are less than three or four days' work minus in the course of the year. The hands are always paid for extra hours, at the same rate as the other time.

A. 16.—None.

A. 17.—Two whole days and five half days.

A. 18.—The workpeople are paid for the whole holidays,—viz. Christmas-day and New Year's-day; the five half days are worked up in the same manner as time lost from scarcity of water.

A. 19.—The fines imposed for absence without leave are proportionate to the time they are absent, at the rate of 5s. per day; the time allowed before the fine is imposed is a quarter of an hour after the regular time: these fines are given to the sick clubs in the neighbourhood, at the end of every year.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—Never; we consider one set quite sufficient for the hours we work.

A. 22.—They are not.

A. 23.—Piecers are quicker when young; but we should say none under twelve years of age are required in our establishment.

A. 24.—This we are unable to answer to the letter, as, on account of scarcity of water in the summer season, sometimes we cannot work more than six or eight hours per day.

A. 25.—We have not made above the customary time of sixty-nine hours per week, taking the year round.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—If the hours of labour be curtailed, no doubt wages will be proportionally diminished. Some provision, we think, ought to be made for water-mills situated so peculiarly as ours are; and working during night we would gladly see abolished.

JOHN HADWEN &amp; Sons.

No. 271.

Henry Holdsworth.

## ANSWERS of HENRY HOLDSWORTH, Soyland Mill, Soyland.

A. 1.—Exclusively worsted yarns.

A. 2.—1829 and 1830.

A. 3.—Water power; the water arising from the moors in the neighbourhood.

A. 4.—The water-wheel is about ten-horse power: I employ all the power.

A. 5.—Fifty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 8        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 7        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | 5        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 5        |

You will perceive there is a greater number of females than males; the reason is, I believe, they are supposed to be more tractable and more willing to attend to their work.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.      | FEMALES.         |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d.     | 3s.              |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.     | 3s.              |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s.         | 3s. 6d.          |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.         | 4s.              |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4s. 6d.     | 4s.              |
| 21 and upwards        | 12s. & 14s. | 16s. 18s. & 20s. |

A. 7.—I pay none of my workpeople by piece-work; if I did so I should not have one in my place in drouthy seasons.

A. 8.—I pay all the workpeople myself.

A. 9.—Being obliged to stand so much in the summer season for want of water, when there is a sufficiency, I run over-hours as much as I consider comfortable for the children, but pay nothing extra.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning both summer and winter, and terminates at half-past seven at night.

A. 11.—Some days, in the drouthy seasons, I can only run the machinery four of five hours, and sometimes half a day, but very seldom three fourths of it; then, of course, I must commence and terminate as the water comes.

A. 12.



A. 12.—On a Saturday I commence at six o'clock in the morning, and stop at five in the afternoon; nor in any day in the week, supposing I had sufficient water, do I attempt or give orders to make it up.

A. 13.—I stop one hour for dinner-time, twelve to one o'clock, when all the children take it.

A. 14.—All the moving power stops at meal-times.

A. 15.—If I have any accidents in the machinery, I pay my workpeople their wages during the whole time I stand; nor do I work over-hours for such an accident; but for defect of water I do run over-hours, and that is done by commencing half an hour sooner in the morning, and running half an hour later at night.

A. 16.—If sick, I pay them during that time half their wages, provided they return to me. If an accident in my machinery, I pay their full wages; and in many cases pay the doctor's note, where the family is very large and poor.

A. 17.—New Year's-day, one day at Easter, and two at Whitsuntide, Good Friday, 24th and 25th June, the fair, and Christmas-day.

A. 18.—I pay my workpeople for the holidays, and do not attempt to make it up, as many of the mills do, by running over-hours.

A. 19.—If by absence or irregularity of the children I am inconvenienced, I explain it to their parents: if not taken proper notice of, I dismiss the party so offending, but never did I fine one.

A. 20.—I do not.

A. 21.—I never employed more than one set of hands: I disapprove of the practice altogether, on account of having them all to learn, which is great waste.

A. 22.—I never sanctioned, nor do I allow corporal punishment, though to a certain extent I am aware it is practised.

A. 23.—The nature of my work does require children under twelve years, and the process they are engaged in is taking care of the frames, or, what we call it, "tenting" them.

A. 24 & 25.—Quite uncertain.

A. 26.—No alteration has taken place, except the water-power made larger, which, to my great expense and sorrow, I can only take advantage of in summer.

A. 27.—My concluding remark is, that I approve of any plan that may be adduced for the comfort and better protection of children in worsted factories in the large mills, especially steam power. I know, not only corporal punishment, but running over-hours, is to a very great extent practised, whereby the large mill-owner is enabled to undersell the small one; but I will sanction no such bill as a ten hours bill: if there is to be any regulation whatever, I humbly suggest that sixty-six or sixty-seven hours per week, including Saturday, is what every reasonable man will agree to, except the large mill-owner.

HENRY HOLDSWORTH.

Yorkshire.

H. Holdsworth.

#### ANSWERS of JAMES LEAROYD, Clough Mill, Soyland.

A. 1.—Cotton warps.

A. 2.—Built in 1807-8.

A. 3.—Water, from Blackshaw Clough.

A. 4.—The wheel about four-horse power; all occupied by self.

A. 5.—Thirty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 4        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21       | 2      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 14     | 2        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d.      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d.      | —        |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s.          | —        |
| 14 and under 16 years | —            | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —            | 4s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21       | 12s.         | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. or 17s. | —        |

A. 7.—Thirty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, earning 2s. 6d. | —                  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5, earning 2s. 9d. | —                  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3, earning 3s.     | 4, earning 3s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, earning 4s.     | 4, earning 3s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | —                  | 1, earning 4s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | 2, earning 12s.    | —                  |
| 21 and upwards        | 14, earning 15s.   | 2, earning 7s.     |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

A. 8.—Nine piecers, paid by five spinners.

A. 9.—The same.

(APP.—C. 1.)

4 F

A. 10.

No. 272.

James Learoyd.



Yorkshire.

James Learoyd.

A. 10.—In the summer from six to seven o'clock, and concludes from seven to eight in the evening; and in winter, from seven to half-past in the morning, and concludes when the twelve hours are finished.

A. 11.—In a drouthy season the time varies, as we are obliged to wait for the water from the upper mill; after the first two days sometimes six, seven, or eight hours is as much as the mill can run in one day.

A. 12.—The regular hours on a Saturday are nine hours, and the other five days twelve hours in a day, making sixty-nine hours in the week.

A. 13.—At twelve o'clock at noon the mill stops one full hour; breakfast time is generally about eight o'clock in the morning, and drinking time about four o'clock in the afternoon.

A. 14.—At meal-times they generally all stop, except the carding engines, and the tenters have only to remove the cans when full, as they have plenty of spare time.

A. 15.—For loss of time, one half hour per day is the method we have taken for some time in gaining the same, and they are paid in proportion for the same.

A. 16.—As for sickness, I have no regular time; I generally employ a spare hand, if possible, to do their work for a few weeks, and, if they recover, return to their work again.

A. 17.—Christmas-day, New Year's-day, the half of Shrove Tuesday, two half days at Easter, and two half days at Whitsuntide, and some few hours for fair days.

A. 18.—The holidays are given to them, and not made up to me in any manner whatever.

A. 19.—I have none.

A. 20 & 21.—No.

A. 22.—I have none.

A. 23.—The spinners employ some under twelve years old, which are the greatest number; but mine in the card-room are wanted fourteen or fifteen years old.

A. 24 & 25.—As respecting these questions, our plan is to set the time for each week down, and if under or over sixty-nine hours, is carried to the next and balanced at the year's end; and it seldom happens the time has been run, when the summer is dry, for want of water: they are paid for the time they run in proportion to their wages.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place of any consequence to your question.

A. 27.—I think as we have been placed under the act for cotton mills, limited to sixty-nine hours per week, for some years, I believe, have never made the hours specified in the act for one year; other mills of silk, worsted, and woollen have been under no restriction, as some have run them both night and day. Bring all the mills to the same standard as cotton mills; and then if the time is thought too long for children to be employed, take the whole together to the length of time shall be thought most advisable.

JAMES LEAROYD.

## ANSWERS of ANDREW ASPDEN, Harley House, Stansfield.

No. 273

Andrew Aspden.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning, and manufacturing of healdyarn.

A. 2.—Ten years.

A. 3.—Steam power.

A. 4.—Eight-horse; one concern.

A. 5.—Thirty-two persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 1      | 3        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 8      | 7        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | —      | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —      | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 8s.    | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.   | 6s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s.   | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same.

A. 10.—Six in the morning, and seven in the evening.

A. 12.—Six in the morning, till five in the evening.

A. 13.—One hour for dinner.

A. 14.—Stops for dinner.

A. 15.—Lost to all parties.

A. 16.—None.

A. 17.—Four whole days.

A. 18.—All paid for.

A. 19.



- A. 19.—No fines.  
 A. 20.—Only one set.  
 A. 21.—No.  
 A. 22.—Not any.  
 A. 23.—From nine to twelve years in spinning.  
 A. 24.—Six days a week, except holidays.  
 A. 25.—Nine hundred and ten each quarter.  
 A. 26.—None.

Yorkshire

Aspden & Hogsden.

ANDREW ASPDEN, Owner.  
 THOMAS HODGSON, Overlooker.

## ANSWERS of MESSRS. BEAUMONT and VICHENUAUS, Steps, South Crosland.

No. 274.

Beaumont & Vichenuaus.

- A. 1.—Scribbling, fulling, and finishing of woollen cloths.  
 A. 2.—Erected in the year 1807, and used as above.  
 A. 3.—Water, and situate on the river Colne.  
 A. 4.—Twenty-horse power, and the whole employed by us as above-mentioned.  
 A. 5.—Fifty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 12     | 1        |
| 12 and under 14       | 6      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16       | 7      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | 5      | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 19     | 1        |

- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 4s. 2d.  | 4s. 2d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 7s. 8d.  | 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 12s. 6d. | —        |
| 18 and under 21       | 17s. 6d. | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.     | 6s.      |

- A. 7.—Six males, 21 years and upwards, earning 26s. in a regular week of sixty-nine hours.  
 A. 8.—Four slubbers, one willower, eight feeders, twelve piecers, three millers.  
 A. 9.—Exactly the same.  
 A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at half past seven o'clock in the evening, during the summer season; and at half past seven o'clock in the morning, terminating at nine in the evening, during the winter season; the alteration on account of only lighting up once a day.  
 A. 11.—Twelve hours in the winter season, and six in the summer season; commencing and concluding as above stated.  
 A. 12.—Commencing at seven o'clock on Monday mornings; and at six o'clock, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and concluding at five o'clock on Saturdays, which makes sixty-nine hours per week.  
 A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half past; half an hour for dinner, from half past twelve to one; half an hour for lunch, from five to half past:—one hour and a half.  
 A. 14.—The fulling department does not stand at all; but the other stops regularly, according to times stated.  
 A. 15.—Generally lost to us and to them, except allowed by us; no time made up.  
 A. 16.—No allowances made, except in case of accident.  
 A. 17.—Say eight or ten, and more if they require them, by asking for liberty.  
 A. 18.—No allowance of wages during holidays, only when they work; never made up.  
 A. 19.—If irregular in attendance, or obedience, discharge them.  
 A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.  
 A. 23.—In the scribbling and slubbing department, ten years and upwards.  
 A. 24.—Not more than six days: we cannot possibly answer the remainder of the question, as we have no particular account.  
 A. 25.—Not possible, on account of sometimes short of work, and at other times short of water.  
 A. 26.—No.

BEAUMONT &amp; VICHENUAUS.

## ANSWERS of JOHN HARTLEY, Sutton.

No. 275.

John Hartley.

- A. 1.—The spinning of worsted.  
 A. 2.—Erected in 1788, commenced spinning in 1791.  
 A. 3.—The power employed both; name of the stream, Sutton Beck.  
 A. 4.—The power of the engine, six horse; wheel, the same. The engine is only employed when short of water by myself.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 5.



Yorkshire.  
John Hartley.

## A. 5.—Twenty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | —        |

## A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 6d.  | 1s. 9d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1s. 9d.  | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2s. 6d.  | —        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 3s.      | 3s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3s. 9d.  | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s.     | 3s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s. 6d. | —        |

In a regular week of seventy-five hours.

A. 7.—None employed by piece-work.

A. 8.—None of any description.

A. 9.—Paid for over-hours after the same rate as regular time.

A. 10.—In summer, beginning at six, and terminating at half past seven; and in winter, at seven, and terminating at half past eight; altering 1st October and 1st March.

A. 11.—In drouthy seasons the engine is employed, so that the time of beginning and ending is regular, according to the above statement.

A. 12.—No alteration on Saturdays.

A. 13.—One hour allowed for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock, for all the hands employed.

A. 14.—The moving power stops one hour at noon; the other meals are taken whilst at work.

A. 15.—The time lost by accidents to the machinery, &c., is made up by working one hour extra each day.

A. 16.—The time lost by any of the hands, arising from accidents by the machinery, is allowed for; if sickness, nothing allowed.

A. 17.—Two regular holidays and three half holidays.

A. 18.—The holidays are given, or paid for as if at work.

A. 19.—If above a quarter of an hour after the proper time, turned back three hours, and abated accordingly.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands employed.

A. 21.—No.

A. 22.—All are punished for neglect or disobedience to the age of sixteen.

A. 23.—I object to none whose parents think proper to send; the greatest number are employed in spinning.

A. 24.—The mill has only been employed by me since November, 1831; from which time I have kept no regular account.

A. 26.—No alterations have taken place since I took the mill.

A. 27.—I should recommend the present practice that I am following.

JOHN HARTLEY.

No. 276.  
M. Robinson.

## ANSWERS of the WEST HOUSE FACTORY COMPANY, West House, Fewston.

A. 1.—Spinning flax yarns.

A. 2.—In the year 1797.

A. 3.—Water, and steam to assist when short of water; name of the stream, Washburn.

A. 4.—About forty horse; no part let off.

## A. 5.—One hundred and twelve persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 10     | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 11     | 9        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 14     | 10       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 3      | 11       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 9      | 17       |

## A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.    | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.    | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.    | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s.    | 6s.      |

A. 7.



A. 7.—Twenty-three persons; viz.

FEMALES.

|                       |   |   |                     |
|-----------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| 14 and under 16 years | - | - | 1, earning 5s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | — | - | 2, earning 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | — | - | 2, earning 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | - | - | 18, earning 6s. 6d. |

In a regular week of seventy-six hours.

A. 8.—None of any description.

A. 9.—Yes.

A. 10.—When our trade is tolerably brisk, we frequently begin to work at six, and end at eight o'clock; five days in the week, half an hour each day to make up the Saturday (not sooner or later); but frequently of late years we have, in consequence of flat trade, been compelled to reduce the hours of labour to fifty-six hours per week, and, but for the sake of enabling the hands to get a subsistence, should have reduced more time.

A. 11.—Supply of water not affected by other mills.

A. 12.—Time of working two hours less on the Saturday, and the time made up in the other five days, at half an hour extra each day.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, from eight to half past; one hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock; and half an hour for tea, from four to half past four o'clock.

A. 14.—The moving power stops all the meal times, except the spinning department, which continues at work breakfast and tea time, and, of course, the spinners take their meals while the machinery is at work; they have generally plenty of spare time.

A. 15.—If a few hours are at any time lost by accident, that do not amount to more than six hours per week, we make it a rule to make it up by working that time in the hour allowed for dinner, the same week, to prevent beginning before six, and ending after eight o'clock; and if more time is lost, it is lost to all parties.

A. 16.—In particular circumstances only.

A. 17.—One whole day, two half days, and three quarter days.

A. 18.—Christmas-day not paid for; the two half days and three quarter days are made up by working the time in the hour generally allowed for dinner, to keep the wages regular.

A. 19.—Our hands are not allowed to absent themselves without leave, and have no need of fines; if they exceed ten minutes after the regular time of attendance, one hour of their time is deducted according to their respective rate of wages.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—We have never employed more than one set of children; but have no objections to employ two sets, which might reduce the hours of labour of children under a certain age, (we should say twelve years,) to six or seven hours per day, and this would answer every purpose the present bill professes—viz. that of protecting children from over-working.

A. 22 & 23.—No.

A. 24.—Every day except Sunday and Christmas-day.

A. 25.—No particular account kept.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We see no need of any interference by act of parliament for the regulation of factory labour, further than the protection of children under twelve years of age, which certainly would be an act of greater humanity than many parents exercise towards their children. We have no doubt, if children be injured by the factory labour, it is while they are under twelve years of age, by confinement, without that free exercise they require.

MICHAEL ROBINSON.

#### ANSWERS of JOSEPH FAIRBANK, Leventhorp, Thornton.

A. 1.—Spinning worsted yarn.

A. 2.—I have occupied the mill nearly three years; do not know the date of erection.

A. 3.—Water-power: two small becks; one called Petty, and the other Cross-flats Beck.

A. 4.—Six-horse power, and no part let off.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz. Under 10 years, four; 10 and under 12, four; 12 and under 14, four; 14 and under 16, four; 18 and under 21, two; 21 and upwards, two.

A. 6.—Under and about 10 years of age, the children do not earn what is paid them (about 2s. 3d.), being to learn the art or trade in which they are employed; from 10 to 14 years, they receive from 3s. 8d. to 5s.; between 18 and 21, 9s.; when above 1 years, they receive 30s.

A. 7.—Four males; viz. 14 and under 16 years, two, earning 16s.; 18 and under 21, one, earning 18s.; 21 and upwards, one, earning 18s. Rulers and warpers are paid by piece-work; four persons employed average 8s. each, for eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour as the regular time.

A. 10.—Begins, in summer, at six A. M., ends half-past seven P. M.; in winter, at eight A. M., ends at nine o'clock P. M.

A. 11.—Not dependent on other mills for water. Start at usual hour in the morning, and run till the water is exhausted, which, on an average, in a drouthy season, will be about two o'clock P. M.; does not commence till the following morning.

(APP.—C. 1.)

4 G

A. 12.

Yorkshire.

Michl. Robinson.

No. 277.

Joseph Fairbank.



Yorkshire.

Joseph Fairbank.

- A. 12.—Less by one hour and a half on Saturday, and not made up at any other time.  
 A. 13.—Also for dinner three quarters of an hour, at twelve o'clock at noon, and all hands at one time.  
 A. 14.—The water-wheel is stopped during meal-times.  
 A. 15.—When accidents take place, or stoppages occasioned by defect of water, I do not make any difference in any of the children's wages at the time, but run up part of such deficiency of time; the rest a loss to me only.  
 A. 16.—In case of sickness or accidents, the children receive their regular wage; but not those by the piece.  
 A. 17.—About six days in each year.  
 A. 18.—The workpeople receive their usual wage, and the time is not run up.  
 A. 19.—No fines imposed; take them when they come, perhaps scold them.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—I generally have from two to four spare hands for such assistance. Not necessary to have two sets of hands to relieve each other.  
 A. 22.—Yes; under fourteen years, no instrument of any description used, but merely a pinch or a tap.  
 A. 23.—Children from nine to twelve are found necessary, and when learnt from the first period make best hands.  
 A. 24.—Run full time since I entered, barring accidents or defect of water, excepting in last quarter 1831, and first quarter 1832; only five days a week at those times.  
 A. 25.—The usual hours, with the exception named in Answer 24.  
 A. 26.—None.  
 A. 27.—Afraid it will be found impolitic for Government to interfere between master and workpeople, and do not think it at all called for.

JOSEPH FAIRBANK.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. DAVID WRIGHT &amp; Son, Thornton, near Bradford.

No. 278.  
Wright & Son.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning.  
 A. 2.—1826.  
 A. 3.—Steam.  
 A. 4.—Thirty-six horse: part let off for Heald yarn manufactory.  
 A. 5.—One hundred and ten persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3      | 4        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 5      | 11       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4      | 12       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5      | 11       |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 4      | 12       |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 16       |
| 21 and upwards        | 5      | 18       |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.      | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 3d.     | 3s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4s.         | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s. 3d.     | 4s. 9d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.         | 5s. 7d.  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 7s.         | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —           | 7s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 1l. 1s. 6d. | 7s. 6d.  |
- A. 7.—Eleven persons; viz.
- |                       | MALE.          | FEMALES.        |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 16 and under 18 years | 1, earning 8s. | —               |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —              | 1, earning 10s. |
| 21 and upwards        | —              | 9, earning 10s. |
- In a regular week of twelve hours per day.

- A. 8.—None.  
 A. 9.—Overlookers receive the same wage if the engine should stop a month or more; but others are paid after the same rate per hour, with the addition of provisions.  
 A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and terminates forty minutes after seven o'clock at night.  
 A. 12.—Begins at six in the morning, and stops at five o'clock; not made up.  
 A. 13.—Forty minutes are allowed for dinner, viz. from half-past twelve till ten minutes after one o'clock. The parents are not regular in bringing their meals, so that some frames are stopped, others are assisted by the extra hands kept for cleaning the room.  
 A. 14.—Answered in Question 13.  
 A. 15.—If one or two days, partly made up by one hour per day; if a week or more, half wage given, the other not made up, excepting overlookers, who have full wage.  
 A. 16.—In case of sickness, masters and workmen subscribe according to circumstances. Never have had an accident up to the present time, excepting two or three crushed fingers, caused by their own neglect; no abatement made.

A. 17.



- A. 17.—Seven days in the year.  
 A. 18.—They are paid for holidays same as at work.  
 A. 19.—If they make a practice of coming late, say half an hour in a morning or noon, abatement according to their wage, or sent back to their parents.  
 A. 20.—No.  
 A. 21.—No; had no occasion.  
 A. 22.—Not allowed to be struck or touched, but sent home for their parents to correct, or for them to come and see what the fault is.  
 A. 23.—Eleven years is quite young enough; but if you have older hands in the family, they will have the younger also.  
 A. 24.—Cannot state positively, but sure we have not run more than regular time.  
 A. 25.—Cannot answer.  
 A. 26.—No.  
 A. 27.—We do not wish to work children under eleven years, if it was not as stated in Answer 23. Our opinion is, that adults are looking more to themselves than charity towards the children.

DAVID WRIGHT &amp; Son.

Yorkshire.

Wright &amp; Son.

## ANSWERS of JOSEPH KAYE, for Messrs. ROBERTS, KAYE, and DYSON, Carr Bottom, Turnley Tyas.

No. 279.  
Roberts & Co.

- A. 1.—Scribbling and slubbing wool for domestic manufacturers.  
 A. 2.—Built in 1792, and has ever since been applied to its present purpose.  
 A. 3.—Both; a small nameless rill in a remote situation.  
 A. 4.—Steam engine is a common or atmospheric engine, of about ten horse power; the wheel about twelve; and the whole power is applied to the purpose above mentioned by ourselves, and not let off to other parties.

A. 5.—Twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 3        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 2      | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 4      | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.  | 4s. 6d.        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —        | 3s. 6d. to 5s. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 6s.      | —              |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 12s.     | —              |
| 21 and upwards        | 16s. 6d. | —              |

A. 7.—Four males, under 10 years (slubbers), earning about 16s. 6d.; and one, under 21 years, earning 12s., in a regular week of eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—We have four slubbers who pay the small children or piecers themselves; the larger children or feeders are paid by the superintendent or engineer; of the former class we have eight, of the latter four.

A. 9.—We do not work over hours at all; the parents of the children will not allow it.

A. 10.—Generally at about half past six A. M., and terminates at eight o'clock P. M., in summer; at seven, sometimes half past, in winter, and terminate at eight o'clock.

A. 11.—Ours are not at all dependent on such supply; 'tis the only mill on the stream.

A. 12.—It is rather less; we begin on the Saturday morning at half past five o'clock, and give over at half past five in the evening, in summer; in winter, at seven, and give over at four o'clock.

A. 13.—About half an hour for breakfast, at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner, at twelve; half an hour for drinking, in summer, at four o'clock: in winter, we only allow half an hour for dinner; the remainder the same as in the summer season.

A. 14.—All the machines stop at dinner, as well as the engine or water wheel; at breakfast or drinking, the machines cease to move, but the engine or water wheel is generally kept going.

A. 15.—If a misfortune happen, the children or workpeople immediately go home, and return when the accident is repaired to commence work; we do not pay them for the lost time; it is always expected by them that casualties of this kind must happen, and they ought to be prepared: we never work extra hours.

A. 16.—We pay for medical attendance if an accident happen; but we have been very fortunate in this respect, not having been called upon to do so in more than two instances during the last thirty-three years.

A. 17.—Two days at Christmas, half a day at Shrovetide, one day at Easter, three days at Whitsuntide, and half a day at Trinity; in all, seven days.

(APP. C. 1.)

A. 18.



Yorkshire.

Roberts &amp; Co.

A. 18.—They have no allowance for holidays; the time is not made up.

A. 19.—We expect them at the regular time in the morning, and are not very nice with the children; nor are our slubbers, we believe, under whose control part of the children are, at all particular, as the children are in some cases their own or their relations: of course a slubber will always prefer his own children to those of another person.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—Never; in a mill employed for the domestic clothiers, it would be impracticable; the parents of the children would not suffer it; the manufacturers would not encourage the practice; nor would the mill owner find it sufficiently to his advantage, to put in practice what he knows to be opposed to the feelings and habits of the community: where the experiment has been tried, it has been found that more loss than gain has accrued to the mill owner.

A. 22.—They are not.

A. 23.—It does; small children are better adapted for piecing than larger ones; the labour is not great, but requires them to be in continual motion.

A. 24.—We find it impossible to answer this question, as no account has been kept of the number of days the mill has stood still, from scarcity of work, at any time: we think, during the last three years, the mill has been wholly unemployed for about seven weeks,—about a fortnight each year on the average.

A. 25.—We think, that during these periods, the average hours of labour have been about ten and a half or eleven hours. It is very difficult to answer this question, as we have at certain times been not fully employed.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—In our opinion, it will be beneficial not to the children alone, but the masters also, particularly to those persons who carry on domestic manufacture; and ten and a half and eleven hours of labour appear to be quite enough for adults, in a country where more power can be prepared than can ever be required: let the steam engine (which cannot feel), do the chief part of the labour that is required to be done; and let human beings, especially children, be spared, *but not starved* in this land of plenty.

JOSEPH KAYE.

No. 280.

Crossley &amp; Son.

## ANSWERS of JOHN CROSSLEY and Sons, Hebden Bridge, Wadsworth.

A. 1.—Cotton and worsted spinners, and manufacturers by power and hand looms.

A. 2.—Two mills adjoining; the former erected and employed in 1819, the latter in 1822.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Two engines of twenty, the other of thirty horse power.

| A. 5.—Two hundred and fifty persons; viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age                     | —      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years                     | 9      | 16       |
| 12 and under 14 —                         | 1      | 13       |
| 14 and under 16 —                         | 16     | 21       |
| 16 and under 18 —                         | 18     | 18       |
| 18 and under 21 —                         | 6      | 14       |
| 21 and upwards                            | 53     | 55       |

Employed in spinning cotton and worsted, and weaving by power.

| A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:— | MALES.  | FEMALES.        |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Under 10 years of age                 | 1s. 6d. | 1s. 6d.         |
| 10 and under 12 years                 | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.         |
| 12 and under 14 —                     | 4s. 6d. | 4s.             |
| 14 and under 16 —                     | 6s.     | 5s.             |
| 16 and under 18 —                     | 8s.     | 5s. 6d.         |
| 18 and under 21 —                     | 11s.    | 6s.             |
| 21 and upwards                        | 16s.    | 6s. and 6s. 6d. |

A. 7.—One hundred and thirty-six persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1, earning 1s. 6d. | —                  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 4, — 2s. 9d.       | 4, earning 2s. 9d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5, — 5s.           | 6, — 4s. 6d.       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 12, — 6s. 6d.      | 13, — 5s. 6d.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 13, — 9s.          | 10, — 7s.          |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 3, — 11s.          | 5, — 7s. 6d.       |
| 21 and upwards        | 34, — 17s.         | 26, — 8s.          |

In a regular week of sixty-nine hours.

| A. 8.—Thirty-one persons, viz. | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|--------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age          | 1      | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years          | 4      | 4        |
| 12 and under 14 —              | 2      | 2        |
| 14 and under 16 —              | 4      | 3        |
| 16 and under 18 —              | 3      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21                | 2      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards                 | —      | 4        |

A. 9.



A. 9.—The same when any over-hours are worked.

A. 10.—Six o'clock in the morning, and half past seven at night; we vary a little in the regular hours of beginning and ending in spring and autumn, when days are equal on account of making use of all the day-light.

A. 11.—Steam, but often wanting a supply of coals.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on Saturday is nine hours, and no time gained upon the other five to make it up.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner; breakfast at eight o'clock, and dinner at half past twelve; a few do on cleaning day, to clean gearing and machinery, that cannot be done running.

A. 14.—During breakfast and dinner; but we don't stop it for drinking-time in the afternoon.

A. 15.—We don't make a practice of gaining up lost time by accidents, &c. if it amounts to more than an hour or two; if it amounts to a quarter of a day, half a day, or more, the loss time is deducted from their wages next pay day.

A. 16.—We have no fixed allowance, except paying the doctor's bill in case of accidents.

A. 17.—Four whole days, and five, and sometimes six, half days.

A. 18.—They are not paid for any holidays, neither are they gained up; we don't like gaining time, nor our hands either.

A. 19.—We have no fixed rules for fining; but ten to fifteen minutes is generally allowed to elapse beyond the proper time, before any fine is imposed, and frequently much longer time; and on fine, if they don't often make a practice of doing so.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—We never did, nor do we think there is any occasion for it, as men and women above twenty-one, would not be able to stand against two sets of children.

A. 22.—They are not sanctioned, and seldom used; touch their pockets — fining has a much better effect.

A. 23.—We require a few under twelve, for the throstle-room, card-room, and spinning; but would have none under twelve if they could afford to work for the same price as those under ten; we have very few, and those we have, are to accommodate their parents.

A. 24.—We cannot answer you; for 1830 and 1831, not having an account of the lost time by stoppages, &c.; but for 1832 we can give a full statement, which is as follows:—

1831. 1st Quarter, 77 days, 13 Saturdays. 2d Quarter, 71 days, 12 Saturdays.  
3d — 77 days, 13 — 4th — 76½ days, 13 —

At Whitsuntide, in the second quarter, we stopped one whole week, which lost one Saturday

A. 25.—In 1832, 1st quarter, 885 hours. 2d quarter, 826 hours.  
3d — 891 — 4th — 879 —

A. 26.—We are not aware that any particular alteration have taken place since the last act of parliament was passed, which has been complied with as near as possible.

A. 27.—We think that if all descriptions of mills were made to follow up the last act by J. C. Hobhouse, there would be no reasonable ground of complaint, neither by masters nor workmen; but so long as one part are allowed to run fourteen or fifteen hours a day with impunity, there is no chance for the man that runs twelve. If any alteration is made, we should say, not under ten years of age; and the time, twelve and nine hours, without gaining up any lost time.

JOHN CROSSLEY, Jun.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN SUTCLIFFE, Midge Hole, Wadsworth.

No. 281.

John Sutcliffe.

A. 1.—Cotton throstle spinning.

A. 2.—It is probably more than fifty years since its erection; and has always been employed either in mule or throstle spinning.

A. 3.—Only water, from Crimsworth Becks.

A. 4.—Five horse power, and I employ the whole of it.

A. 5.—Seventeen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 5        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 6d.  | 2s. 6d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d.  | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.      | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —        | 6s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 10s. 6d. | 10s. 6d. |

A. 7.—I have none that are paid by piece-work.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—I always pay them regular wages: I do not abate them for short time, nor pay them extra wages for above time.

(APP.—C. 1.)

4 H

A. 10.



Yorkshire.

John Sutcliffe.

A. 10.—When we have a regular supply of water, we begin at six o'clock, and give over at half past seven.

A. 11.—My mill is the first that receives the water. In drouthy times we sometimes begin at five o'clock, and give over at eight or nine, stopping at different times in the day.

A. 12.—I mostly work nine hours and a half on a Saturday, except in drouthy times, when we are not regular.

A. 13.—We stop one hour for dinner at present, from twelve to one. We used to stop half an hour for breakfast; but as most of the children come from a distance, and their parents could not be regular with it, they wished me to discontinue it, and give over half an hour sooner.

A. 14.—The moving power stops during dinner, at other times they assist one another; so that they can sit down and take their meals with comfort.

A. 15.—We make it up as much as we can by working extra hours, one hour per day, five days in the week. We always pay regular wages, but we have been much more short of time than we have worked above time.

A. 16.—For accidents we always pay them, and for short sicknesses, unless we think it is for idleness.

A. 17.—Two holidays, and six half holidays.

A. 18.—We always pay our workpeople for holiday-time; and, unless we are short of water, we make it up by working half an hour per day extra.

A. 19.—We have no fines in this respect.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; nor do I think it necessary, because the children have very easy work, and are as comfortable here as they would be at home. To work two sets of children would be very injurious to the parents, and, I think, would have a bad effect upon the children, as their parents would not send them to school if they were at liberty.

A. 22.—No; corporal punishments are neither sanctioned nor practised here; and I think there has been too much said on this subject, as, in no mills that I ever worked in, had a tenth of the corporal punishments been inflicted as is to be found in the best schools of our land.

A. 23.—Yes; in doffing bobbins from the throstles.

A. 24.—Having had a great deal to stop for water, I cannot pretend to answer this question, as I never kept account.

A. 25.—In this I am the same as last.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—In my humble opinion, if Lord Ashley's Bill should come into operation, it would greatly affect both masters and servants. First, because it would materially reduce the wages of the workpeople, and throw many children out of employ. Secondly, it would greatly affect the small spinners and manufacturers, and cause many of them to become bankrupts, thus giving an advantage to the great capitalists, of monopolising to themselves the whole trade. Thirdly, it would materially injure our foreign trade; and strike a blow at the cotton trade, from which it will never recover; as it will give an advantage to foreign countries over us, where there are no restrictions on labour; and I should like to ask Lord Ashley and Mr. Sadler, who it will benefit.

JOHN SUTCLIFFE.

No. 282.

Walker &  
Edmondson.

ANSWERS of Messrs. WALKER and EDMONDSON, Mytholmroyd, Wadsworth.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—About the year 1792.

A. 3.—Steam and water power; on the river Calder.

A. 4.—About forty-six horse steam power, and about thirty horse water power, when the water is regular.

A. 5.—Two hundred and seventy-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. |    |   | FEMALES. |    |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----|---|----------|----|--|
| 6 to 8 years of age   | -      | 11 | - | -        | 6  |  |
| 8 to 10 —             | -      | 29 | - | -        | 21 |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 10 | - | -        | 21 |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 22 | - | -        | 19 |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 10 | - | -        | 16 |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 3  | - | -        | 20 |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 3  | - | -        | 20 |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 34 | - | -        | 33 |  |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. |                        |   | FEMALES. |                        |  |
|-----------------------|--------|------------------------|---|----------|------------------------|--|
| 6 to 8 years of age   | -      | 1s. 1d.                | - | -        | 1s. 3d.                |  |
| 8 to 10 —             | -      | 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. | - | -        | 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. |  |
| 10 and under 12 years | -      | 2s. 2d.                | - | -        | 2s. 3d.                |  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | -      | 2s. 8d.                | - | -        | 3s.                    |  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | -      | 3s. 7d.                | - | -        | 4s. 11d.               |  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | -      | 3s. 6d.                | - | -        | 5s.                    |  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | -      | 10s. 8d.               | - | -        | 5s. 5d.                |  |
| 21 and upwards        | -      | 15s.                   | - | -        | 5s. 11d.               |  |

A. 8.



- A. 8.—None.
- A. 9.—When any over-time is made, the pay is the same as their weekly wages, or perhaps a little more.
- A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock in the evening.
- A. 11.—Water and steam power; when short, or an excess of water, more steam power is used; when the water is regular, the reverse.
- A. 12.—The regular day's work on a Saturday is one hour less than the other days of the week, and not made up.
- A. 13.—One hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.
- A. 14.—The moving power stops from twelve to one o'clock; the overlookers, drawers twisters, and spinners, take their breakfast and drinking while the moving power is going on; but each sits down to take the same about a quarter of an hour each meal.
- A. 15.—If any time is lost through repairs, defect or excess of water, it is a loss to the workpeople as well as ourselves; we work no extra time.
- A. 16.—We make no allowance to the hands during sickness; in case of accidents, we generally pay their wages and surgeon's bill.
- A. 17.—Shrove Tuesday, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, Midsummer, and the first Friday in August, each half a day holiday, and at Christmas two days holiday; they are not paid for any holiday-time, nor is it made up at any other time.
- A. 18.—We have no fines; if any of the hands cannot attend when the bell rings, they come at nine o'clock, which is called quartering time; if practised too often by any person in good health, we should discharge the party so offending, in preference to a fine.
- A. 19.—None.
- A. 20 & 21.—No.
- A. 22.—We sanction no severe punishment to any of our hands; it has been our invariable rule, for the last fifteen or twenty years, to give orders to our foreman and overlookers, that if they met with any mischievous or unruly hands, to send him or her home before they misused them, as we would not allow of it; which plan we have always found to answer best, as it had the effect of deterring others from committing the like offence.
- A. 23.—It does; the greatest number of children employed in our works are spinners.
- A. 24 & 25.—These questions we cannot answer correctly, as in the time specified we have run our machinery sometimes a day, three quarters of a day, and even half a day, and paid the hands accordingly.
- A. 26.—None.
- A. 27.—If the hours of labour for factories are to be stipulated by act of parliament, we think six o'clock and seven o'clock to end the day would be very proper, with half an hour for breakfast, one hour for dinner, and half an hour for drinking; the moveable power not to be in motion during the said times. If less time be stated, we are of opinion that it will militate materially against the working class in a flat or depressed state of trade, as many will reduce their wages or discharge a certain portion of their hands.

WALKER &amp; EDMONDSON.

Yorkshire.

Walker &  
Edmondson.

## ANSWERS of JOHN ALDERSON, Hoyle Bottom, Warley.

No. 283.  
John Alderson.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning.
- A. 2.—The application to its present purpose in 1829.
- A. 3.—Water; Cold Edge Dams.
- A. 4.—Four-horse power. I employ the whole.
- A. 5.—Fifteen persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | —      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14       | —      | 4        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | 2      | —        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.      | FEMALES.    |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2, 8s.      | 1, 8s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | —           | 2, 7s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | —           | 4, 15s. 6d. |
| 14 and under 16       | 1, 14s. 3d. | 2, 14s. 3d. |
| 18 and under 21       | —           | 1, 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 2, 20s.     | —           |
- A. 7.—Two males, twenty-one years of age and upwards, earning 15s.
- A. 8.—None.
- A. 9.—It is the same.
- A. 10.—In summer, commences at six, and stops at seven; winter, at day-light, and stops at nine.
- A. 11.—Not dependant on other mills, but on the weather; sometimes we begin at one time, and sometimes at another.
- A. 12.—It is less, and not made up in any way.
- (APP.—C. 1.)

A. 13.



Yorkshire.

John Alderson.

A. 13.—We stop at twelve; one hour in summer, and half an hour in winter; to breakfast and tea we have sufficient hands that two or three may take it at a time.

A. 14.—It stops for dinner.

A. 15.—In case of accident, we pay them if it is only a few days; but if for a length of time, we do not.

A. 16.—In case of sickness or accident, as before, in the last question.

A. 17.—Two whole days and nine half days.

A. 18.—We pay them for it, and it is not made up in any way.

A. 19.—We have no fines at all.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—This does not apply to our kind of work.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—No; but those children that learn before that age are the most expert; their work is to attend the spinning-frames.

A. 24.—We have kept no account, consequently we cannot answer you in this point.

A. 25.—The same as the last.

A. 26.—No alterations only the trade union have struck against us, and we have been obliged to give an advance for combing.

A. 27.—Our commencing and ending in drougthy seasons are so irregular, that if an act of parliament was to pass to compel us to begin and stop at one certain hour, it would be very much against us; only let us begin when we can, and bind us to the number of hours. I am an advocate for an eleven hours bill under the above conditions.

JOHN ALDERSON.

No. 284.

Wm. Appleyard.

## ANSWERS of WILLIAM APLEYARD, Wainstall, Warley.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—One mill in 1821, one in 1826, and one in 1831.

A. 3.—Water; Cold Edge Dams.

A. 4.—One wheel five-horse, one seven-horse, and one nine-horse: I employ them all myself.

A. 5.—Ninety-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 10     | 10       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 15     | 13       |
| 12 and under 14       | 9      | 13       |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18       | 1      | 6        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 8        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1s. 11d. | 2s. 5d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 2d.  | 3s. 3d.  |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 8d.  | 3s. 8d.  |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 6d.  | 4s. 6d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | 9s.      | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 20s.     | 5s. 6d.  |

A. 7.—Twenty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES.             | FEMALES.           |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 1, earning 8s.     | 1, earning 8s.     |
| 14 and under 16       | 2, earning 9s. 6d. | 2, earning 9s. 6d. |
| 16 and under 18       | 2, earning 9s. 6d. | 4, earning 9s. 6d. |
| 18 and under 21       | —                  | 8, earning 9s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 2, earning 9s. 6d. | 1, earning 9s. 6d. |

In a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Double.

A. 10.—In summer, commences at six, and terminates at seven; winter, daylight, and terminates at nine.

A. 11.—Not dependant on other mills; entirely on the weather: in drougthy seasons the hours very irregular.

A. 12.—It is less, and not made up in any way.

A. 13.—We stop at twelve, one hour in summer and half an hour in winter; to breakfast, we have a sufficient number of hands, which are doffers, that relieve the others while they get it.

A. 14.—It stops for dinner: for remainder of question refer to Question 13.

A. 15.—In case of accidents, we pay our workpeople for full time; and owing to regulations agreed, from the dams, we cannot make it up by working extra hours, therefore we lose it.

A. 16.—In cases of accidents, we allow them their wages the whole time; and also for illness, unless it be a long time—say some weeks.

A. 17.—Two whole days, and nine half days.

A. 18.—We pay them for it; and they do not make it up.

A. 19.



A. 19.—We have no regular rules; but hereto we have not abated them, only when the lost time amounts to half a day in a week; for disobedience, we dismiss them, or threaten them to that effect.

A. 20.—Only one set.

A. 21.—This question does not apply to our description of work.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Not exactly; but children who learn before that age are generally the most expert hands; their work is to attend to the spinning frames.

A. 24 & 25.—We have kept no accounts; consequently, I cannot answer this question.

A. 26.—No; save the interference of the trades' union, which we have been obliged to comply with.

A. 27.—See Question 11. I answer there, that the hours, in drouthy seasons, commencing and ending are very irregular, owing to want of water; therefore, if an act of parliament be passed to strictly commence at a certain hour and end, we that are supplied by water would suffer many disadvantages from other mill-owners; consequently, we supplicate you will leave the time of commencing and ending at our own discretion. I am an advocate for an eleven hours bill, under the above conditions.

WILLIAM APPLEYARD.

Yorkshire.

Wm. Appleyard.

ANSWERS of Messrs. J. and J. CALVERT, Wainstalls, Warley.

No. 285.

J. & J. Calvert.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—1831.

A. 3.—Water. Cold Edge Dams.

A. 4.—Five horse. The whole ourselves.

A. 5.—Nineteen persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3      | 5        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 1        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2s. 9d. | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | —       | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —       | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | —       | 6s.      |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Double.

A. 10.—In summer, we commence at six o'clock, and terminate at seven; in winter, at daylight, and terminate at nine.

A. 11.—Not dependent on other mills, but entirely on the weather; in drouthy seasons, the hours very irregular.

A. 12.—It is less, and not made up in any way.

A. 13.—We stop at twelve; one hour in summer, and half an hour in winter. To breakfast and tea, the workpeople go a few at a time, and stay until they can get it comfortably, the length of time is not strictly attended to; there being always a sufficiency of hands to make up for their absence.

A. 14.—It stops for dinner: for remainder of question refer to 13.

A. 15.—In cases of accidents, &c. we pay our workpeople for full time; and owing to regulations agreed to, respecting the run of water from the dams, we cannot make it up, by working extra hours, therefore we lose it.

A. 16.—In cases of accident, we pay them full time, and also for illness; unless it be a long one, say some weeks.

A. 17.—Two whole days, and nine half days.

A. 18.—We pay them for it, and they do not make it up.

A. 19.—We have no regular rule; hitherto, we have not abated them, if the lost time did not amount to half a day in a week; for disobedience, we dismiss them, or threaten them to that effect.

A. 20.—We do not.

A. 21.—This question does not apply to our description of work.

A. 22.—Not sanctioned.

A. 23.—Not exactly; but children who learn before that age, generally make the most expert hands; their work is to attend to the spinning frames.

A. 24 & 25.—We have kept no accounts; consequently, cannot answer this question.

A. 26.—Previous to 1831, it was a cotton mill.

(APP.—C. 1.)

4 I

A. 27.



Yorkshire.

*J. & J. Calvert.*

A. 27.—In drougthy seasons, our hours of commencing and ending are very irregular, owing to the want of water; consequently, we consider an act of parliament, fixing the particular hour of the day, would be highly disadvantageous to us and other owners of water mills. We are advocates for eleven hours a day, but consider it would be far better to leave the time of starting to our discretion.

J. &amp; J. CALVERT.

No. 286.

*George Greenup.*

## ANSWERS of GEO. GREENUP, Sowerby Bridge, Warley.

A. 1.—Woollen carding, spinning, and fulling.

A. 2.—1793.

A. 3.—The power is water, and the river the Calder.

A. 4.—I have two water-wheels, each of the power of fifteen horse, and entirely employed by myself.

A. 5.—Eighty-seven persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | 20     | 22       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 6      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | 5      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 26     | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  |
|-----------------------|---------|
| 12 and under 14 years | 3s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | 21s.    |

A. 7.—Twenty-two males, twenty-one years and upwards, earning 21s., in a regular week of sixty-eight hours.

A. 8.—The children that piecen the cardings are all paid by the spinners.

A. 9.—The pay of the adults for over-time is the same as the standing weekly wages, but the pay of the children for over-time is double.

A. 10.—The regular hour for beginning the day's work is six o'clock in the morning, and terminates at eight o'clock in the evening, with the intermission of two hours for meals.

A. 11.—Although we are dependent upon the supply of water, our hours for commencing and terminating are always the same.

A. 12.—The regular day's work on a Saturday is two hours less than on the other days of the week, and the time is not made up in any manner on the other five days.

A. 13.—The time allowed for breakfast is half an hour, from eight to half past; an hour for dinner, from twelve to one; and half an hour for drinking, from five to half past.

A. 14.—The moving power never stops; but they never take their meals whilst at work, but relieve one another.

A. 15.—I never require time to be made up, either when the mill stands for want of water, or when there is too much, or when there are any repairs required; therefore it is solely my loss.

A. 16.—If the hands remain away from sickness, they are abated for the time they are away, as almost all are in sick-clubs.

A. 17.—Seven half days and six whole days.

A. 18.—I never make any abatement for holidays, and the time is not made up at any other time.

A. 19.—I do not fine my workpeople for absence or irregularity, but turn them away if they do not attend regularly.

A. 20.—I run part of my mill in the night as well as the day: the night-set come on at seven in the evening, and work till six the next morning, with the intermission of one hour for their meals.

A. 21.—I have never employed more than one set of children.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are not sanctioned.

A. 23.—The spinners require several children under twelve years of age to piecen the cardings; they are generally the children of the spinners.

A. 24.—The machinery has always been at work, except on holidays, and when any accident has happened to the machinery.

A. 25.—I have kept no account.

A. 26.—No.

GEO. GREENUP.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. MOSES and SAMUEL MORLEY, Sowerby Bridge, Warley.

No. 287.

*M. & S. Morley.*

A. 1.—Worsted.

A. 2.—Its application to worsted, March 1st 1833.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Thirty horse power, of which we have a part.

A. 5.



A. 5.—Twenty-nine persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 1      | 1        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 6        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 1        |
| 21 and upwards        | —      | 3        |

Yorkshire.

M. & S. Morley.

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s. 6d. | 3s. 6d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | —       | 4s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —       | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | —       | 6s. 6d.  |

A. 7 &amp; 8.—None.

A. 9.—No over hours.

A. 10.—Six o'clock all the year.

A. 11.—Steam.

A. 12.—Saturday, nine hours and forty minutes; the other five days, twelve hours and forty minutes.

A. 13.—Fifty minutes for dinner is the only one we have.

A. 14.—Stops fifty minutes, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock, for dinner; some have time to sit down a few minutes; spinners and twisters assist one another as well as they can, at breakfast and drinking.

A. 15.—We make the lost time up by half an hour per day, except the time lost be two or three days, in which case we lose one half, and bate the hands for the same. This applies to the steam-engine standing only.

A. 16.—Sickness is bated for. Accidents, we have had none.

A. 18.—Holidays paid for as usual, and no part of them made up at any other time.

A. 19.—We practise no fining.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No; we think eleven hours is long enough for either adults or children.

A. 22.—We send them home to their mothers if words will not do.

A. 23.—Yes; for this reason worsted machinery is low, and those nine years of age will manage the work with as much ease, or more, than those of twelve years: the greatest number of young children is employed at the spinning frames.

A. 27.—We think that an act of parliament is highly necessary, and that eleven hours per day for five days, and nine hours for Saturdays, is long enough; it would improve the health and morals of the labouring classes, and destroy an unnatural competition. We, the undersigned, have been labourers in cotton and worsted mills twenty or thirty years.

MOSES MORLEY.

SAMUEL MORLEY.

## ANSWERS of THOMAS MURGATROYD, Lumb, Warley.

No. 288.

Thos. Murgatroyd.

A. 1.—Worsted spinning.

A. 2.—In the year 1828.

A. 3.—Water power; from Cold Edge reservoirs.

A. 4.—Five horse power; I employ it myself.

A. 5.—Twenty persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 —     | 3      | 2        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 1      | 2        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 6d. | 2s. 6d.  |
| 10 and under 12 —     | 3s. 9d. | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s.     | 4s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 22s.    | 9s.      |

In a regular week of twelve hours per day.

A. 7 &amp; 8.—We have none by the piece.

A. 9.—We do not make over-hours.

A. 10.—In the summer season begin at six, and terminate at seven; and in winter, begin at daylight, and make twelve hours.

A. 11.—In winter regular, and in summer irregular.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 12.



Yorkshire.

T. Murgatroyd.

- A. 12.—Two hours and a half less on Saturday; half an hour per day on the other five to make up.
- A. 13.—For dinner one hour; breakfast and drinking not exactly all at one time.
- A. 14.—For dinner, we stop one hour: breakfast and drinking, the power does not stop; I have a few hands over to relieve them.
- A. 15.—I don't make up any lost time.
- A. 16.—In cases of accidents we allow them their wages the whole time; and also for illness, unless for some weeks.
- A. 17.—Two whole days, and nine half days.
- A. 18.—Paid for, but not made up.
- A. 19.—For a quarter of an hour, not fined; if more, in proportion to their wage.
- A. 20.—Not more than one set of hands.
- A. 21.—No.
- A. 22.—Not sanctioned.
- A. 23.—From nine to fourteen, the best for spinning.
- A. 24 & 25.—I cannot answer these questions, not having kept an account.
- A. 26.—Not any, save the trades' union I have had to comply with.
- A. 27.—Eleven hours to work; but not for water mills to be limited when to begin and when to terminate, for it would be a great loss, the water not being regular.

THOMAS MURGATROYD.

## ANSWERS of R. WHITWORTH and Co. Peel House, Warley.

No. 287.  
B. Whitmore & Co.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning.
- A. 2.—It was erected in 1818 and 1819; commenced work in the latter end of 1819.
- A. 3.—Water-power; it is turned by Luddenden Dean Brook, likewise supplied from a reservoir from Cold Edge in Warley.
- A. 4.—The wheel is about sixteen horse power; we employ it all.

A. 5.—Forty-eight persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 4      | 5        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 2      | 10       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 5      | 8        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 1        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 4        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 1      | 4        |
| 21 and upwards        | 1      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.     | 2s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s. 3d. | 2s. 9d.  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.     | 4s. 3d.  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 4s. 3d. | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —       | 5s. 6d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | 17s.    | 5s. 6d.  |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s.    | 6s.      |

- A. 7.—When there is plenty of water, we work seventy-eight hours.
- A. 8.—None.
- A. 9.—As near as we can reckon, we give them twice as much for over hours, or nearly, averaging all the hands together.
- A. 10.—At six o'clock, and terminates at eight o'clock. The hours are alike as to commencing and giving up, when we have plenty of water, at all times.
- A. 11.—Does not so much depend on other mills, but on the wet or dry seasons; the commencement and ending of the work varies according to the seasons.
- A. 12.—Yes. It is not made up.
- A. 13.—They generally get their breakfast at about eight o'clock, but they have their work to attend to besides; at dinner-time they are allowed half an hour, which is from twenty minutes past twelve o'clock to ten minutes to one o'clock; at tea time they do the same as at breakfast, only get it at four o'clock. All take their meals at once.
- A. 14.—The moving power only stops at dinner-time. See Answer 13.
- A. 15.—In case of being short of water in the summer season, we can only partly make up the time lost; which is done by dividing the hands into three lots, or parts; the first lot to come at four o'clock in the morning, and work until four o'clock in the afternoon; and when it is very droughty they have during that time about two hours of relaxation, independent of dinner-time; the second lot have to stop the usual hours, but they have more relaxation; the third lot begin at noon, and work until twelve o'clock at night; but after all, it is greatly inadequate to regular work, as the time is lost to us, but not to them, neither is it made up by them: if water-mills were confined to a stated number of hours for working, it would be ruinous to those that have not sufficient reservoirs.
- A. 16.—The hands are never abated for absence proceeding from any misfortune that may have happened on our premises.
- A. 17.—Three regular days, seven half days.

A. 18.



- A. 18.—They are paid for holiday time; it is not made up.
- A. 19.—If any of the hands make a regular practice of coming too late to their work, they are sent home when so doing till the quartering time, and abated for it; and if they are only a few minutes too late now and then, they are only requested to come sooner in future.
- A. 20.—Only one set of hands.
- A. 21.—No, it would be too expensive; likewise, it would not support the children.
- A. 22.—No.
- A. 23.—Not exactly, but children that learn before that time generally make the best hands.
- A. 24 & 25.—We cannot speak to these questions, but are convinced, from what notice we have taken, that our mill hands have not worked above eleven hours in the day since the beginning of 1830, averaging the wet and dry seasons together.
- A. 26.—No.
- A. 27.—If a Bill is passed for limiting the labour of children in factories to ten hours in the day, and no separate provisions made for water-mills, as to allowing them to make up part of the deficiency arising from being short of water, it would be productive of the most serious consequences to all persons therein interested; as, if we were to calculate on the weather being as it has been since 1830, we should not average above seven hours and a half per day; and since that time there has been no very drouthy weather, to compare with what there was in 1826. Also, was this Bill to pass, it would oblige all worsted-spinners who are manufacturers to turn off one sixth part of their weavers and combers, which would produce almost unexampled distress for some time.
- As to the health of children in country factories, they are as healthy as any other part of the community, and in a deal better circumstances.

R. WHITWORTH &amp; Co.

Yorkshire.  
Whitworth & Co.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. SAMUEL and WILLIAM SMITH, Ludendenfoot, Warley.

No. 290.  
S. & W. Smith.

- A. 1.—Worsted spinning.
- A. 2.—December 1827, Denholm mill. June 1832, Cooperhouse mill.
- A. 3.—Denholm mill, steam. Cooperhouse mill, water; river Caldar.
- A. 4.—Denholm mill, fourteen-horse power. Cooperhouse mill, eight-horse power. Solely occupied by ourselves.
- A. 5.—One hundred and twenty-five persons; viz.
- |                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 14     | 10       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 18     | 13       |
| 12 and under 14       | 12     | 9        |
| 14 and under 16       | 4      | 13       |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 13       |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | 9        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 4        |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       | MALES.  | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s. 3d. | 2s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.     | 3s.      |
| 12 and under 14       | 3s. 6d. | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 4s. 3d. | 4s. 7d.  |
| 16 and under 18       | —       | 5s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 11s.    | 6s.      |
| 21 and upwards        | 17s.    | 6s.      |
- A. 8.—None.
- A. 9.—We work no over-hours.
- A. 10.—From six in the morning till eight at night.
- A. 11.—Having not worked it long, and not having kept a regular account, cannot particularly say; but we have often lost three days a week in drouthy weather, also in winter the same, in consequence of back-water; in one and the same day we have been short of water, and in back-water.
- A. 12.—On Saturday we begin at the regular hour, and stop at five o'clock in the afternoon; but never run longer than the time above stated on other days.
- A. 13.—Fifty minutes are allowed for dinner, and that is all the time we stop, from commencing in the morning to giving up at night; and all hands go to dinner at the same time.
- A. 14.—The whole time.
- A. 15.—In case we do not stop more than two days at once, we always pay for the whole week, and fifty-two weeks in the year.
- A. 16.—In accidents we always pay them their full wages.
- A. 17.—Christmas, two days; Shrove Tuesday, half a day; Easter, two half days; Whitsuntide, two half days; Halifax fair, half a day; Sowerby Bridge tide, half a day; November, quarter of a day. Total, four days and three-quarters.
- A. 18.—They are paid for all the holidays above stated.
- A. 19.—We do not practise fining; if they stop away regularly we quarter them, when they stop away a quarter of a day.

(APP.—C. 1.)

4 K

A. 20.



Yorkshire.

S. &amp; W. Smith.

A. 20.—Yes; they come to work at eight o'clock at night, and give over at six in the morning; we allow half an hour at twelve at night, for refreshment.

A. 21.—We never have employed more than one set of hands for working the time above stated: we have no objections.

A. 22.—We desire their parents to correct them, to save us the trouble.

A. 23.—Throstle-spinning.

A. 24.—We have no particular account.

A. 25.—Cannot say.

A. 26.—Nothing particular.

A. 27.—It is not likely that an Act of Parliament will give satisfaction to all parties concerned; we think that the less it is meddled with the better; should it be legislated on, twelve hours for five days a week, and ten on Saturday.

SAMUEL &amp; WILLIAM SMITH.

No. 291.  
Anderson &  
Brother.

## ANSWERS of Messrs. ANDERSON and Brother, Wilsden.

A. 1.—The spinning of worsted yarns.

A. 2.—In the year 1810.

A. 3.—Steam.

A. 4.—Eight to ten-horse power; employed by ourselves.

A. 5.—Eighty-three persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 8      | 12       |
| 10 and under 12 years | 7      | 11       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 2      | 10       |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 2      | 8        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —      | 7        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —      | 5        |
| 21 and upwards —      | 7      | 4        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES.       | FEMALES.       |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2s.          | 2s.            |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.          | 3s.            |
| 12 and under 14 —     | 4s.          | 4s.            |
| 14 and under 16 —     | 5s.          | 5s.            |
| 16 and under 18 —     | —            | 6s.            |
| 18 and under 21 —     | —            | 6s. 6d. to 7s. |
| 21 and upwards —      | 15s. to 25s. | 7s. to 9s.     |

A. 7.—Two females, twenty-one and upwards, earning 7s. to 9s. per week.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—We have no over-hours, except as in 15.

A. 10.—At six o'clock in the morning, and concludes at half past seven o'clock at night, during the summer season. At seven o'clock in the morning, and concludes at half past eight o'clock at night, during the winter season; Saturdays one hour less, as mentioned at 12. Dinner hour allowed out of the above, as mentioned at 13.

A. 11.—Not a water mill.

A. 12.—One hour less on Saturdays: one hour more on each of the other days.

A. 13.—Forty minutes allowed for dinner, say twelve o'clock; nearly all the same as to meal-times.

A. 14.—During dinner hour.

A. 15.—Should our works stand for days or weeks through accident, the wages are regularly paid, without making up lost time, except in trivial cases, say for the length of a few hours. We abandon the idea of making up days or weeks; in such a case it is our loss. If our mechanical men should work over-time, in such instances they are paid for it.

A. 16.—Should they be from their work on account of any accident received while engaged at their work, their wages are paid them, as well as the doctor's bill, if any; but not in case of regular sickness.

A. 17.—Say eight or nine days.

A. 18.—Say three days allowed at Christmas, three days at our feast, and the remaining two or three days at Fastness Eve, Easter, Whitsuntide, &c. When they are off for their own pleasure, of course their wages are not paid. That time is not made up.

A. 19.—We deduct for absent time from their wages; no fines.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—Yes; the piecing of ends of threads.

A. 24.—One week is the same as another, and one quarter as another, and one year as another with us; we profess to work the same one time as another; so of course there are as many Saturdays as Thursdays, and Thursdays as Tuesdays, &c.

A. 25.—One as another.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We say, let us have an Act of Parliament, allowing us to work as many hours per day as we please, not exceeding twelve hours for the first five days in the week, nor ten for



for the Saturday; that is, not to exceed seventy hours per week for children; but not to interfere with adults: one stoppage per day for dinner, not exceeding one hour.

CHRIST. ANDERSON & Brother.

Yorkshire.

Anderson &  
Brother.

No. 292.  
Nichols & Co.

ANSWERS of MESSRS. RICHARD NICHOLS and Co., Hewnden Mill, Wilsden.

A. 1.—Spinning of worsted yarn.

A. 2.—It was erected, and commenced spinning worsted yarn, in 1792.

A. 3.—The original power is the water of a beck running into the river Aire near Bingley; a steam-engine was added last year.

A. 4.—The power of the wheel, with a sufficiency of water, is about ten horses, and that of the engine the same; none of this power being let off or employed for other uses.

A. 5.—Fifty-six persons; viz.

|                       |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 4      | - | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 4      | - | 12       |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 1      | - | 5        |
| 14 and under 16       | - | 2      | - | 7        |
| 16 and under 18 -     | - | —      | - | 5        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | —      | - | 5        |
| 21 and upwards —      | - | 4      | - | 5        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       |   | MALES.   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|----------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 2s.      | - | 2s. 3d.  |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 3s. 1½d. | - | 3s. 3½d. |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 3s.      | - | 4s. 3½d. |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 3s. 6d.  | - | 4s. 2½d. |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | —        | - | 5s. 5d.  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | —        | - | 6s. 3½d. |
| 21 and upwards —      | - | 18s. 6d. | - | 6s. 10d. |

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Yes; but there are no over-wages to draw (the children only working twelve hours per day, unless to make up lost time), except where children are employed who were not employed when the time was lost, in which case they are paid at the same rate as for regular time.

A. 10.—A regular day's work begins at 6 A.M. and ends at a quarter past seven P.M. in summer; and at seven P.M. in winter. The quarter of an hour less in winter is taken off the dinner time, as those who live the more distant from their work bring their dinners then; and daylight being short, that quarter of an hour is saved in lighting up.

A. 11.—Being the highest mill on the stream, it is not dependent on any above. The engine is employed the more, as the water falls short.

A. 12.—The day's work is one hour and a quarter shorter than on other days, that time being made up by an additional quarter of an hour on the other five days.

A. 13.—One hour in summer, and three quarters of an hour in winter, is allowed for dinner time; breakfast and afternoon drinking are sent at the discretion of the parents as to time, about eight o'clock and four o'clock.

A. 14.—The mill stands during the time allowed for dinner; the children find ample time during their occupation in "tenting" the spinning and preparing frames, for breakfast and afternoon drinking; reelers, warpers, winders, &c., whose occupations are continuous, are allowed to desist from them while taking those two meals.

A. 15.—Time lost by accidents, &c. is generally made up by us by over-hours (the parents preferring that plan to a deduction of wage), not exceeding half an hour per day, or half a day per week; the children are not paid for such extra time, no deduction being made from their wage for the time lost.

A. 16.—No time is allowed by rule to any hand off from sickness, but it is deducted from the wage; no accident has occurred in this mill (so far as we know or can learn) to any employed therein, of such a nature as to cause absence from such employment, since its erection, except one instance of injury to a boy's fingers many years ago, caused by his own carelessness.

A. 17.—Five hours on Shrove Tuesday; one day on Easter Monday; one day on Easter Tuesday; half a day on Whit Monday; half a day on Whit Tuesday. Two or three days at Bingley Feast; two or three hours on November 5th; two or three days at Christmas, according to the demands of business.

A. 18.—The holidays of Easter, Bingley Feast, and Christmas, are deducted from the wages; the others generally not deducted, but made up by over-work. The overlookers are paid for all holidays, in consideration of being occupied occasionally beyond their time.

A. 19.—In such cases it is not our practice to punish by fines; if admonition do not produce reformation, the child is dismissed, or suspended two or three days from its work. If any child be a quarter of an hour or upwards too late, such time is deducted as one hour. We have rarely occasion to resort to either alternative.

A. 20.—No.

A. 21.—No. As far as we can judge by observation in our district, the parents would be much opposed to the children working only half time, not being able to afford the consequent diminution of wage. See Answer 27.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 22.



Yorkshire.

Nichols &amp; Co.

A. 22.—We do not sanction corporal punishments; we never found, personally, any instance of a cane or strap being used in a mill for such purpose. We are of opinion, that a constant use of personal correction is uncalled for, and, in a majority of instances, unproductive of any good effect.

A. 23.—No operation in a worsted mill absolutely requires the employment of children under twelve years of age; but tenting spinning frames, especially doffing or changing the bobbins, is an operation in which children under that age are advantageously employed, and, under proper management, without any detriment to themselves.

A. 24.—We cannot answer this question correctly with regard to 1830. The machinery has been at work every day during these years, except Sundays, the holidays before specified, and when stopped by accidents or repairs. During 1831, six days were lost from accidents or repairs, not including holidays; in 1832, none.

A. 25.—1831. From July 1 to Sept. 30, seventy-seven days, including thirteen Saturdays, 824½ hours: Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, seventy-one days, including thirteen Saturdays, 878 hours. 1832. From Jan. 1 to March 31, seventy-seven days, including thirteen Saturdays, 854½ hours: April 1 to June 30, seventy-six days, including thirteen Saturdays, 942 hours: July 1 to Sept. 30, seventy-six days, including thirteen Saturdays, 975 hours: Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, seventy-five days, including twelve Saturdays, 941 hours.

A. 26.—In consequence of the great loss of time from shortness of water in 1831, five hours per week were gained by over-work, during the summer of 1832, instead of half an hour per day only as stated in Answer 15; a steam-engine having been erected in the intervening winter to obviate such irregularity in the supply of power. Under former managers the loss was mostly deducted from the wages, and part of the machinery has stood for three months together. A statement is appended, showing the loss of time previous to the erection of the engine.

A. 27.—We disapprove entirely of legislative interference with commerce; but do not object to the reasonable limitation of the hours of labour of children. We should oppose a restriction to any time less than eleven hours, for these reasons:—That an immense number of contracts being founded on the present state of things, and calculated on its continuance, an alteration to a period less than eleven hours is too oppressive on the parties thereto, and would too materially affect the stability of trade, unless three years or upwards notice were given. We concede that ten hours, abstractedly, is more than sufficient daily labour for children. That unless some absolute and positive provision be made for the instruction of the children, their morals would not by any means be improved by a decrease of the hours of labour, since their opportunity of associating with bad company would thereby be increased; neither would their health be promoted, as, especially in winter, they would expose themselves to the inclemency of the weather, probably in insufficient clothing. That no ill effects from their employment for eleven or twelve hours have resulted, as far as our observations extend, neither is their health prejudiced thereby. We can affirm this to be the case in our mill. That unless positive means be adopted for education, the idle habits gained in the interval left by six or eight hours of employment, would partly unfit them for attention to it during that time, and be prejudicial to their industry in mature life.

We beg also to suggest, that as to the condition of the working classes, so great an improvidence prevails generally in the manufacturing districts, that provision is rarely made for time of sickness or distress, whatever be the rate of wages; that the parents themselves are in a majority of cases ready to send their children to any employment, from which the greatest wages may arise, often against the wish of a master; that children being employed under nine years of age, are generally so employed as a favour to the parents, and at their special request; this may result from necessity or inconsideration on the part of the parents.

That the temptation to intemperance, and means of its indulgence, contribute in the greatest degree to the improper ideas and conduct of the parents.

Statement, showing the time lost from deficiency of water, in the year previous to putting up a steam-engine.

| 1831. May 27, 10 hours. | 1831. June 13, 11 hours. |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 28, 10 —                | 14, 10½ —                |
| 30, 10 —                | 15, 12 —                 |
| 31, 10½ —               | 16, 13½ —                |
| June 1, 11 —            | 17, 13 —                 |
| 2, 11 —                 | 18, 11½ —                |
| 3, 11 —                 | 20, 11½ —                |
| 4, 10½ —                | 21, 11 —                 |
| 6, 10½ —                | 22, 11 —                 |
| 7, 11 —                 | 23, 11 —                 |
| 8, 11 —                 | 24, 10½ —                |
| 9, 11 —                 | 25, 10 —                 |
| 10, 11 —                | 27, 9½ —                 |
| 11, 12½ —               | 28, 9½ —                 |

1831.



| 1831. June 29, 9 hours. | 1831. Sept. 10, 12 hours.          |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 30, 9 —                 | 12, 9½ —                           |
| July 1, 9½ —            | 13, 10 —                           |
| 2, 9 —                  | 14, 10 —                           |
| 4 to 9, 10½ —           | 15, 9½ —                           |
| 11 to 23, no loss.      | 16, 10 —                           |
| 25, 11 hours.           | 17, 9½ —                           |
| 26, 11½ —               | 19, 9½ —                           |
| 27, 11 —                | 20, 9½ —                           |
| 28, 10½ —               | 21, 9 —                            |
| 29, 9½ —                | 22, 9 —                            |
| 30, 9½ —                | 23, 8 —                            |
| Aug. 1, 9½ —            | 24, 10½ —                          |
| 2, 9½ —                 | 1832. Sept. 24 to Feb. 1, no loss. |
| 3, 9 —                  | 2, 10 hours.                       |
| 4, 13½ —                | 3, 11 —                            |
| 5, 12 —                 | 4, 11 —                            |
| 6, 10 —                 | 6 to 9, 12 —                       |
| 8 to 13, no loss.       | 10, 11 —                           |
| 15, 10½ hours.          | 11, 11 —                           |
| 16, 12 —                | 13, 11 —                           |
| 17, 13 —                | 14, 10 —                           |
| 18, 11½ —               | 15, 8 —                            |
| 19, 10½ —               | 16, 9 —                            |
| 20, 10 —                | 17 to 25, 8 —                      |
| 22, 11 —                | 27 to March 3, 7 —                 |
| 23, 10½ —               | 5, 13 —                            |
| 24, 10 —                | 6, 13 —                            |
| 25, 9½ —                | 7, 12 —                            |
| 26, 9 —                 | 8, 11 —                            |
| 27, 9½ —                | 9, 11 —                            |
| Sept. 1, 11 —           | 10, 10 —                           |
| 2, 9 —                  | 12, 9 —                            |
| 3, 8 —                  | 13, 10 —                           |
| 5, 8 —                  | 14, 10 —                           |
| 6, 8 —                  | 15, 9 —                            |
| 7, 7 —                  | 16, 9 —                            |
| 8, 11 —                 | 17, 9 —                            |
| 9, 12½ —                |                                    |

Yorkshire.  
Nichols & Co.

Besides this deficiency in hours, the mill ran at underspeed, and part of the machinery standing.

RICHARD NICHOLS.

ANSWERS of Messrs. CHARLESWORTH and Sons, Holmfirth Mill, Wooldale.

No. 293.  
J. Charlesworth  
& Sons.

- A. 1.—Dressing and finishing woollen cloth.  
A. 2.—1825.  
A. 3.—Both. River Colne.  
A. 4.—We contract for part of the power, both by steam and water, with J. & G. Gartside. See their return for whole power.  
A. 5.—Twenty-one males; viz.
- |                       |   |    |
|-----------------------|---|----|
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 1  |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 3  |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 1  |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | 2  |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | 2  |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 12 |
- A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—
- |                       |   |          |
|-----------------------|---|----------|
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 4s.      |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 6s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 6s.      |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | 7s.      |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | 13s. 6d. |
| 21 and upwards        | - | 21s.     |
- A. 7.—No piece work.  
A. 8.—None.  
A. 9.—Yes.  
A. 10.—From six in the morning till eight in the evening.  
A. 11.—See Question 3.  
A. 12.—Saturday's work two hours less than other days. Time not made up.  
(App.—C. 1.)



Yorkshire.

J. Charlesworth  
& Sons.

A. 13.—Half an hour for breakfast at eight o'clock; one hour for dinner at twelve; half an hour in the afternoon at half-past four. All take their meals at one time.

A. 14.—Yes.

A. 15.—Time not made up.

A. 16.—No.

A. 17.—Various holidays at wakes, &c.

A. 18.—Holiday-time not made up nor paid for.

A. 19.—No fines.

A. 20, 21, & 22.—No.

A. 23.—The youngest boys are employed at the low ends of cutting machinery, dressing teazles, &c.

A. 24.—We have kept no regular time-book, but Saturdays are as much working days as any others, with the exception of the two hours in answer to Question 12.

A. 25.—No time-book.

A. 26.—No.

A. 27.—We advocate some legislative restriction as to the labour of children. Our scribbling, carding, and fulling mill is at Holme Bridge, in the township of Austonley. See return "BARBER & Co." Our manufacture is chiefly upon the old system of the cottage or domestic kind; viz. by the weavers, spinners, &c. at their own cottages.

JOSEPH CHARLESWORTH & SONS.

No. 294.  
J. Cuttell & Co.

ANSWERS of JOSHUA CUTTELL and Brothers, Cuttell Mill, Underbank, Wooldale.

A. 1.—Preparing and finishing woollen cloth.

A. 2.—1825.

A. 3.—Steam only.

A. 4.—Ten-horse; employ it all.

A. 5.—Thirty four persons; viz.

|                       |   | MALES. |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 4      | - | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 2      | - | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 6      | - | 1        |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 2      | - | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | 3      | - | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | 3      | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards —      | - | 13     | - | —        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       |   | MALES.   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|----------|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | 3s. 6d.  | - | —        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | 4s.      | - | —        |
| 12 and under 14 —     | - | 4s. 6d.  | - | 4s.      |
| 14 and under 16 —     | - | 5s. 6d.  | - | —        |
| 16 and under 18 —     | - | 9s.      | - | —        |
| 18 and under 21 —     | - | 13s. 6d. | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards —      | - | 18s. 6d. | - | —        |

A. 7.—One male, above twenty-one years of age, earning 17s. 6d., in a regular week of eleven hours and three quarters per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—Same.

A. 10.—Six in summer, close at eight; seven in winter, close at eight; because, in winter, we think it a pity to call them from their warm, comfortable beds so soon.

A. 12.—Less, but not made up by the other days; averages about two hours less winter and summer; no lighting up in winter on Saturdays.

A. 13.—Breakfast, half-past eight, half an hour allowed; dinner, half-past twelve, half an hour in winter, one hour in summer; drinking, half-past four, half an hour.

A. 14.—Stops at breakfast and dinner, not always at drinking; but not more than three boys are employed at those times, and those not fully, and the work quite easy; serving a moving feeder.

A. 15.—Seldom have accidents; if stopped more than an hour, made up, but not more than half an hour per day; if stopped half a day or more, generally deducted at the week's end. We think it right to have a week's work for a week's wages.

A. 16.—Have had but two accidents; paid the doctor's bill; parents were well off, and appeared quite satisfied. In cases of sickness, we relieve those who are really in need; most of our workpeople are in good circumstances, and not often sick.

A. 17.—Three at Christmas; three at Holy Thursday; half a day in March; half a day in October; which, with the other occasional half days by accidents in the moving power, make about ten days in the year; of course not paid for.

A. 18.—Holidays as above; no one expects paying for holidays, excepting persons in confidential situations.

A. 19.—No fining; in cases of a person coming too late repeatedly, tell him it will not be allowed. If a quarter of a day too late, or more, deduct accordingly, but no fixed fine.

A. 20.—Do not; never did.

A. 21.



A. 21.—Have not; are of opinion there would be great difficulty in getting a sufficient number of hands, if all mills had to have two sets; have a difficulty in getting one set at present; do not think the children would attend so well to work if only partially employed; being off part of the day unsettles their minds, and disinclines them to work the other part. If found not to answer, machinery would be adapted to supersede them, which could easily be done; this would be very injurious to many families, and cause a great deal of distress. The children we employ are quite healthy, dare compare them with the same number that can be found in any situation.

A. 22.—No.

A. 23.—These returns show that only six are employed under that age; are employed in piecing cardings; it is not stress work; only requires attention.

A. 24.—See Answer to Question 17.

A. 25.—Cannot say exactly; we avoid both under and over-hours as much as possible, not considering either beneficial to employer or employed. See Questions 7 and 17.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—We think parliament might legislate, without much risk, for twelve hours, or even eleven, making Saturday same as the rest, except in winter; but less than that would, in our opinion, be injurious to all parties. The plan for two sets of children we much disapprove; the children would not be so efficient as if wholly employed; the parents would be deprived of one third, or one half, of their wages, and it would inevitably throw a great burden on the parishes. Parliament should be very cautious in legislating on this subject, lest, in their endeavour to remove some acknowledged evils, they should be the cause of others of far greater magnitude.

J. CUTTELL & Brothers.

Yorkshire.

J. Cuttall & Co.

#### ANSWERS of JOHN and GEORGE GARTSIDE, Holmfirith Mills, Woodale.

No. 295.

J. & G. Gartside.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, slubbing, and fulling of woollen cloth.

A. 2.—Application to its present purpose 1786, and enlarged in the year 1819.

A. 3.—Both water and steam, upon the River Colne.

A. 4.—Engine and wheel, fourteen-horse power each; part of the power let off for finishing of woollen cloth.

A. 5.—Twenty-three persons; viz.

|                       |   |   | MALES. |   |   | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------|---|---|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | - | - | 1      | - | - | 2        |
| 10 and under 12 years | - | - | 3      | - | - | 4        |
| 12 and under 14       | — | - | 3      | - | - | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | — | - | 1      | - | - | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | — | - | 6      | - | - | —        |

A. 6.—Regular wages, when in full work, 4s. per week; but not keeping a book, average cannot be ascertained.

A. 7.—None.

A. 8.—Six adults, eight boys, and nine females.

A. 9.—Nothing paid for over-hours.

A. 10.—If fully employed, the day's work begins at five o'clock, and terminates at nine o'clock at night.

A. 11.—Water and steam.

A. 12.—Makes no difference.

A. 13.—No time allowed but by exchanging hands one for another; but most of the hands have to eat and work, and this is a general practice in this neighbourhood.

A. 14.—Not at all; the children employed at the scribbling engine have no time during the whole day allowed for meals.

A. 15.—No allowance whatever for lost time; loss both to the master and the workpeople.

A. 16.—None whatever.

A. 17.—Christmas three days; Easter one day, and Holy Thursday three days.

A. 18.—The workpeople have no wages for those days; those days are not made up by over-hours.

A. 19.—No fines in our mill on any occasion.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never; objection first,—it is not possible to obtain two sets of children in this part of the country for every mill. Second,—if that was practicable, it would be a cruel system,—the adults would almost be worked to death. Third,—if one mill should be able to obtain two sets, and not another, they who had two sets would ruin those who had only one; for by working for less wages, they would monopolise the work of two mills.

A. 22.—Corporal punishments are inflicted on all the children employed in the mill; and it is necessary to punish them in that way, so long as they are worked so many hours per day, otherwise their work would be ill-performed.

A. 23.—It does; piecing cardings for the slubbers.

A. 24.—When in full employ, the mill has been worked as above stated; and having kept no time-book, we cannot answer this question otherwise than we have done.

A. 25.—Cannot answer.

(APP.—C. 1.)

A. 26.



Yorkshire.

J. & G. Gartside.

A. 26.—No alterations.

A. 27.—We beg to remark, that we think it is high time the legislature interfere on this subject. The system of working, as at present conducted, is one of cruelty and degradation; it is even disgusting to any man of humanity, whether he be a mill proprietor or not; but the humane are bound to practise it so long as it is the general practice.

JOHN and GEORGE GARTSIDE.

No. 296.  
S. Bentley & Co.

## ANSWERS of SAMUEL BENTLEY &amp; Co., Yeadon Gill, Yeadon.

A. 1.—Scribbling, carding, and slubbing of wool.

A. 2.—Erected in the year 1819, and applied to its present purposes in 1822.

A. 3.—Both steam and water, supplied by a stream from springs in Yeadon, &amp;c.

A. 4.—About six-horse power, the whole of which is employed by us.

A. 5.—Twenty-one persons; viz.

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 2      | 3        |
| 10 and under 12 years | 1      | 3        |
| 14 and under 16       | 1      | 2        |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 2        |
| 18 and under 21       | 3      | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 3      | 1        |

A. 6.—The standing weekly wages are:—

|                       | MALES. | FEMALES. |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| Under 10 years of age | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 10 and under 12 years | 3s.    | 3s.      |
| 14 and under 16       | 5s.    | 5s.      |
| 16 and under 18       | —      | 6s.      |
| 18 and under 21       | 9s.    | —        |
| 21 and upwards        | 24s.   | 6s.      |

A. 7.—Three males; viz.

|                       | MALES.          |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 18 and under 21 years | 2, earning 28s. |
| 21 and upwards        | 1, earning 28s. |

In a regular week of eleven hours per day.

A. 8.—None.

A. 9.—The same per hour as the regular time.

A. 10.—Begins at six and ends at seven.

A. 11.—The engine supplies the deficiency of water.

A. 12.—Begins at five and ends at five, but one hour less allowed for meals.

A. 13.—One half hour for breakfast; one hour for dinner; and one half hour for the afternoon meal.

A. 14.—Continues all the time. Three scribblers' fillers are employed during the meal-times; but after work of two minutes can sit down for four minutes.

A. 15.—Loss of time by accidents, &amp;c. has been deducted from the wages; but the time has not been made up by extra hours.

A. 16.—Nothing has occurred with us.

A. 17.—Three whole days and nine half days.

A. 18.—One day at Christmas, and two at the feast; three half days after Christmas-day; New Year's-day, Easter, &amp;c.,—six. No wages for the holidays, nor are they made up by extra hours.

A. 19.—No fines have ever been imposed.

A. 20.—Only one set of hands.

A. 21.—Never more than one set of hands, as they are sufficient for the adults.

A. 22.—No corporal punishments are sanctioned.

A. 23.—The piecing of cardings requires young children under twelve years, the greatest number of whom are employed in that work.

A. 24.—Six days each week including the Saturday, with the exception of the holidays mentioned in Question 18.

A. 25.—Cannot ascertain precisely the exact number of hours; sometimes have run fifty-five hours per week, at other times seventy-seven, according to the demand; but the general average will not exceed sixty-six hours per week.

A. 26.—None.

A. 27.—As the demand for manufactures in summer is greater than in winter, would recommend the allowance of longer hours for the summer half year, which would agree better with the comforts of the children, as well as the wants of the manufacturer. And also that stoppages should be allowed to be made up, otherwise great inconvenience would arise to the domestic manufacturer.

SAMUEL BENTLEY &amp; Co.



























Romney, Henry Sidney of

Factories Inquiry Commission Supplementary Report of the Central Board of  
H. Maj. Commissioners appointed to collect Information in the  
Manufacturing Districts, as to the Employment of Children in Factories,  
and as to the Propriety and Means of Curtailing the Hours of their Labour;  
Bd.: 2

[London] (1834)

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